Prepare for Your Social Work Career

The Importance of NASW Membership

Valerie Arendt, MSW, MPP – Executive Director
Welcome social work students to the best profession!
ABOUT NASW

- The largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world
- 111,000 members
- 55 chapters
- NASW works to:
  - Strengthen and unify the profession
  - Promote the development of social work
  - Advance social justice and social welfare
North Carolina Chapter

5,500+ members, 200+ international

7 Conferences and Networking Opportunities

13 Virtual Local Program Units

Practice Area Networks

- Clinical
- LGBTQ
- Military
- School Social Work
- Macro
- And More!
Why join as a student?

• Discounted Student Rates
• Additional discounts for up to three years after graduation
• Career and Ethics Consultation
• Leadership opportunities
• Networking opportunities
• Awards and Scholarship Resources
• Advocacy
• National Resources
  • Social Work Career Center
    • Tips and Tools
    • JobLink
    • Information on Social Work Practice Areas

• State Resources
  • Career Center
  • Job Bank
    • 75-100 NC social work jobs!
  • Resume Review
    • Members can access personalized resume review services
  • Career Consultation
SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS
STAY PLUGGED IN WITH THE NASW-NC STUDENT LISTSERV!
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AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship and Financial Aid Manual

- Over 100 financial aid opportunities
- All academic levels
- Info on loans, loan repayment, and loan forgiveness
- Study abroad financial aid
- Scholarship search engines
- Awards based on specific populations and social issues
- Awards based on demographics (race, ethnicity, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, etc.) of applicant
AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Presidents’ Award!
  - Graduating MSW Students
  - $1000 cash award
  - 2 Years NASW membership
  - Applications due December 15

NASW-NC Presidents’ Award

Ashley Phyktitt
North Carolina State University

The National Association of Social Workers North Carolina Chapter (NASW-NC) has named Ashley Phyktitt as the recipient of the 2023 NASW-NC Presidents’ Award for Master of Social Work (MSW) graduate students for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The NASW-NC Presidents’ Award recognizes Ms. Phyktitt’s leadership within her department, as well as her commitment to expanding her knowledge and competence within the field of integrated behavioral health.
AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Toby Brown Award!
  - Graduating BSW Students
  - $1500 cash award
  - 2 years NASW membership
  - Applications due April 15
AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Equity and Inclusion Student Award!
- BSW and MSW Students
- Applications due February 15
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

LEADERS
ADVOCATES
PLANNERS
MOTIVATORS
CHANGE
AGENTS
SOCIAL WORKERS

NASW-NC
STUDENT LIAISON PROGRAM
Join NASW Today!

www.naswnc.org
SOCIAL WORK IS A POLITICAL PROFESSION
NASW Code of Ethics

6. SOCIAL WORKERS’ ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BROADER SOCIETY

6.04 Social and Political Action

(a) Social workers should engage in social and political action that seeks to ensure that all people have equal access to the resources, employment, services, and opportunities they require to meet their basic human needs and to develop fully. Social workers should be aware of the impact of the political arena on practice and should advocate for changes in policy and legislation to improve social conditions in order to meet basic human needs and promote social justice.

(b) Social workers should act to expand choice and opportunity for all people, with special regard for vulnerable, disadvantaged, oppressed, and exploited people and groups.
NASW Code of Ethics

6. SOCIAL WORKERS’ ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BROADER SOCIETY

6.04 Social and Political Action

(c) Social workers should promote conditions that encourage respect for cultural and social diversity within the United States and globally. Social workers should promote policies and practices that demonstrate respect for difference, support the expansion of cultural knowledge and resources, advocate for programs and institutions that demonstrate cultural competence, and promote policies that safeguard the rights of and confirm equity and social justice for all people.

(d) Social workers should act to prevent and eliminate domination of, exploitation of, and discrimination against any person, group, or class on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, or mental or physical disability.
NASW Code of Ethics

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National Advocacy

Lobbies Congress:
- Improving Access to Mental Health Act (S. 838/ H.R. 1638)
- Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act
- Reauthorize Violence Against Women Act
- Women's Health Protection Act (H.R.8296)

National Advocacy:
- Telehealth
- Medicare 2024 Fee Schedule
- Social Work Licensure Compact

Represents profession at national coalitions:
- Eldercare Workforce Alliance
- Leadership Council of Aging Organizations
- Criminal Justice Reform Task Force
- Coalition on Human Needs
- Mental Health Liaison Group
NASW Advocates for YOU!

• NASW-NC is the ONLY association in NC that has full-time lobbyists to advocate for the entire profession of social work.

• NASW-NC represents members on social work specific issues at coalition meetings and with state leaders from:
  • NC Department of Health and Human Services
  • NC Department of Public Instruction (School SWers)
  • NC Department of Insurance (Reimbursement)
  • NC Department of Public Safety (Prisons)
• Aging and Adult Services
• Child Development and Early Education
• Child and Family Wellbeing
• Disability Determination Services
• Health Benefits (NC Medicaid)
• Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Substance Abuse Services
• Office of Health Equity
• Office of Rural Health
• Public Health
• Services for the Blind
• Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
• Social Services
• State Operated Facilities
• Vocational Rehabilitation Services
• North Carolina Behavioral Health Coalition – Valerie Arendt, chair
• North Carolina Professional Association Council
• North Carolina Coalition on Aging
• North Carolina Substance Use Disorder Federation
• North Carolina Joint Insurance Committee
• Prison Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
• North Carolina Governor’s Working Group on Veterans
North Carolina 3 Branches of Government
The Cost of the Super Majority

State legislatures with veto-proof majorities

The map below shows states where one party controls legislature-wide veto-proof majorities, either Democratic or Republican. Darker states are those with veto-proof majorities and opposing party governors.
NASW North Carolina
2023 Legislative Agenda

PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION
1. Social Work Interstate Licensure
2. Strengthen Social Work Workforce - adequate pay, loan repayment
3. Restore Master's Level Pay for School Social Workers

SOCIAL POLICY PRIORITIES
1. Expand Medicaid
2. Oppose efforts to restrict abortion access and reproductive health care
3. Protect LGBTQ Rights
4. Common sense gun legislation
5. Support legislation that centers equity, racial and social justice for people of color
6. Access to affordable housing

Read full 2023 Legislative Agenda here: www.naswnc.org/29
How do we determine our work?

- NASW Code of Ethics
- NASW Policy Speaks
- Legislative Committee
- Board of Directors
- Member input
- Bills introduced during legislative sessions
- Work in Coalitions

= NASW-NC Legislative Agenda
Social Work Interstate Licensure Compact

NASW-NC has taken the lead on the Social Work Interstate Licensure Compact in North Carolina.

Secured sponsors and SB 718 was introduced on April 6 and is not subject to crossover.

Be on the lookout for action alerts.
NASW is a membership association that promotes, develops and protects the practice of social work and social workers. NASW also seeks to enhance the effective functioning and well being of individuals, families and communities through it’s work and advocacy.

The mission of the NCSWCLB is to protect the public by setting standards for qualification, training, and experience for those who seek to represent themselves to the public as certified social workers or licensed clinical social workers and by promoting high standards of professional performance for those engaged in the practice of social work in accordance with the Social Worker Certification and Licensure Act and related Rules.
School Social Workers

What’s the Issue?

- Masters level SSWs are not paid for their master’s degrees and skill set
- Masters level SSWs are currently being paid on the Bachelor Level Teacher pay scale
- Masters level SSWs are providing mental health services in the school system but are not financially compensated for these advanced skills like school psychologists and school counselors are

NC State Board of Education recommended additional $100M funding for School Social Workers and Nurses and $10M for Master’s Level Pay
HB 762 (SB 524): School Social Workers/Restore Master's Pay: There is a version of the bill in both chambers to restore master's level pay for school social workers, which has been excluded from the state budget since 2013.

- The bill passed House Education and referred to House Appropriations.
- Restoring Masters pay is in the House budget, not the Senate.
NASW North Carolina 2023 Legislative Agenda

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   ✗ Support legislation that centers equity, racial and social justice for people of color
   ✗ Access to affordable housing

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Social Justice Advocacy

SOCIAL WORKERS FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

Social Workers
Support and Protect the LGBTQ+ Community in North Carolina

✓ Ban Conversion Therapy
✓ Protect Trans Individuals
✓ Prohibit LGBTQ+ Discrimination
✓ Fully Repeal HB2
Attack on LGBTQ+ Community

Number of anti-trans bills introduced in the United States

In recent years, there has been a drastic increase in the number of bills affecting transgender people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bills</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>174</td>
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<td>2023</td>
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</tr>
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2023 data current as of April 17.

Chart: Rachel Courtemanche/NC Health News • Source: Trans Legislation Tracker • Created with Datawrapper
Governor Cooper's Vetoes Overridden

House Bill 574: Fairness in Women's Sports Act
NASW-NC Opposes

Senate Bill 49: Parents' Bill of Rights
NASW-NC Opposes

House Bill 808: Gender Transition/Minors
NASW-NC Opposes
Monster Abortion Ban

**SB 20**: Care for Women, Children, and Families Act; a ban on abortion after only 12 weeks of pregnancy.

- Supermajority Legislature overrode Governor’s veto.
- Ban on abortion at 12 weeks as of July 1.
- Speaker says 6-week ban coming in 2025.
- NASW opposes government restrictions designed to limit access to reproductive health services, including abortion services.
Generation of Trauma: ADDRESSING MASS VIOLENCE in the Community and the Clinical Session

AUGUST 2, 2023 • VIRTUAL • 7.5 HOURS OF CE
NC Weakening Gun Laws

- **SB 41** - Guarantee 2nd Amend Freedom and Protections – **Now LAW.** Governor’s veto overridden. **Eliminates requirement to have a permit before purchasing handgun.** The bill also allows guns on **some school properties,** increasing the chances that children can find or access firearms at a time where gun offenses and suicides among North Carolina children is increasing. **NASW-NC Opposes.**

- **HB 49** - Protect Religious Meeting Places – NC House passed bill that would change current law to allow people with concealed carry permits to carry handguns to places of worship **that also serve as schools, or have attached schools.** **NASW-NC Opposes.**

- **HB 50** - Pistol Purchase Permit Repeal - NC House passed bill that will remove from state law a requirement that anyone buying a handgun first obtain a permit from their local sheriff’s office, passed the House in a 67-48 party line vote. **NASW-NC Opposes.**
Bills to make voting harder in 2024

• **PASSED LAST WEEK**: SB 747 would eliminate the three-day grace period for receiving absentee ballots, ban private money for election administration and institute a host of other so-called election integrity measures pushed for by some conservative groups.

• SB 749 would make the State Board of Elections and all of its county-level counterparts evenly-split between Republicans and Democrats and give all appointments to legislative leaders, rather than the governor.

• A similar proposal was struck down by the state Supreme Court’s former-Democratic majority in 2018.
Bills to make voting harder in 2024

- **Make absentee voting harder by shortening the window when absentee ballots can be returned** and without providing funding to educate voters about the changes (Election Day Integrity Act - S88/H304).

- **Turn same-day registration (SDR) ballots cast during Early Voting into provisional ballots** (Provisional Ballot/Same-Day Registration - H485). Processing more provisional ballots during early voting will lead to longer lines, delaying voters at the polls and overburdening CBOE staff, and will almost certainly delay election results.

- **Reduce the early voting period** from 17 to 11 days and 17 to 7 consecutive days (Reduce Early One-Stop Voting Days - H303 and Early Voting Constitutional Amendment - H123, respectively). Early Voting is the most popular voting method for North Carolinians and is used by voters of all political affiliations – even by some of the lawmakers sponsoring these bills!

- **Codify the common law requirement for U.S. citizenship to qualify as a juror in North Carolina, resulting in legitimate, naturalized voters being flagged for removal from the voter rolls** (Remove Foreign Citizens from Voting Rolls - S352). Under the law, if a person were to be disqualified from jury duty due to lack of citizenship, their names and addresses would be shared with the NCSBE and flagged for removal from its list of registered voters. SB 352 is rooted in disproved claims that the state's voting rolls are full of undetected non-citizens.
North Carolina Supreme Court

Gerrymandering will be Back

Voter ID is Here to Stay

Ending Voting Rights for Some Felons
The Princeton Gerrymandering Project

North Carolina House – Grade F, Significant Republican Advantage
North Carolina Senate – Grade F, Significant Republican Advantage
North Carolina Congressional – Grade F, Significant Republican Advantage
Voting is Social Work for Students

• **Run voter registration and pledge to vote drives** on your campus.
• **Know who represents you** at all levels of government.
  - Cherie Berry
  - State Treasurer
  - Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
  - JUDGES!
• **Connect with elected officials** on social media like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay informed.
• **Share candidate guides** and/or **host a candidate forum** on your campus.
• Find and share **information on your state's voting rules**.
• Add voter activities to your **field education contract**.
• Suggest ways your agency could **support clients and communities to vote**.
• Consider **working at the polls** on election day.
• **Reach out to local organizations** for information, speakers and resources (e.g., League of Women Voters, Democracy NC, Common Cause NC).
Voting is Social Work for Students

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- Know who represents you at all levels of government.
  - Josh Dobson – Commissioner of Labor
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On Tuesday, February 28, 2023 Superintendent of the Department of Education Catherine Truitt stated in the Joint Legislative Education Appropriations Committee:

“Districts, please prioritize having a school nurse. And we will continue to advocate to the General Assembly that other positions are filled as well... down the road. I would add that we would like for all school nurses to take the, I believe it is DHHS that offers it, it’s an incredible student mental health first aid course so there would be that awareness of our school nurses and that they could, in turn, give our teachers that training as well.”
Leading Candidate for Governor

• Encourages people to read Hitler quotes
• Transgenderism and homosexuality is “filth”
• Called victims of MSD High School shooting “spoiled little bastards”
• Climate change is “junk science”
• Would ban abortion outright on day one
2024 Focus

• Get clients ready for voter ID
• 2024 Primary Elections
• Legislative Short Session
• 2024 General Elections
• School Social Work
• Social Work Compact
The NASW Code of Ethics states that social workers should facilitate informed participation by the public in shaping social policies and institutions.
Advocacy Update

https://votervoice.net/NASWNC/home

Join NASW!

socialworkers.org
Cost of Your Education and Licensure

MSW Degree at JMSW
• 2 Years Tuition ≈ $17,092 – 45,352

Licensure
• Application: $145
• Renewal: $140
• 100 hours of Clinical Supervision: $5,000+
• ASWB Clinical Exam: $40 processing fee + $260 exam fee
Total ≈ $5,500
How do you protect this investment in your career?
NASW Membership Protects Your Investment

- Professional Consultation
  - Ethical
  - Legal
  - Career
  - Licensure
- Liability Insurance!
- Advocacy at State and National Level
- Free and Discounted Approved CE
- Information to better your practice
Membership Rates: Protect Your Investment

**Student Membership***

- BSW/ MSW $60/year
- Doctoral $179/year

*For students, there are transitional rates after graduation.

BSW: $116 for the first two years after graduation
MSW: $116 for the first two years after graduation, $179 the third year

**Regular Membership**

- MSW/ DSW/ PhD $236/year
- BSW $158/year
Join NASW Today!

www.naswnc.org
Questions about membership, licensure, resume review, job search, advocacy, anything?
Seth Maid, MSW
NASW-NC Director of Membership membership.naswncc@socialworkers.org
www.naswncc.org | Join here: www.socialworkers.org/join
NASW-NC Staff Consultation for Members

- Career and Ethical Consultation
- Professional and Licensure Consultation
- Advocacy for members with the Licensure Board
- Legal resources
- Legislative Advocacy
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she, her, hers
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