



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS

GENERAL NOTICE 10 of 2022

REF: 3/7/6/1/10

15 November 2022

NOTICE TO:

All EMPLOYERS of social workers, social auxiliary workers, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student social workers, student social auxiliary workers, student child and youth care workers and student auxiliary child and youth care workers

VERIFICATION BY EMPLOYERS THAT ALL EMPLOYED SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONALS ARE REGISTERED WITH THE SACSSP

1. Every social service professional (i.e. social worker, child and youth care worker, social auxiliary worker and auxiliary child and youth care worker) that is employed in your department or organisation or institution, whether at a service delivery, supervisory or managerial level is required to be registered with the South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) in terms of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 ("the Act").
2. A person may only practise as a social service professional and use the title *social worker, child and youth care worker, social auxiliary worker or auxiliary child and youth care worker*, subject to being registered as such with the SACSSP as contemplated in sections 17(1), 18(1), and 18A(1) the Act and upon entry and maintaining his or her name in the Register kept in accordance with section 19(1) of the Act.
3. A social service professional's registration or continued registration with the SACSSP is subject to the timely payment of his or her annual fees to the SACSSP, as prescribed in the *Regulations relating to the fees payable by social workers, child and youth care workers, social auxiliary workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student social workers and student child and youth care workers* to the SACSSP.
4. Employers should note that in accordance with section 15(1) of the Act no person may practise or gain, directly or indirectly as a social worker, social auxiliary worker, child and youth care worker and/or auxiliary child and youth care worker without being registered with the SACSSP. Any person who contravenes any provision of section 15(1), shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction be liable to a fine, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months as contemplated in section 16 of the Act.
5. Non-compliance (not being registered and non-timely payment of the prescribed annual fees) will result in such social service professional being removed (deregistered) in terms of section 20(1) from the Register (kept in terms of section 19(1) of the Act). A social service professional that is removed from the Register may not practise the profession he or she was registered for, nor perform any acts associated with his or her profession's scope of practice as defined in the *Regulations defining the scope of practice of the profession of social work* ([Government Notice R. 2617](#) published in Government Gazette No 47300 of 14 October 2022) and/or *Regulations for child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers and student child and youth care workers* ([Government Notice No. 838](#) published in Government Gazette No. 38135 of 31 October 2014). He or she may also not use the titles associated with his or her profession (as indicated in paragraph 4)
6. Where an *employer* intentionally employs a social service professional who is not registered or not in good standing with the SACSSP (annual fees paid on time), such an employer may be equally liable for any legal actions that may be instituted.
7. The primary responsibility for maintaining registration with the SACSSP and the subsequent timely ongoing payment of annual fees to keep the registration valid rests with each social service professional as part of his or her professional responsibilities. However, *employers* have an ethical and legal responsibility to ensure that every social service professional that is employed in their department or organisation or institution, whether at a service delivery, supervisory or managerial level:
 - (a) is registered with the SACSSP and produces valid registration cards from end of April each year; and

- (b) pays his or her annual fees by **2 January** of every year and no later than **31 March** as to remain registered and in good standing as a registered professional.
8. Employers are further requested to monitor the registration status of all social service professionals by:
- (a) reminding them to pay their annual fees on time as prescribed.
 - (b) requiring that each employee submits to the employer a valid proof of payment of his or her annual fees no later than 31 March each year (as part of human resource management); and
 - (c) requiring that each employee submits a copy of the registration receipt (practice card which is proof of payment of annual fees to the SACSSP) as soon as it is received.
9. Employers can verify the registration status of employees who are social service professionals on the SACSSP Register by visiting www.sacssp.co.za and search the Register, or by directing an enquiry to the SACSSP's registration division at registrations@sacssp.co.za. Employers of social service professionals who wish to verify the registration status of their employees are encouraged to compile a list of all employees on their payroll and include their full names, ID number and SACSSP registration number and send it to verifications@sacssp.co.za.
10. All prescribed fees to be paid are published in the *Regulations relating to the fees payable by social workers, child and youth care workers, social auxiliary workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student social workers and student child and youth care workers* ([Government Notice No R. 1512](#) published in Government Gazette No 45501 of 19 November 2021), which is available on Council's website (www.sacssp.co.za).

ISSUED BY: REGISTRAR, Ms Langi LC Malamba