# **RU School of Social Work**

# **Office of Field Education**

**Information regarding Licensing in Virginia**

The Virginia Department of Health Professions is the entity in which a license (LCSW) is obtained, <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/>. Radford University School of Social Work does not have any relationship, affiliation or connection with The Virginia Department of Health Professions. The School of Social Work is simply providing you with information that can be accessed from their website.

The Virginia Department of Health Professions has issued a Guidance Document, 140-6, <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/social/social_guidelines.htm>, (retrieved June 2011), that is related to the 600 hour concentration year field placement:

“Supervised **Field Placement/Practicum** in clinical social work services\* should be a minimum of 600 hours, which are integrated with the Clinical Course of Study course work. Supervision of the student shall be provided by a supervisor who holds Master’s or Doctor’s degree in Social Work and has a minimum of 3 years of experience in clinical social work services\* after earning the graduate degree or who is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. An applicant who has otherwise met the requirements for a clinical course of study but who did not have a minimum of 600 hours in a supervised field placement/practicum in clinical social work services may meet the requirement by obtaining an equivalent number of hours of supervised practice in clinical social work services in addition to the experience required in 18VAC140-20-50 of Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work”.

This document defines clinical social work services as:

“\**Clinical social work services include the application of social work principles and methods in performing assessments and diagnoses based on a recognized manual of mental and emotional disorders or recognized system of problem definition, preventive and early intervention services and treatment services, including but not limited to psychotherapy and counseling for mental disorders, substance abuse, marriage and family dysfunction, and problems caused by social and psychological stress or health impairment*. (Definition taken from Regulations of the Practice of Social Work, 18VAC140-20-10)”

It is the responsibility of the student

* To work collaboratively with the field liaison in order to ensure that the documentation from the field placement will meet the state standards. All paperwork must be submitted to the field liaison prior to the end of the semester – on the date designated on the syllabus. The paperwork must bear all the proper signatures. GRADES WILL NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION. (refer to form, Verification of Supervised Field Placement/Practicum, <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/social/social_forms.htm> Upon application for your license, this form is to be initiated by you, submitted to the School of Social Work to be completed and submitted.)
* To interpret the information from the Virginia Department of Health Professions and directly communicate with them regarding any areas of confusion.

Your signature below indicates you have read and understand the above statements.

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Name Date

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Printed Name

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