



Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education
September 2022

Renewal Application: Administrative Rule Waiver for School Social Worker (SSW) Requirements Under Rule 340.1799f

To address the SSW shortage, this waiver renewal application is specific to seeking Michigan Department of Education (MDE) approval to fill a SSW position for one school year with the same Master's level social worker who worked under an approved waiver during the preceding school year. The social worker must continue to be enrolled in an approved SSW program.

The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) allows states to change their established standard, but they cannot waive any of the requirements on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis. 34 CFR 300.156(2)(i). Under section 380.1281(3) of the Revised School Code, the MDE may grant a waiver of an administrative rule to a district that demonstrates it can meet the intent of the rule in a more effective, efficient, or economical manner or the waiver is necessary to stimulate improved pupil performance.

Process

Upon demonstrating the waiver conditions were met, the MDE previously granted a one year waiver to allow this district/intermediate school district (ISD) to hire a a Master's level social worker, enrolled in an approved school social worker program in an institute of higher education (IHE), to fill the position of SSW. The individual hired under the previous waiver request has completed course work toward SSW approval, but has not completed the program and therefore the district is requesting one additional year and is able to demonstrate the waiver conditions continue to be met.

Applicant Information

Contact Information

Applicant District

District Code

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Contact Person

Title

Telephone

Email

Waiver Request

Rationale

Explain how this waiver will allow the district to meet the intent of the rule in a more effective, efficient, or economical manner or why the waiver is necessary to stimulate improved pupil performance.



Conditions and Documentation

To ensure the district has attempted to fill the position of school social worker for a reasonable time, without success, the district must provide the evidence below:

- a. A dated copy of the original posting used in the original waiver request, as well as any subsequent postings, for a school social worker.

To demonstrate the candidate hired under the previously approved waiver is making progress toward full approval, provide the following:

- a. A copy of the candidate's transcript showing completion of one or more SSW courses completed under the previous waiver request in the prior school year.
- b. A copy of a registration form, bill, or letter showing enrollment in additional SSW courses to be completed under this waiver renewal in the current school year.
- c. A copy of the candidate's current Michigan Master's level social work license.

Professional Practices

Has the individual been convicted of (or pled no contest to) a misdemeanor or felony?

Yes No

Has this conviction previously been disclosed to the Michigan Department of Education?

Yes No N/A

Regarding the individual's social work license:

Has the license ever been suspended or revoked?

Yes No N/A

Is there currently action pending against the license?

Yes No N/A

Has the individual ever surrendered or nullified their license?

Yes No N/A



Assurance Statement

The information in this application has been reviewed and is true to the best of our knowledge. We assure the purpose of the waiver as described in this application will be fulfilled, that it meets the criteria of the act, that it does not compromise equal opportunities for learning, and that this plan is not detrimental to the educational interests of pupils.

Superintendent/Designee Signature

Date

Submit Form

Mail, email, or fax this form to:

Michigan Department of Education

Office of Special Education

P.O. Box 30008

Lansing, MI 48909

Email: mde-ose@michigan.gov

Fax: 517-241-7141

Contact phone: 888-320-8384