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EFFECTIVE DATE : February 8, 2003

SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISION

This substantive policy statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedure of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under A.R.S. §41-1033 for a review of the statement.

R4-6-404(B) provides as follows: Professional supervision of an applicant for Independent Social Work certification shall be provided by a Certified Independent Social Worker (CISW).

R4-6-404(D) provides as follows: Professional supervision may include both individual and group supervision. Group supervision hours shall not exceed individual supervision hours.

R4-6-404(E) provides as follows: An applicant may make a written request to the Social Work Credentialing Committee for an exemption from the requirements of subsections (B) or (D) or both. The Social Work Credentialing Committee shall review the request for exemption to determine whether the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience to provide supervision acceptable for an Independent Social Work certificate. If the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience, the Social Work Credentialing Committee shall grant the request for exemption. Exemptions to the supervision requirement shall not be granted retroactively for supervision received before the date of the request, unless approved by the Social Work Credentialing Committee on an individual basis.

When reviewing supervision exemption requests pursuant to R4-6-404(E), the Social Work Credentialing Committee will only consider supervision provided by a master's level professional certified or licensed at the independent level by a state regulatory body, a licensed psychologist, or a medical doctor with a specialty in psychiatry. In addition, the Social Work Credentialing Committee will take into consideration an applicant's ability to demonstrate that supervision by a CISW is not available or available supervision is not specific to the applicant's area of practice. When considering the availability of CISWs, the Social Work Credentialing Committee will consider the size of the applicant's agency and its geographic location.

If the Social Work Credentialing Committee approves an exemption request, it will accept up to 75 hours. The remaining 25 hours must be provided by a CISW or a social worker certified or licensed at the independent level by a state regulatory body.