

2023 OSW-C Program Changes Demystified!

Thursday, December 1, 2022
4:00-5:00 p.m. Eastern

Go beyond. Rise above. Certify!
www.oswcert.org | oswcert@oncc.org

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Presenters

- ▶ **Christina Bach, MBE, MSW, LCSW, FAOSW, OSW-C**
Chair, BOSWC Board of Directors
Educational Content Specialist and Psychosocial Content Editor - Oncolink,
Philadelphia, PA and Field Liaison - Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and
Social Research
- ▶ **Linda Glaudell, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C**
Secretary, BOSWC Board of Directors
Oncology Social Worker, Ascension Columbia St. Mary's, Milwaukee, WI
- ▶ **Sean Powell, MSW, LCSW, CCM, OSW-C**
Treasurer, BOSWC Board of Directors
Director, Social Work and Patient and Family Services - Moffitt Cancer Center and
Research Institute - Tampa, FL
- ▶ **Harold Dean, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C**
Member, BOSWC Board of Directors
Social Work Program Manager - Myeloma Center, University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences - Little Rock, AR; Field Liaison -University of Arkansas at Little Rock,
School of Social Work
- ▶ **Tony Ellis, MEd, CAE, ICE-CCP**
Executive Director, ONCC

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Thank You to the Project Subject Matter Experts!



- ▶ Stephanie Fooks Parker
- ▶ Carolyn Messner
- ▶ Catherine Credeur
- ▶ Karlynn BrintzenhofeSzoc
- ▶ Krista Nelson
- ▶ Kathy Smolinsk
- ▶ Leora Lowenthal
- ▶ Debra Mattison
- ▶ Tara Schapmire
- ▶ Ginny Viatones
- ▶ Lisa Capparella
- ▶ Eucharia Borden
- ▶ Iris Fineberg
- ▶ Maryellen LaJeunesse
- ▶ Nicole Ellis
- ▶ Renee Joshi
- ▶ Claire Hogue
- ▶ Valerie Kennedy Lang
- ▶ Robin Maggio
- ▶ Darren Arthur
- ▶ Debora Newton
- ▶ Brenda Ling
- ▶ Eileen Joyce

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Why the changes?

- ▶ Ensure the OSW-C certification is current and valid as the professional continues to evolve.
- ▶ A desire (and calls from the profession) to review the rigor of the program.
- ▶ Support the profession, enhance patient care, and safeguard the public

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Top-level Program Changes

- ▶ Clarified program purpose and audience, including those performing oncology social work in settings other than clinical.
- ▶ Defined philosophy regarding program rigor and rationale for all program requirements for initial certification and certification renewal.
- ▶ Defined Oncology Social Work Practice for purposes of OSW-C certification and minimum practice hour requirements—clarifying and broadening the audience of the credential.
 - ▶ For purposes of BOSWC credentialing and the OSW-C, Oncology Social Work Practice is the professional delivery of paid, post-master's biopsychosocialspiritual services—including clinical practice, academic education, advocacy, administration, policy formulation, grant writing, and research—with, for, and/or on behalf of patients, families, and caregivers facing the impact of a potential or actual diagnosis of cancer and healthcare professionals on the care team.

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- ▶ Developed the OSW-C Domains and Competencies—based on current research and validated by content experts—to undergird program requirements and portfolio assessment components.
- ▶ Revised policies and fees to streamline and simplify for the candidate and enable faster processing.

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Changes to Initial Certification

- ▶ **NEW REQUIREMENT:** Ten (10) hours of accredited social work CEUs on topics listed in the OSW-C Competency Domains; a minimum of two (2) hours must be on content in Domain 1: Clinical Assessment and Intervention Knowledge and Practice.
- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Licensure or Terminal Academic Preparation
- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Read and attest to uphold and abide by the NASW Code of Ethics
- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Currently employed in a social work position engaged in the professional delivery of paid, post-master's biopsychosocialspiritual services

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Changes to Initial Certification Cont'd

- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Minimum of 4,000 Oncology Social Work Practice hours within the most recent five (5) years.
- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Supervisor and Colleague Professional Statement changed to an Assessment of Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities based on the OSW-C Competency Domains and directly related to the work responsibilities of the role.
- ▶ **MODIFIED REQUIREMENT:** Three (3) documented oncology specialty-related Demonstrated Practice activities completed during the two (2) years prior to application; Not more than two (2) activities may be from any one of the OSW-C Competency Domains.

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Changes to Certification Renewal

- ▶ MODIFIED REQUIREMENT: Licensure or Terminal Academic Preparation
- ▶ MODIFIED REQUIREMENT: Must be currently employed in a social work position engaged in the professional delivery of paid, post-master's biopsychosocialspiritual services
- ▶ MODIFIED REQUIREMENT: Minimum of 1,800 Oncology Social Work Practice hours

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Changes to Certification Renewal Cont'd

- ▶ MODIFIED REQUIREMENT: Twenty (20) hours of accredited social work CEUs on topics from the OSW-C Competency Domains completed within the renewal cycle / since the last Renewal Due Date and prior to application for renewal.
 - ▶ A minimum of eight (8) hours must be on content in Domain 1: Clinical Assessment and Intervention Knowledge and Practice.
 - ▶ A maximum of two (2) CME, Nursing, and APA CEUs may be claimed for renewal so long as the content addressed is from the OSW-C Competency Domains.

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OSW-C Core Competencies and Domains

- ▶ Ensures the OSW-C credential represents current practice
- ▶ Presents the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities required for effective professional practice at the advanced level of social work in an oncology setting.
- ▶ Grounds program requirements to a list of knowledge, skill, and ability (KSA) statements that comprise the role



Board of Oncology Social Work Certification

**Core Competencies for the
Certified Oncology Social Worker (OSW-C) Credential
September 2022**

Oncology social work is the primary professional discipline that provides biopsychosocial/spiritual services to patients, families, and significant others facing the impact of a potential or actual diagnosis of cancer. Oncology social workers are knowledgeable about cancer and about the biopsychosocial/spiritual and other effects of disease, treatment, and survivorship. The scope of oncology social work includes clinical practice, education, advocacy, administration, policy, and research.

The Board of Oncology Social Work (BOSWC) administers and confers the Certified Oncology Social Worker (OSW-C) program to:

1. Validate the Licensed Social Worker's qualification, knowledge, and effective practice in the oncology-specific area of social work practice.
2. Provide nationally recognized, oncology-specific certification for the specialized knowledge and demonstrated practice ability of the certified social worker.
3. Represent to clients and colleagues the certificant's commitment and practical experience in the field of Oncology Social Work.
4. Promote public safety by establishing minimal standards for advanced oncology social workers.
5. Provide public acknowledgment that the professional has gone beyond the minimum expectations for professional practice in the specialty.

The program credentials individuals that have the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) to effectively practice at the advanced level (master's prepared) of licensed oncology social work. The OSW-C eligibility criteria for initial and maintenance of certification stems directly from and is consistent with the defined purpose of the credential. To ensure the OSW-C credential represents current practice, the program is grounded to a list of knowledge, skill, and ability (KSA) statements that comprise the role of the social worker in an oncology setting. This list—the OSW-C Competencies and Domains—presents the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities required for effective professional practice at the advanced level of social work in an oncology setting. The domains and competencies are based on current research and have been reviewed and validated by content experts for relevance to both adult and pediatric practice.

OSW-C Core Competencies and Domains

Domain 1: Clinical Assessment and Intervention

1.A Clinical Assessment

1. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of patient, caregiver, and/or family biopsychosocial/spiritual needs and ongoing assessment of coping
 - a. Assess and foster patient, caregiver, and/or family coping, resiliency, and adaptation skills
 - b. Assess patient/spouse/family/caregiver(s) understanding of treatment options (diagnosis, proposed treatment, side-effects, outcomes, etc.)
 - c. Assess patient risk for abuse/neglect and refer for appropriate services
 - d. Assess, refer, and/or treat depression and anxiety.
 - e. Assess patient/caregiver ability to adhere to a treatment regimen
 - f. Assess for ethical/moral dilemmas within patient care and present/advocate within the medical team.

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OSW-C Core Competency Domains

Domain 1: Clinical Assessment and Intervention

1.A Clinical Assessment

1.B Clinical Intervention

Domain 2: Care Coordination

Domain 3: Professional Advocacy and Political Action

Domain 4: Patient and Staff Education and Advocacy

Domain 5: Organizational Support and Service

Domain 6: Professional Education

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OSW-C Core Competencies and Domains

- ▶ Requirements regarding CE and Demonstrated Practice and specific Domains is grounded in the percent of the job role comprise in those Domains.
- ▶ Acceptable accredited CE may be earned on any topic contained in the OSW-C Competencies—regardless of oncology social work setting or not for the content.
- ▶ Demonstrated Practice **MUST** be performed in an oncology setting as it is evidence of the ability to execute the role.

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Policy Changes

- ▶ **MODIFIED POLICY:** Initial and Renewal Application Fees will increase by \$50 over the next two years - \$25 starting January 2023 and an additional \$25 starting January 2024.
- ▶ **NEW POLICY:** All BOSWC program applications, related documentation, and payments must be submitted online via the secure candidate management platform.
- ▶ **NEW POLICY:** Renewal Application Deadline - Complete and paid Renewal Application must be submitted **THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR** to their Renewal Due Date.
- ▶ **NEW POLICY:** Renewal applications submitted after the Renewal Application Deadline (thirty [30] days prior to the Renewal Due Date) and by the Renewal Due Date will be charged a Late Fee of \$25.00.

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Policy Changes Cont'd

- ▶ **NEW POLICY:** Reinstatement Policy created to allow for credential renewal application up to 90 days after the individual's credential Renewal Due Date; \$100 fee.
 - ▶ The 90 days and the associated \$100 fee allows grace in the timing of application for the certification to remain in effect and uninterrupted.
 - ▶ The 90 days **DOES NOT** provide additional time to earn CE or otherwise meet eligibility.
 - ▶ Work hours, CE, Demonstrated Practice, and all other program requirements **MUST BE MET** by the Renewal Due Date for the certificant to be able to apply for Reinstatement.

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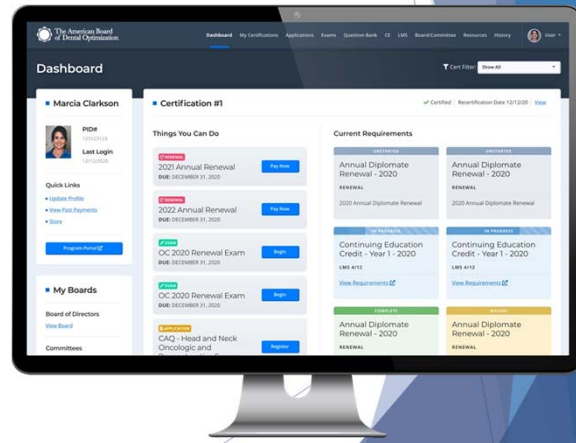
Policy Changes Cont'd

- ▶ **NEW POLICY:** Reinstatement Policy created to allow for credential renewal application up to 90 days after the individual's credential Renewal Due Date; \$100 fee.
- ▶ **MODIFIED POLICY:** Withdrawn Applications are subject to a \$75 Administrative Fee after submission/payment and evaluation has begun; Refund will be application fee less \$75. Late and Reinstatement fees not refunded.

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New Candidate Management Experience and Services

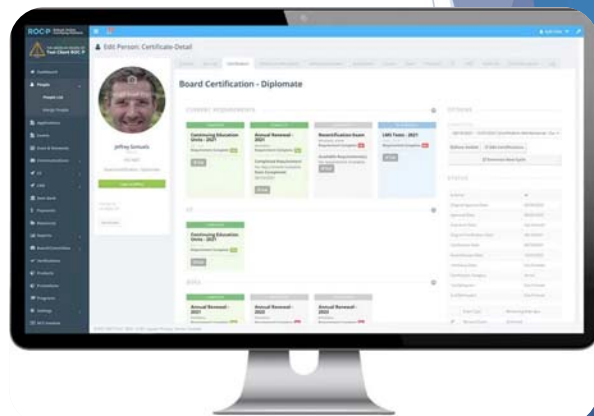
- ▶ Streamlined application process via secure platform
- ▶ Ability to review your progress and print certification verification
- ▶ Visual interface makes it easy to know where you are in the process, what's completed, and what is due



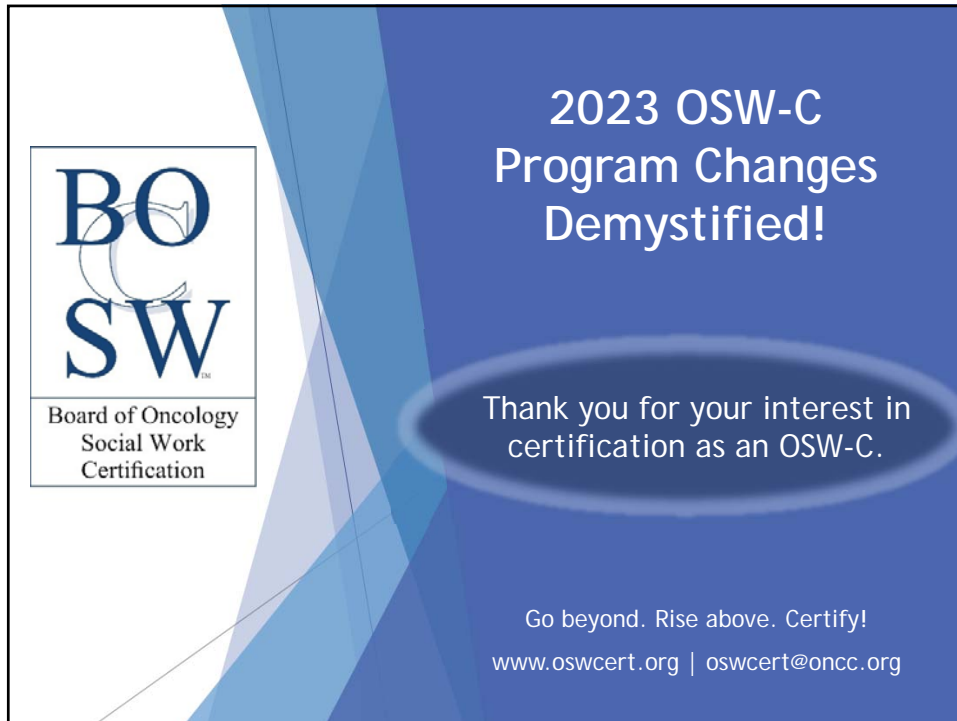
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New Candidate Management Experience and Services

- ▶ Automated reminders and notifications
- ▶ Ability to upload CE, Demonstrated Practice, and other required documentation as you earn them
- ▶ Public certification verification for employers, patients, and the public



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**BO
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Board of Oncology
Social Work
Certification

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Thank you for your interest in
certification as an OSW-C.

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