

Social Work Placements

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) - Stage 2 application

Evidence guide for Personal Skills Audit

This document sets out the learning outcomes that provide the basis for your application and against which your application will be assessed.

You are asked to provide evidence in relation to the AASW Profession-specific graduate attributes, based on the nine (9) social work practice standards (2023). In discussing your work experience, please discuss how your knowledge, skills and professional insights demonstrate the eleven learning outcomes and their associated descriptive indicators, with a particular focus on: .

- your understanding of social work theory and social work ethics and values;
- your ability to integrate theory and practice
- your emerging professional identity.

NB: Learning Outcomes and Descriptive Indicators are based on the AASW Profession-specific graduate attributes and AASW Practice Standards 2023 and ASWEAS Nov 2024.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>1: Code of Ethics</u>	<p>Social workers conduct themselves according to the values, principles and guidelines of the AASW Code of Ethics 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates an awareness of the relevance of the AASW Code of Ethics within the placement setting and can identify and articulate aspects of this within own practice. • Demonstrates initiative and often is accountable for actions and decision making, and practice is largely aligned to AASW Code of Ethics and is in line with Charter on Professional Conduct for Social Work Students. • Actively seeks out appropriate support and information, or refers people on, when professional capabilities are exceeded. • Demonstrates an ability to recognise and understand own assumptions/values and their ability to impact on practice. • Identifies and responds to ethical issues in accordance with the Code of Ethics and with support of a supervisor (i.e. conflicts between principles of duty of care and dignity of risk, and between individual rights and social responsibility).

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (Frist Placement)
<u>2: Working alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples</u>	Social workers practice in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to support their priorities and aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with others, creates safe, accessible and sensitive support at all levels of intervention. • Demonstrates some knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (different and distinct cultures, history, traditions, customs, language and beliefs). • Demonstrates an understanding of the historical and continuing disadvantage and oppression of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the impact this has on practice. • Where appropriate consults with community members to ensure respectful interactions

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>3: Human Rights and Social Justice</u>	Social workers advocate for policy initiatives and approaches to practice aimed at achieving fair and equitable access for people to social, health, economic, environmental and political resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates an awareness of identified client rights and worker responsibilities within the practice context. • Identifies and reflects on policy and practice that aims at achieving access, equity, participation and legal protection for service users. • Identifies and critiques practices that are oppressive. • Is able to identify and consider appropriate avenues for promoting and advocating public policy initiatives aimed at eliminating structural and systemic inequalities experienced by people.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>4. Culture Identity and Intersectionality</u>	Social workers practice respectfully and inclusively with regard to culture and diversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates knowledge of diversity between and within different cultures (e.g., ethnicity, disability, economic status, age, sexuality, gender and transgender, faiths and beliefs). • Beginning to form an intersectional lens in relation to culture and diversity. • Consults and collaborates with people from diverse identities and backgrounds. • Critically reflects on personal values, cultures and beliefs and how these impact on interactions with others.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>5. Critical Thinking in Practice</u>	Social workers practice within a professional knowledge framework informed by a critical understanding of contemporary social work theory and research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is able to identify a range of social work theories and research relevant to the practice setting and their use in assessments and interventions and practice. • Engages in regular reflective practice, which is evident in articulation of learnings from this. • Is developing critical perspectives and beginning to share these. • Has a sound awareness of limitations of professional scope, skills knowledge and experience. • Seeks support and information or refers people when professional capabilities are exceeded.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>6. Exercising Professional Judgement</u>	<p>Social workers make professional decisions on the basis of a holistic assessment of the needs, strengths, goals and preferences of people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses professional judgement at times and reflects in supervision on professional decision making and what informs this. • Demonstrates an awareness that the role of the social worker has power and makes steps to constructively work within this. • Undertakes assessments by gathering and analysing current information appropriate to the person/organisation and practice context. • Identifies and demonstrates effective social work skills in their practice and the practices of others. • Supports people to decide what service/s they want to assist in meeting their needs, considering any limitations to their capability, voluntary/involuntary status and the choices available. • Engages and includes people in decision making processes. • Engages with other professionals to contribute to the wellbeing of people they are working with.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>7. Professional Identity</u>	Social workers actively contribute to strengthening and promoting the identity and standing of the profession.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates practice that is informed and effective, able to articulate aspects of social work identity. Feedback from supervisors reiterates this. • Articulates the values, processes and outcomes of social work and how they apply in the context of the placement. • Demonstrates a good awareness of scope of student social work role and purpose, as well as limitations to this. • Can identify the social context and barriers for individuals and communities to make change.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>8. Exercising Professional Judgement</u>	Social workers build and strengthen their practice through regular structured supervision from social work qualified supervisors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively negotiates and develops the supervisory relationship. • Develops an agenda and records details and actions as a resource for ongoing learning. • Often keeps records of supervision, but often provided by supervisor. • Demonstrates an awareness of personal feelings, values and experience and how these affect practice. • Brings relevant practice examples to supervision and is able to talk to theory, skills and knowledge used to inform practice. Integrates some new knowledge gained from supervision to future practice.

AASW Practice Standard	Learning Outcome	Descriptive Indicators (First placement)
<u>9. Professional Growth</u>	Social workers monitor their skills, knowledge, and expertise to maintain, improve and broaden their professional development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively seeks opportunities for feedback from supervisor/s, colleagues and peers. • Demonstrates an ability to assess own behaviour and skill level and identify learning goals. • Completes reflection pieces to aid in integrating knowledge to practice from workshops/training. • Applies understanding of critical reflection and reflexivity to practice.