

Alberta's Health Regions and Voluntary Organizations and the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA)

This classification specification identifies representative duties and responsibilities, and is intended to assist in the determination of the appropriate classification level within each discipline. Some duties and responsibilities may overlap between class levels. The classification specification is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of all duties performed.

Classification Title: **Social Worker II**

Date Updated: **May 20, 2008**

Job Summary:

The Social Worker (SW) II performs a wide range of social work duties including interventions, counseling, support services, discharge and after-care plans for clients in a social work program area.

Work at the Social Worker II level is differentiated from work at the SW I by the wider range of assessment and counseling services. Work is performed independently and requires a high degree of judgment.

Key Responsibilities and Typical Duties:

Core Duties

- Conducts assessments, identifies client issues, formulates and carries out appropriate social work treatment plans in order to meet client needs.
- Provides therapeutic interventions to clients and families that are faced with multi-faceted problems.
- Facilitates and coordinates individual, group, and/or family treatment or conferences, often involving multidisciplinary teams.
- May provide crisis counseling, mediation and conflict resolution strategies.
- Advocates for clients by coordinating the efforts of all internal and external parties to meet client and family psychosocial and instrumental needs such as housing, food, transportation, income support and financial management.
- Develops and follows up with discharge and aftercare plans.

Other Related Duties

- Participates in policy development, maintains appropriate records, and provides reports and statistical information as required.

Leadership

- Supervises bachelor/diploma level social work practicum students.
- Develops, delivers and evaluates education and orientation programs to staff.
- Promotes relationships and effective liaison with agencies and stakeholders, and in some cases, promotes community awareness of social work or health issues.
- Acts as a clinical resource to community service agencies, other regions or other medical staff in their assigned area of social work practice.

Decision-Making

- Makes day-to-day clinical decisions on client needs regarding assessment, intervention, discharge and follow up of clients either independently or in collaboration with others.
- Provides recommendations and professional opinions to others.
- Consults and collaborates with inter-disciplinary professional(s) on psychosocial issues as appropriate.

Knowledge:

Education

- Bachelor Degree in Social Work.

Additional Qualification/Designations/Certifications

- May require special authorization from Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW) to perform psychosocial interventions.

Registration Requirements

- Registered with the Alberta College of Social Workers (ACSW).

Working Conditions:

Physical Demands

- Required to stand or sit for extended periods of time during performance of duties.
- Assists clients in and out of vehicles, care facilities, beds and homes.
- Moves, lifts or transfers client's personal effects.

Work Environment

- Travel in all weather/road conditions.
- Work in home care environments may involve exposure to bodily fluids, chemicals and potential allergens.
- May work alone in client's home environment, posing personal safety challenges/risks.
- Requires involvement with clients/families that could be verbally or physically aggressive.
- May be required to accompany clients during transport.
- Works with clients who have cognitive and/or behavioral issues or high medical needs.