

# Social Worker and Social Worker Associate

## Postgraduate Supervision Hours

The state statute and regulations governing social workers in the state of Washington are found in [chapter 18.225 RCW](#) and [chapter 246-809 WAC](#). WAC 246-809-320(2)(b) identifies the requirements for supervised postgraduate experience. The department has always interpreted and continues to interpret this rule with the understanding that licensure candidates must complete a total of 4,000 hours of postgraduate supervision experience over a minimum of three years under approved supervisors as listed in [WAC 246-809-334](#).

A licensure candidate for the licensed independent clinical social work (LICSW) must complete 4,000 hours of postgraduate supervision experience within a minimum of three years under approved supervisors as described in WAC 246-809-334. Within those 4,000 total hours of supervised postgraduate experience:

- One thousand hours must be directly treating clients under the supervision of a LICSW.
- One hundred thirty hours of direct supervision with an approved supervisor.
  - Seventy hours must be direct supervision with a LICSW. This supervision may be one-to-one supervision or in group supervision.
  - Sixty hours may be with a LICSW or an “[equally qualified mental health practitioner](#).” This supervision must be one-to-one supervision.

The remaining hours may be earned under the supervision of an “equally qualified mental health practitioner” as defined in WAC 246-809-310(3). Distance supervision is limited to 60 hours.