



ALASKA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

POSITION STATEMENT: VOLUNTEER HOURS TOWARDS SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS

Date: September 15th, 2017

Status: Approved

Organized by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

Adopted by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

PURPOSE:

The Board of Social Work Examiners holds to the following position regarding VOLUNTEER HOURS TOWARDS SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS.

HISTORY:

Multiple inquiries were submitted to the Licensing Examiner for the Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners regarding volunteering and applying postgraduate clinical social work supervision to the requirements outlined in our Statutes and Regulations, Sec. 08.95.110.

SUPPORTIVE DISCUSSION AND MATERIALS:

Upon review of the Statutes and Regulations for supervision requirements (12 AAC 18.115) and employment requirements (12 AAC 18.120), the Board determined the specific use of the language "employment" eliminated any opportunity to use volunteer hours in obtaining licensure. The Board noted their concern with the authenticity of one's ability to meet the requirements under 12 AAC 18.120 doing volunteer work. The Board also noted their concern in liability – it seems a huge liability for an agency to allow anyone to volunteer to practice clinical social work.

SUMMARY:

Volunteer hours cannot count towards the supervision requirements due to the specific use of the language "employment" outlined in 08.95.110(2)(a) and (b) and 12 AAC 18.120.