



**SOUTH AFRICAN
COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

ThisWeek@Council

#AnnualFees

Happy New Year! Our office reopened on 6 January 2020 and we are ready for the New Year. It is encouraging to see that registrants are paying their annual fees for 2020/21. Registration and annual fees for 2020/21 are available on our website www.sacssp.co.za under Registration. Please bear with us if you receive an invoice and you have already paid. The finance division is in the process of updating the payments received. Registrants who are up to date with payments of annual fees and/or other fees due to Council will be issued with receipts in due course. At the start of the year we wish to share with you a few pointers that will assist you with paying for registration:

1. REGISTERED PRACTITIONERS

Persons already registered with the South African Council for Social Service Professions must quote their registration number as a reference when making a payment starting with either: 10-, 50-, 70- or 90-.

2. PERSONS REGISTERING FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE SOCIAL WORK REGISTER

Use 60 –plus the first 5 numbers of Identity Number (ID). For example, if your ID number is 980505 5482 082, the reference number will be 60 98050.

3. PERSONS REGISTERING FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE CHILD AND YOUTH CARE REGISTER

Use 18 – plus the first 5 numbers of Identity Number (ID). For example, if your ID number is 980505 5482 082, the reference number will be 18 98050.

4. EXISTING STUDENTS APPLYING FOR PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Students who are currently studying social work and child and youth care work who already have a registration number (from their second year of study) should use their student registration number as reference when making payment for when they apply to register after completion of their studies as social worker, social auxiliary worker, child and youth care worker or child and youth care worker at auxiliary level.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please note that all annual fees must be paid at a NEDBANK branch, online via internet banking. The office will be busy with new registrations for 2020 and payment of annual fees.

SACSSP's NEW BANK ACCOUNT

**Bank: NEDBANK Account number: 1190739410 Branch: MENLYN MAINE
Branch Code: 198765**

Please share this news with your networks as well.

ThisWeek@Council is a weekly update by Council on matters of interest.

ISSUED BY: SACSSP Communications (17 January 2020)



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ThisWeek@Council

65 DAYS

Social service professionals have an ethical obligation and legal responsibility to register and remain registered through the well-timed payment of their annual fees, as required by the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978.

Annual fees are payable to Council on or before 1 January every year, but not later than **31 March**. If you have not paid your fees, please do it without delay.

Here is a reminder of the annual fees payable for 2020. Below are annual fees payable:

• Social workers	R444.00
• Child and youth care workers	R444.00
• Social auxiliary workers	R222.00
• Auxiliary child and youth care workers	R222.00
• Specialities in social work fees for adoption social work	R444.00

If you have already paid your annual fees and you have not received your receipt for 2020 please send your proof of payment with your registration number and nature of query in the subject line to regtemp1@sacssp.co.za.

31 MARCH 2020
is the last day for the payment of
your annual fees

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please note that all annual fees must be paid at a **NEDBANK** branch or online via internet banking.

Bank: NEDBANK • **Account number:** 1190739410 • **Branch:** MENLYN MAINE
Branch Code: 198765

Payment of annual fees directly at Council's office is discouraged as it creates excessive queues.

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ISSUED BY: SACSSP Communications

27 January 2020



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HOW TO GET YOUR ANNUAL FEE RECEIPT QUICKER?

The first three months of every year creates a particular challenge when social service practitioners pay their annual fees, which was due on 1 January. The biggest challenge every year is that a very large number of social service practitioners pay their annual fees in the last week of March or on 31 March. This cause a bottleneck and delays in the issuing and dispatching of receipts, and is often made worse when payments are done with incorrect reference numbers. This can be avoided with payments being made on time with correct reference numbers.

HOWEVER, if you make your payment early e.g. November or December, and if after 1 January, during the first two months of the year, the workload in the finance division is manageable and your payment is processed, and receipts are sent out within a few days after payment.

TIP FOR 2020

Help us to get your receipt to you quicker. Pay your annual fees TODAY.

Remember: Always use your SACSSP registration number as reference when you make a payment. If you are unsure of which number to use, please contact the registration division. The reference number is the only way in which your payment can be traced in Council's bank account.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Bank: NEDBANK • **Account number:** 1190739410 • **Branch:** MENLYN MAINE
Branch Code: 198765

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ETHICS, PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & YOU

During the past two years Council noted with concern an increasing number of complaints of unprofessional or improper conduct against social service practitioners. The complaints were related to negligence in the performance of professional duties; ill-treatment of clients; dishonesty; failure to keep records of services rendered; engaging in private practice work without approval of the primary employer; fraudulent activities involving the submission of claims to medical aid schemes for services not rendered; and social grants. In a recent disciplinary inquiry in KwaZulu-Natal a social worker was found guilty of unprofessional or improper conduct of defrauding a medical aid scheme of more than R1 million by submitting claims of services not rendered. The penalty imposed in terms of section 22(1)(c) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 was the immediate cancellation of her registration and that she is not allowed to practice social work anymore.

Council published, the particulars of persons found guilty of unprofessional conduct by the South African Council for Social Service Professions during the period July 2018 to June 2019 after a disciplinary inquiry that was instituted in its 2019 Newsletter and these will also be published in the Government Gazette as contemplated in regulation 22(10)(b) of the *Regulations regarding the conducting of inquiries into alleged unprofessional conduct* (Government Notice R 917 in Government Gazette Number 25109 of 27 June 2003).

Council, as part of its obligation to promote ethical conduct amongst social service practitioners, is providing **WORKSHOPS ON THE CODES OF ETHICS** for social service practitioners, free or charge. Employers, social service practitioners, professional associations and other interested parties are encouraged to make use of this opportunity and can direct all enquiries (and invitations) to the Professional Conduct Manager at profconmanager@sacssp.co.za or profcond2@sacssp.co.za.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Professional Board for Social Work is encouraging CPD service providers to develop CPD accredited training on gender based violence (GBV).



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Branch Code: 198765

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MEET @LELIEBLOEM

The Professional Board for Social Work (PBSW) held its 45th meeting on 13 and 14 February 2020 and dealt with pertinent issues that affect the social work profession. The Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy that was approved by Council will be implemented from 1 March 2020, and is available on the Council's website (www.sacssp.co.za). Amongst the Professional Board's priorities during the remainder of their tenure is to conduct quality assurance site visits in five Higher Education Institutions. Lookout for a detailed statement to be issued soon.

Social service professionals in the Western Cape are invited to a registration OPEN outreach session on 17 February 2020 that will focus on amongst other issues the upcoming Council and Professional Boards' elections 2020/21; professionalisation; value of professional registration; CPD and codes of ethics. Council and Professional Board Members as well as the Registrar will be present to meet and engage with practitioners. The OPEN session will take place at Leliebloom Child and Youth Care Centre in Cape Town, led by the Registrar from 8h30 until 11h30 when she will leave to join Stellenbosch School of Social Work team, and later address the 2nd year social work students. The registration help desk will remain open until 19h00 to accommodate those who might only be able to seek assistance in relation to registration queries after 16h00. All social service professionals - social workers, child and youth care workers, social auxiliary workers and also community development practitioners - are welcome.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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NOT JUST ANOTHER WEEK

On 17 February 2020, fifteen unemployed individuals commenced their 12 months internship programme and amongst them there are seven (7) Bachelour in Social Work graduates and the other eight (8) have qualifications such as National Diploma in Marketing, National Diploma in Legal Assistance, BA Communications, BA Youth Development and BCom Accounting. The interns received an induction on the mandate of Council. We wish the interns all of the best with their internship.

On the same date, a *Registration Open Outreach Session* led by the Registrar, supported by two registrations officials, a Council and a Professional Board Member, took place at Leliebloem Child and Youth Care Centre in Cape Town. Focus was amongst other issues on the SACSSP elections 2020/21; value of professional registration; continuing professional development (CPD); and codes of ethics. Robust engagements took place and the Registrar and the two Members, Ms Allsopp and Ms Zingu, answered questions posed. A total of 195 social service professionals heeded the call and the last practitioner was served at 19h05. The registration helpdesk attended to 119 enquiries, with 35 certificates and 28 receipts processed. The Registrar also supported the oath taking ceremony of 2nd year social work students at the University of Stellenbosch. Key to Registrar's presentation was to create awareness around the obligations and responsibilities that comes with being a registered social service professional and the code of ethics.

On 21 February 2020, Council's management had a benchmarking meeting with the South African Pharmacy Council to build relations and to share best practise.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AS WE ENTER MARCH 2020

The Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work (PBCYC) held its 39th meeting on 27 and 28 February 2020 in Pretoria. A range of topics were covered in the robust discussions, and significant milestones were reached. Amongst the topics that were discussed is the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy that was approved by Council; the term of office for the current Council and the two Professional Boards which is coming to an end next year in June; voter education prior to nominations and elections; compliance to the Act by practitioners. Social service professionals seem not to be aware that annual fees are payable on or before the 1st January of every year as prescribed in the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978. The implied period of grace is creating a serious challenge for finance because practitioners wait until the 31st March to make payments which prevents the finance department from reconciling payments and issuing receipts on time. Notices will be sent out highlighting those clauses which lead to deregistration such as paying late, not updating particulars, etc. A statement with more outcomes of this meeting will be issued shortly.

Social service professionals in Mpumalanga are invited to a registration outreach session to be held on 10 March 2020. Venue details will follow soon. The registration help desk will be on call to attend all registration related enquiries on the day.

31 MARCH 2020

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UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ThisWeek@Council

31 MARCH IS 20 DAYS AWAY

The SACSSP joins the country to mourn the sad loss of lives in the Centane road carnage. The Office of the Registrar calls upon all suitably qualified and registered social service practitioners in the Eastern Cape to please support the Office of the MEC for Social Development, with support and social services to the affected families.

All social service practitioners who have not paid their annual fees for 2020/21 are reminded that the annual fees were payable by 1 January and that the grace period of three months (from 2 January to 31 March) ends in 20 days on **31 March 2020**. Late payment of annual fees may result in a social service practitioner being required to pay a fine (in addition to the annual fee payable) or being de-registered in terms of section 20(1)(d) of the Act. Social service practitioners have an ethical obligation and legal responsibility in terms of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 to register and remain registered with Council through the timely payment of their annual fees. The consequence of not paying or the late payment of the annual fees through de-registration will result a person not being legally allowed to practise his or her profession. He or she then need to apply for his or her name to be restored to the Register.

Following the generous donation by **NEDBANK** in 2020 for Council to donate to a worthy cause, two organisations, *Leamogetswe Safety Home* and *Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA)*, will each received a donation of R15,000 before the end of the month.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

17 March 2020 is **World Social Work Day** under the theme "*Promoting the importance of Human Relationships*". Look out for the messages of support from Members of Council and the Professional Boards and interviews in the media.

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ThisWeek@Council

31 MARCH IS 15 DAYS AWAY

The SACSSP joins the country to mourn the sad loss of lives in the Centane road carnage. The Office of the Registrar calls upon all suitably qualified and registered social service practitioners in the Eastern Cape to please support the Office of the MEC for Social Development, with support and social services to the affected families.

All social service practitioners who have not paid their annual fees for 2020/21 are reminded that the annual fees were payable by 1 January and that the grace period of three months (from 2 January to 31 March) ends in 15 days on **31 March 2020**. Late payment of annual fees may result in a social service practitioner being required to pay a fine (in addition to the annual fee payable) or being de-registered in terms of section 20(1)(d) of the Act. Social service practitioners have an ethical obligation and legal responsibility in terms of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 to register and remain registered with Council through the timely payment of their annual fees. The consequence of not paying or the late payment of the annual fees through de-registration will result a person not being legally allowed to practise his or her profession. He or she then need to apply for his or her name to be restored to the Register.

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UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ISSUED BY: SACSSP Communications (16 March 2020)



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WE STAND TOGETHER

From 4 to 12 March 2020, Council conducted code of ethics workshops for social workers and social auxiliary workers at the Department of Social Development in Gauteng, Humansdorp, Kirkwood and Port Elizabeth. From 10 to 11 March 2020, a registration outreach for social service professionals of the Department of Social Development in Mpumalanga also took place.

The Registrar gave a message of support to the Gauteng World Social Work Day celebration that was held on the 10th March 2020. She further met with community development practitioners in Port Elizabeth on the 11th March 2020. Council celebrated World Social Work Day on 17 March 2020 with the rest of the world under the theme "Promoting the Importance of Healthy Relationships". Media interviews which emphasised the importance of social service professionals during the coronavirus epidemic took place.

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) issued a media statement on 16 March 2020 indicating that the social service professions are well trained and experienced to deal with the complexities that coincide with this type of emergency (COVID-19 epidemic) and are able to take up President's call for action. For more updates on COVID 19 in South Africa visit <https://www.sacoronavirus.co.za/>

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Ramaphosa announced on 23 March 2020 an escalation of measures to combat Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic as since the COVID-19 pandemic was classified as a national disaster and a national state of disaster was declared on 15 March 2020. Council shares the concerns with regard to the spread of COVID-19 and will employ from 23 March 2020 alternative measures to continue its operations and provide services to social service practitioners without people coming to the office. Registrants will be assisted via dedicated emails. A notice with all the details will be sent out soon.

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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NOT FOR OURSELVES

The Minister of Social Development on 24 March 2020 requested the Minister of Labour to include social service professionals into the list of persons providing essential services. Council also submitted recommendations in terms of section 3(c) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 regarding matters that affect social service professionals to the Minister of Social Development for consideration.

Since the call for help, there has been short supply of protective kits to minimise the spread of the virus. Council with the assistance of HWSETA, supplied 3,000 anti-virus self-care kits; 2,956 sanitizers, 3,690 washable masks to over 30 NGOs mostly affiliate members of NACOSS; City of Ekurhuleni social development; Gauteng social development; SANDF social work unit; 16 shelters for Gender-based Violence survivors in Mpumalanga and 1 in Lenasia; six community based organisations across Gauteng working with the homeless and social workers in private practice.

The Registrar participated in a webinar on the 3rd April, on trauma counselling facilitated by ASASWEI, Dr Nadesan offered by Prof Alida Herbst of the NWU.

Council wishes all social service professionals who are leading from the front to continue their selfless work in good health. Remain safe and practise good hygiene and self-care at all times.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE: As an extraordinary measure Council has extended payment of annual fees to **30 April 2020** (see *General Notice 1 of 2020*)

WhatsApp

COVID-19 Whatsapp
Say "Hi" to **0600 123 456** on stay informed.



Please share this news with your networks as well.

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10 DAYS LEFT

All social service practitioners who have not paid their annual fees for 2020/21 are reminded that the annual fees were payable by 1 January and need to pay without delay. **Council has extended payment of annual fees to 30 April 2020 as an extraordinary measure to accommodate the challenges that coincide with the COVID-19 lockdown.**

Late payment of annual fees may result in a social service practitioner being required to pay a fine (in addition to the annual fee payable) or being de-registered in terms of section 20(1)(d) of the Act. Social service practitioners have an ethical obligation and legal responsibility in terms of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 to register and remain registered with Council through the timely payment of their annual fees. The consequence of not paying or the late payment of the annual fees through de-registration will result in a person not being legally allowed to practise his or her profession. He or she then need to apply for his or her name to be restored to the Register.

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UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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COUNCIL'S BANK DETAILS:

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Account number: 1190739410
Branch: MENLYN MAINE
Branch Code: 198765



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UP TO DATE?

Did you know that Council can only communicate with you if we have your up to date contact details. Please check online whether your contact details are up to date by following these easy steps:

Step 1: Visit www.sacssp.co.za

Step 2: Click on **LOGIN** on the right top corner of the website page

Step 3: Insert your registration/Council number as your username

Step 4: Insert your SA ID/ passport

Step 5: Insert your Password (if you have forgotten your password, request for a new one by following the instructions- it will be sent to your email address registered with Council).

Step 6: Check your details and update where necessary. Remember to save the changes.

If you do not have access to the internet or cannot access our website, you can also send us your contact details (if they have changed since you last registered, or have not received any communication from Council) since January 2020 to verifications@sacssp.co.za

You can also check your registration status on Council's website www.sacssp.co.za by following these two steps:

- Click on **SEARCH THE REGISTER** at the bottom of the screen of the website
- Insert your name/surname/registration number.
- Results will reflect registered practitioners

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Account number:
1190739410

Branch: MENLYN MAINE

Branch Code: 198765

RECOMMENDED: COVID-19 Whatsapp: Say "Hi" to
0600 123 456 and stay informed.



Coronavirus

Hotline: 0800 029 999

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#ANNUALFEESPAID

Friday, 1 May marks the first day after the extension period for payments of annual fees for 2020/2021 ended.

Thank you to all registrants that paid their annual fees on time.

The Finance Division monitors the Registers ongoingly to verify payments, and receipts and practice cards are issued in the same order as the payments received. Thus, those registrants who has paid in the last few weeks will receive their receipts and practice cards as soon as those who have paid before have been processed. Please be patient.

Persons who have still not paid their annual fees by the 30th April 2020 are urged to pay without delay by the 3rd of May, because a late payment fine and restoration fee will apply from the 4th May 2020. A notice and letters with restoration fees and late payment fines will be sent to persons who have not honoured their obligation to pay their annual fees on time. So hurry and bring your accounts up to date. Remember, **it is illegal** to practice without being licensed to do so.

Happy **International Child and Youth Care Workers' Week** from 4 to 10 May 2020.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

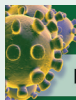
From 4 to 10 May 2020 the World will be celebrating **International Child and Youth Care Workers' Week** under the theme "**Making Moments Meaningful**".

REMEMBER: ALWAYS include a reference number when you make a payment.

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COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

ThisWeek@Council

A WEEK WITH MEANING

International Child and Youth Care Workers' Week was from the 4th to 10th May 2020 under the theme **Making Moments Meaningful**, emphasising the importance of meaningful professional engagements by child and youth care workers with children, youth, families and communities. As part of celebrating this week, the Registrar participated in radio interviews and Council issued a media release together with various social media messages.

On 8 May 2020 the **Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work** launched a FREE in-service training programme as part of *International Child and Youth Care Workers' Week*, designed to rapidly support the work of all child and youth care workers in South Africa to enable them to safely serve children, families and communities during the COVID-19 crisis as it evolves and the longer term impact after that within their scope of practice. The course '**A child and youth care response to the COVID-19 pandemic**' was developed by the Professional Board in collaboration with National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW), Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, Jelly BeanZ, Durban Child and Youth Care Centre and UNICEF South Africa. Visit Council website at www.sacssp.co.za for more information.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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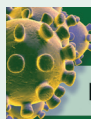
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Branch: MENLYN MAINE

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RECOMMENDED: COVID-19 Whatsapp: Say "Hi" to 0600 123 456 and stay informed.



Coronavirus

Hotline: 0800 029 999

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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ABOUT 15 MAY

This week's focus have been on occupational health and safety matter as Council's office blocks were deep cleansed (decontamination) in preparation for phasing in one third of staff members in near future. The Registrar and management team completed an alert level business continuity plan as part of the preparedness to return to our offices.

The Registrar gave a presentation on the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance's webinar on *safety and wellness of the social service workforce* attended by about 500 social service practitioners from all over the world.

The **International Day of Families**, which was established by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly through a resolution (A/RES/47/237) in 1993 to promote awareness of issues relating to families, was celebrated on 15 May 2020. This year's theme was '*Families in Development: Copenhagen & Beijing+ 25*' to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Copenhagen Declaration and Beijing Platform for Action at a time of one of the most challenging global health and social crises due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is recognised that it is families who bear the burden of the COVID-19 global pandemic to protect family members, support children not in school at this time and continue with work responsibilities

Council urges everyone to recognise the importance of the family, in its many forms, and wishes for everyone to be safe as we continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and observe the national lockdown protocols.

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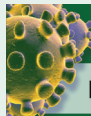
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STANDING TOGETHER

This week we want to remind the Social Service Professions sector to take note that the request for public comments on the published *Social Service Practitioners Draft Bill* is **24 June 2020**.

During this time when the national and world deals with COVID-19 a number of collaborative efforts emerged with key national strategic partners. However, amidst these exciting developments that is shared on our social media platforms, it is noted that there are also some misunderstanding. Kindly take note the following collaborative efforts, which are geared at promoting workforce strengthening within the sector:

- COVID response training partnership with Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA) through 3 non-governmental organisations.
- Covid response partnership with HWSETA supporting the placement of newly qualified graduates with PAX AFRICANA.
- COVID response internship program in partnership with National Department of Social Development, HWSETA and University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) Health Consortium for placement of 1,210 newly qualified graduates in Social Work to strengthen Social development and Health.
- COVID response partnership with South African National Defence Force (SANDF) social work department for covid response social work reserve volunteer call.

Kindly take note of the administrative notice on alert level 4 business continuity issued on 22 May 2020.

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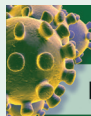
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MORE THAN JUST AN EMAIL

A special thanks to the social service professions associations or forum leaders who invited the Registrar and Council's Communications and Public Relations Practitioner to join their WhatsApp groups to answer some queries pertaining to amongst other issues, registrations, communication, internships, annual fee payments, etc.

The Registrar, managers for professional conduct and registrations divisions together with Deputy Chairperson of the Professional Board for Social Work, Ms Ida Strydom, supported the RATA webinar on 3 June 2020, themed the "Role of social workers during and post COVID 19".

As Council's secretariat, we are receiving large numbers of emails since COVID Alert Level 3 started. However, some emails are not clear and concise, which delays the response time. Help us to assist you effectively by ensuring the following with each email you send:

- **Subject line:** An appropriate and clear indication of the subject of your query in the subject line. Then we know who to refer it to.
- **Proper greeting that is courteous salutation:** Indicate the name of the person you are communicating to. In rare instances where you do not know a person's name or title, it is okay to use this salutation: To whom it may concern or simply, dear Madam or Sir.
- **Content of your email text:** State the reason for your email. Provide as much information as possible regarding the subject. Please be specific and to the point.
- Always **include your full names and SACSSP registration number** in all queries. If you enquire about your registration status, as include your ID number, for example: *Registration status: Sandra Sesele: 981231 5555 081*. These are the only ways we can track your information.
- **Things to avoid:** Do not use shorthand or sms type language. Avoid using acronyms or social media 'lingo'.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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RECOMMENDED:

COVID-19 Whatsapp:

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456 and stay informed.



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Hotline: 0800 029 999

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TIME TO SHARE

Council received since 25 May 2020, 4,433 applications for registration and has to date processed 1,620 applications (620 for social workers, 102 for social auxiliary workers, 166 for student social workers, 372 for child and youth care worker at an auxiliary level, 65 retoration applications and 37 status reports). *If you have received an sms or email notifying you of an outstanding document on your application, please respond urgently so that your application may be finalised.*

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

COVID-19 EXPERIENCES: Council's *next Newsletter* will focus on the role of social service professionals during the time of COVID-19 and the national state of disaster. Social service professionals are invited to send their stories about innovation, adaptation, challenges and how they were overcome, among others, to be considered for publication. Please ensure that submission include your full names, SACSSP registration number (so that we can acknowledge you as an author) as well as a contactable email address. Articles may be forwarded to communications@sacssp.co.za not later than **30 June 2020**.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS: Social service practitioners who has completed and published research (including at Masters and Doctoral level), articles or chapters are invited to share these for publication in the next newsletter. Each submission needs to be submitted in a prescribed format that is obtainable from communications@sacssp.co.za. This is a way you can share new evidence and knowledge with the sector. Submissions need to reach us by **30 June 2020**.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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TELL YOUR STORY

The Registration division continues to fast-track registration applications during this lockdown. A total of 771 applications (230 for social workers, 87 for social auxiliary workers, 98 for student social workers, 38 for student social auxiliary workers, 133 for child and youth care workers at an auxiliary level, 1 child and youth care worker at a professional level and 184 restoration applications) have been processed between 15 and 19 June 2020. If you have received a sms or email notifying you of an outstanding document on your application, please respond urgently so that your application may be finalised.

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UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVERTISEMENT: Social workers are invited to take part in a research study with the title: *"A policy framework to enhance the protection of South African social workers"*. You are eligible for this study if you are (1) registered with the SACSSP and (2) practicing as a social worker or as a social work educator in South Africa. To participate, kindly follow this link: <https://forms.gle/gyuXrTcCu2F9czZz6>

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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#REGISTRATIONSTATUS

On 2 July 2020, a newly inaugurated member of the *Professional Board for Social Work*, Ms Sinenhlanhla Mthembu, a legal practitioner was given an induction webinar by management. On 3 July 2020, the *Professional Board for Social Work* conducted a Southern African Development Community (SADC) roundtable webinar jointly with the Universities of Lesotho, Eswatini, and Zimbabwe to look at regional collaboration on social work qualifications and registration requirements.

We are also receiving many enquiries regarding registration status and issuing of receipts. Did you know that you can check your registration status on Council's website www.sacssp.co.za by following these two steps?

1. Click on SEARCH THE REGISTER at the bottom right of the screen of the website
2. Insert your name/surname/registration number. Results will reflect registered practitioners

If your name does not appear when you search and you have not received any communication from Council since January 2020, please send your full contact details to:

verifications@sacssp.co.za.

FOR ANY OTHER ENQUIRIES:

- **Registration** related enquiries (new applications, fees payable, registration certificates, restoration, change of particulars and status report) send your query to registrationsmanager@sacssp.co.za
- **Finance** enquiries (receipts, proof of payment, invoices and statements): regtemp1@sacssp.co.za or regtemp6@sacssp.co.za
- **CPD** or any education and training related enquiries: cpd@sacssp.co.za
- **Professional conduct** related enquiries: profcond2@sacssp.co.za

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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REGISTRATION@WORK

The Registration division is hard at work processing applications during this lockdown. A total of 859 applications have been processed as from 22 June to 10 July 2020.

Type of application	Social workers	Student social workers	Speciality in adoption social work	Social auxiliary workers	Student social auxiliary workers	Child and youth care worker (auxiliary level)	Child and youth care worker (professional level)	Student child and youth care worker (professional level)	Student child and youth care worker (auxiliary level)
Registration	169	57	14	23	53	45	0	38	239
Restorations	121	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0
Status reports	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

If you have received a sms or email notifying you of an outstanding document on your application, please respond urgently so that your application may be finalised. Remember to update your details on the website.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a **FREE CPD** accredited in-service training programme designed to rapidly support the work of all child and youth care workers in South Africa to enable them to safely serve children, families and communities during the COVID-19 crisis. Organisations as well as child and youth care workers can contact the secretary of the *Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work* Ms Moleboheng Moiloa at MolebohengM@sacssp.co.za to indicate their interest in conducting the training.

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A MESSAGE IN OUR INBOX

This week Council received an email from a registrant regarding the service he has received from Council's secretariat and how it has positively changed his perception about Council. Herewith an extract from the communication:

Dear communication officer

I would like to communicate my review in relation to the South African Council Social Service Professions. Firstly, I would like to appreciate support system and good communication taking place. I am leader of Unemployed Social Workers Movement in South Africa advocating for unemployed social workers in South Africa. It humbles me how much support our fellow colleagues within Movement were offered by SACSSP through dedicated SACSSP officials who are always there to support. When I graduated in 2017 as social worker I experienced a stigma attached towards a department [SACSSP] due to endless negative comments labelling department [SACSSP] as if doesn't care of social service practitioners.

In conclusion I would like to encourage all social services practitioners registered with SACSSP to have a positive image and develop positive mind-set towards department.

Warm Regards

Siphehile Khuzwayo Reg no: 10-45609

A total of 602 applications including restorations were processed between 13 to 24 July 2020 by the Registration division. Please note that Council will be contacting applicants whose registration certificates are ready to determine the preferred method of receiving such. This is to minimise the number of returned registration certificates from the post office.

Remember to update your details (if it changed or if you have not received any communication from Council since January 2020) on the website or complete [Form RR.1](#) (also available on our website under CHANGE OF PARTICULARS) and send to verifications@sacssp.co.za.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



There is a **FREE CPD accredited in-service training programme** designed for all child and youth care workers in South Africa to enable them to safely serve children, families and communities during the COVID-19 crisis. Please see the SACSSP's website or contact the Secretary of the *Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work* at MolebohengM@sacssp.co.za or more details.

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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UNLOCKING NEW WAYS UNDER LOCKDOWN

On 13 August 2020, Council convened the 53rd ordinary Executive Committee meeting. The meeting took stock of the quarter 1 organisational report for the 2020/21 financial year and an assessment on the impact of the national lockdown on operations of Council was done.

On 14 August 2020, the *Professional Board for Social Work* delegation held a virtual meeting with the *Association of South African Social Work Education Institutions* (ASASWEI) and all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) providing training in social work. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the challenges faced by 4th year student social workers, of whom majority are unable to undertake compulsory practicums, due to the national lockdown. The *Professional Board for Social Work* agreed that they will respond in writing to both ASASWEI and HEIs regarding these challenges.

On 17 August 2020, Council's senior staff attended the inaugural *Ministry of Social Development oversight forum* meeting led by the Acting Director General, Mr Linton Mchunu. The meeting laid a strong foundation for regular oversight meetings and paved way for the development of a stakeholder compact and identified areas of work for the benefit of the social service sector and the public at large.

On 19 and 20 August 2020, the *National Association of Child Care Workers* (NACCW) in partnership with the *South African Council for Social Service Professions*, *Quality Council for Trades and Occupations* (QCTO) and the *Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority* (HWSETA) rolled out virtual workshops with 32 accredited Skills Development Providers (SDPs) on Child and Youth Care NQF level 5 generic learning material.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The SACSSP mourns the sudden passing of **Ms Constance Glerah Nxumalo**, Deputy Director-General: Welfare Services at the National Department of Social Development 22 August 2020 and expresses condolences to Ms Nxumalo's family, friends and colleagues.



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Please share this news with your networks as well.

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READY FOR THE 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION?

On 26 August 2020, Council held its 59th meeting. Council deliberated and resolved, amongst others, on the following:

- Council approved the proposed fees payable for 2021/2022 for submission to the Minister to consider and publish for public comments
- Council directed in accordance with section 20(1) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 that the names of persons who have not complied with the conditions related to their registration with the SACSSP be removed from the registers concerned.
- Council noted the progress reports submitted the Professional Boards and committees on key strategic deliverables.

A statement on the 59th Council meeting will be issued soon.

On 31 August 2020, Council attended a virtual stakeholder engagement session organised by Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA) under the theme "*Training for skills and not jobs*". Amongst other stakeholders that attended was the National Department of Social Development and the South African Federation for Mental Health. These stakeholders based on their different sectors presented skills development needs after the pandemic and in relation to the 4th Industrial Revolution and its effects. The 4th industrial revolution has changed the way the social service sector render its services. Reskilling of employees should be every employers' primary priority as there will be limitations to provide effective psychosocial services, due to lack of human interaction. Council's presentation recognised the need for social service practitioners to sharpen their skills within the context of the pandemic and a need for massive rollout of Child and Youth Care degree qualification in order to have more child and youth care workers qualifying with degrees.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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THE WEEK IN NUMBERS

This week the Registrations division emailed 250 new certificates and re-issued one(1) certificate. Applications of 70 social workers, 35 social auxiliary workers, 58 student social auxiliary workers, 35 student child and youth care workers (at auxiliary level), 103 restorations and 18 status of registration reports have been processed.

A *Committee of Preliminary Inquiry* (CPI) meeting was held on the 9th September 2020 where six (6) cases were discussed. Three (3) cases were finalised and the remaining three (3) were deferred for further investigations.

The Council's Communications and Public Relations Practitioner was invited to attend a *National Communicators Forum's* virtual meeting on 11 September 2020, organised by the National Department of Social Development. The *National Communicators Forum* is a peer-learning platform for National Department of Social Development and its entities' communicators. It aims to facilitate discussions surrounding challenges and best practices in the communication space as well as to build an interactive community of Social Development communicators. The key focus of this meeting was the Social Development Month during COVID-19, a campaign that is held in October, which aims to engage communities to identify their challenges, and put together action plans to deal with these challenges. Relevant and timeous communication during this period was identified as key as citizens depend on communicators for information.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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PHASING INTO LEVEL 1

Management convened a special meeting to look at the possibility of increasing staff complement in the office to maximize responses to needs of the sector. A formal notice will be issued soon regarding implications of alert level 1.

Council's Communications and Public Relations Practitioner was invited to attend Seminar 1 of Webinar series: *Promoting an Understanding of The Intersections between Violence against Women and Children* on 15 September 2020, organised by the University of Cape Town's Children's Institute, the South African Medical Research Council's Gender and Health Research Unit and Sonke Gender Justice. Panellists shared literature on intersections that are evident, that are known between childhood abuse and intimate partner violence. Data that was shared revealed that:

- Violence against women and children are recurrent problem, are driven by the same risk factor, and are sustained through intergenerational cycles.
- Violence against women and children are high in societies where there is high level of violence in general and high levels of gender inequality.
- Intersections between violence against women and children in settings of poverty and how violence against women and children affects health and in particular ill health.

Strategies to end violence against women and children will be presented on another webinar scheduled for 13 October 2020.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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ThisWeek@Council

IT ADDS UP TO 1,573!

From 15 to 29 September 2020 the Registrations division processed and registered:

- 258 social workers;
- 35 social auxiliary workers;
- 211 student social auxiliary workers;
- 173 child and youth care workers at auxiliary level;
- 114 student child and youth care workers;
- 4 child and youth care workers at professional level;
- 142 restorations of social workers and social auxiliary workers;
- 12 restorations for child and youth care workers;
- 29 status of registration reports;
- 27 specialities in adoption social work;
- 550 verification of status requests from employers; and
- 18 international verifications.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

ThisWeek@Council

REGISTRATION@WORK

In the Registrations division from 05 to 09 October 2020:

- ☑ **73** social workers registered
- ☑ **93** student social workers registered
- ☑ **74** social auxiliary workers registered
- ☑ **88** student social auxiliary workers registered
- ☑ **17** child and youth care workers at auxiliary level registered
- ☑ **3** child and youth care workers at professional level registered
- ☑ **24** social workers registered for the speciality in adoption social work
- ☑ **7** social workers registered for the speciality in probation work
- ☑ **15** social workers deregistered and removed from the Register
- ☑ **10** social auxiliary workers deregistered and removed from the Register
- ☑ **78** status of registration reports issued
- ☑ **47** restorations of social workers to the Register
- ☑ **3** restorations for child and youth care workers to the Register
- ☑ **41** verification of status requests from employers
- ☑ **18** international verifications

SACSSP welcomes His Excellency, *Patriarch Archbishop Dr Modiri Patrick Shole* as Member of Council appointed by the Minister of Social Development in terms of section (5)(c)(vii) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 nominated by the community.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



There is a **FREE CPD accredited in-service training programme** designed for all child and youth care workers in South Africa to enable them to safely serve children, families and communities during the COVID-19 crisis. Please see the SACSSP's website or contact the Secretary of the *Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work* at MolebohengM@sacssp.co.za or more details.

Please share this news with your networks as well.

ThisWeek@Council is a weekly update by Council on matters of interest.

ISSUED BY: SACSSP Communications (19 October 2020)



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GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The SACSSP held a virtual bilateral meeting with delegation of Lesotho and the Department of Social Development International Relations Directorate from 14 until 15 October 2020. The government of Lesotho is in the process of drafting a Social Service Professions Bill and they toured Council to collect necessary information to be able to draft a piece of legislation for social service professionals in their country.

Council's Communication and Public Relations Practitioner attended the Portfolio Committee on Social Development virtual meeting on 21 October 2020 on the Cabinet resolution that was passed in 2018, that further affirmed that social workers must be appointed by all the departments that require them. An update on employment of social work graduates was presented. There is approximately 9000 unemployed social work graduates including those that are self-funded. The Department has reduced the social work scholarship and redirected the funding to absorb social work graduates; the department is engaging key stakeholders in unlocking more funds and more opportunities for these graduates.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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#REGISTRATIONS

Registrations division from 9 October to 6 November 2020:

- 170 social workers registered
- 141 student social workers registered
- 135 social auxiliary workers registered
- 86 student social auxiliary workers registered
- 67 child and youth care workers at auxiliary level registered
- 7 child and youth care workers at professional level registered
- 2 student child and youth care workers at auxiliary level registered
- 67 social workers registered for the speciality in adoption social work
- 7 social workers registered for the speciality in probation work
- 44 social auxiliary workers and social workers deregistered and removed from the Register
- 87 status of registration reports issued
- 153 restorations of social workers and social auxiliary workers to the Register
- 33 restorations for child and youth care workers to the Register
- 173 verification of status requests from employers

Ms Ida Strydom, Deputy-Chairperson of the Professional Board for Social Work was one of the presenters at a webinar on 'e-counselling and ethics' facilitated by Employee Assistance Professionals Association of South Africa (EAPA-SA). A presentation reflecting on the *Interim ethical guidelines for social workers in South Africa regarding technology-supported social work services* (2020) (download [here](#)) was made. Presenters responded to questions from 70 participants, which mainly focussed on seeking more clarity on ethical dilemmas.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT: Parliament invites the public to comment on the Children's Amendment Bill which, among other things, aims to provide for children's right to privacy and protection of information; to further provide for the rights of unmarried fathers. Click the link to have your say and then share to all your groups , <https://dearsouthafrica.co.za/children/>. Closing date for written submissions is **27 November 2020**.

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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WORKING FOR A STRONG WORKFORCE

On 17 November 2020, SACSSP inducted Ms Thandi Moifo, a registered social worker, deployed as strategic support volunteer courtesy of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Her deployment will contribute towards social service workforce strengthening assisting Council on many different levels to advance the mandate of Council. Key amongst her duties include:

- tracking where practitioners are at
- finding out their challenges so that Council can make a meaningful contribution to the national agenda in line with the National Development Plan
- advancing the Integrated case management agenda
- facilitating North-to-North, and South-to-South collaborations with other UNICEF country offices to support the SADC initiative that the Board for Social Work established.

On 26 November 2020, Council's Communication and Public Relations Practitioner attended a South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Webinar on flexible learning pathways in higher education. The number of higher education institutions and their programmes have increased due to a massive influx of new learner profiles into higher education, which raised questions about articulation between institutions and their programmes. The webinar touched on SAQA's research and development areas and why UNESCO chose South Africa to participate in the project. Case studies on learning pathways in South Africa which provides an analysis of how national policies are implemented and how they affect institutional practice were shared.

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual fees for 2021/2022 are payable to Council by 1 January 2021. **A notice on Fee increments will be published as soon as the regulations are published for comments and /or implementation.**

Please share this news with your networks as well.

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