



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS

STATEMENT ON THE 49TH MEETING OF PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR SOCIAL WORK

29 April 2021

The 49th meeting of the Professional Board for Social Work (PBSW) was held on 29 March 2021. The meeting focused on the core business of the Professional Board and progress made since its 48th meeting held on 3 December 2020.

The Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) of the Professional Board, in consultation with experts in the sector, reviewed the Policy Guidelines for Course of Conduct, Code of Ethics and the Rules Relating to Acts or Omissions for Social Workers. The document will be finalised and submitted for approval by Council.

The PCC submitted a discussion document for the development of "Peer Review Guidelines". The PBSW accepted the document and commissioned PCC to develop the guidelines and submit to the Board for approval.

The PBSW noted the progress made on the Rules for Technology supported Social Work. The document will be finalized by the Education, Training and Development Committee (ETDC) and submitted to the Board for approval. Furthermore, progress made with amendments to the Continuing Professional Development Policy (CPD) was noted. A final draft will be submitted to PBSW for approval.

The PBSW noted statistics shared by the manager for the Registrations Division and commended the Division on the progress made with the registration of social auxiliary workers (SAW), social workers (SW), student social auxiliary workers (SSAW) and student social workers (SSW).

Category	2016	Registered	2017	Registered	2018	Registered	2019	Registered	2020	Registered	2021
SAW	9395	699	10094	709	10803	1037	11840	181	12021	345	12366
SW	26309	2894	29203	2479	31682	3673	35355	979	36334	658	36992
SSAW	8528	1512	10081	1553	11247	1166	12276	-561	11715	-93	11622
SSW	13707	4500	15949	2242	17268	1319	15335	-204	15131	-469	14662

The PBSW noted with appreciation the extension of the term of office for Council and the two Professional Boards granted by the Minister of Social Development for a year, commencing from July 2021.

The next meeting of the PBSW is scheduled for 24 May 2021.

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ABOUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SERVICE PROFESSIONS

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP/ Council) is a statutory body established in terms of section 2 of the Social Service Professions Act No. 110 of 1978 (the Act). Council has two professional boards under its auspices: the Professional Board for Social Work and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work. Council, in conjunction with its two professional boards, guides and regulates the professions of social work and child youth care work in aspects pertaining to registration; education and training; professional conduct and ethical behaviour; ensuring continuing professional development; and fostering compliance with professional standards. It protects the integrity of the social service professions as well as the interest of the public at large. In order to safeguard the public and indirectly the professions, registration with Council in terms of the Act is a prerequisite before practising social work and child and youth care work. Registration is mandatory for social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers, student social auxiliary workers, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student child and youth care workers, and student auxiliary child and youth care workers.