



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Timeline of Activities Professional Practice Doctoral Programs in Social Work 2010-2021

Date	Activities
2010-11	<p>DSW Task Force report The Doctorate in Social Work (DSW) Degree: Emergence of a New Practice Doctorate Report of the Task Force on the DSW Degree Convened by the Social Work</p> <p>Leadership Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ike Adams – Chair, Commission on Accreditation • Phyllis Black – Marywood University • Mike Daley – President, Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors • Donna DeAngelis – Executive Director, Association of Social Work Boards • Alan Dettlaff – Chair, Commission on Educational Policy • Richard “Dick” Edwards – Dean, University of Pennsylvania • Mit Joyner – President, Council on Social Work Education • Amanda Randall – President, Association of Social Work Boards • Barbara Rittner – Chair, Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education • Julia Watkins – Executive Director, Council on Social Work Education <p>CSWE Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judith Bremner – Director of Accreditation • Jessica Holmes – Associate Director for Research • Joyce White – Accreditation Specialist
November 2012	<p>GADE partner session at APM:</p> <p>Bentley, K.J., Rittner, B. & Anastas, J. <i>Dialogue on the DSW: A GADE-sponsored conversation</i>. Panel presentation at the Annual Program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, Washington, D.C.</p>
December 2012	<p>Leadership Roundtable discussion Participants: American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, ASWB, BPD, CSWE, GADE, National Association of Deans and Directors, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), St. Louis Group</p>
September 2013	<p>NASW Social Policy Institute Think Tank: <i>Advanced Practice Doctorates: What do they Mean for Social Work Practice, Research, and Education?</i> See report at http://www.socialworkpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/SWPI_DSW_FINAL_Report.pdf</p>
October 2013	<p>The CSWE BOD creates a committee to explore the factors involved in accrediting a professional doctorate in social work.</p>

	<p><i>“As the sole accrediting body for professional social work education, what is the appropriate role for the CSWE Commission on Accreditation to have with the professional doctorates in social work?”</i></p> <p>The committee is asked to develop a plan to explore all relevant questions including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is involved in expanding the scope of recognition by CHEA? • What would be the appropriate infrastructure to accredit a higher level of professional degree? • What other relevant logistical issues need to be considered by CSWE? • What is the impact of accrediting, or not accrediting, the professional social work doctorate? <p>Members of the committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan Dettlaff, Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chair, CSWE Commission on Educational Policy (COEP) • James Lubben, Professor and Program Director, PhD in Social Welfare, Boston College • Anna McPhatter, Dean, Morgan State University, Current Member of the Commission on Accreditation (COA) • David Patterson, Professor and Director, Clinical Doctorate Program, University of Tennessee at Knoxville • Christopher Petr, Professor and PhD Program Director, University of Kansas • Jo Ann Regan, Director, CSWE Office of Social Work Accreditation, Chair of the Committee <p>CSWE Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorothy Kagehiro, Research Associate, CSWE Office of Social Work Education and Research • Adrienne Stokes, Research Assistant, CSWE Office of Social Work Education and Research
<p>October 2014</p>	<p>DSW Committee presented to CSWE BOD the following recommendation (which was unanimously approved):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey current CSWE accredited programs to determine current and possible future advanced practice doctoral programs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Add items to 2014 Annual Survey, MSW Program section: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. “Is your institution planning to offer an advanced practice doctorate degree in social work?” <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We already offer such a degree 2. Yes, in the next academic year. 3. Yes, within 2 academic years. 4. No ii. “What type of advanced practice doctorate is offered or planned to be offered?” <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clinical teaching 2. Administrative 3. Other

	<p>2. Hold follow-up interviews with these programs and key informants (deans, program directors, graduates, and current students) at the current or planned (non-PhD) advanced practice doctorate programs in the United States to determine interest in seeking accreditation and perception of advantages/disadvantages and utility of seeking accreditation for advanced practice doctoral programs.</p>																		
December 2014	<p>Added items to 2014 Annual Survey of Social Work Programs (MSW section):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Is your institution planning to offer an advanced practice doctorate degree in social work?" <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We already offer such a degree b. Yes, in the next academic year. c. Yes, within 2 academic years. d. No 2. "What type of advanced practice doctorate is offered or planned to be offered?" <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clinical b. Teaching c. Administrative d. Other 																		
April 2015	<p>Analyzed Results</p> <p>Is your institution planning to offer an applied social work doctoral degree (i.e., other than PhD)?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="396 1016 1321 1180"> <tr> <td>We already offer such a degree</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes, in the next academic year.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes, within 2 academic years.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>21</td> </tr> </table> <p>What type of advanced practice doctorate is offered or planned to be offered?-- clinical, teaching, administrative, other?"</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="396 1339 1321 1541"> <tr> <td>Clinical</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Teaching</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Administrative</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </table>	We already offer such a degree	6	Yes, in the next academic year.	3	Yes, within 2 academic years.	12	TOTAL	21	Clinical	12	Teaching	2	Administrative	1	Other	5	Total	20
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May-June 2014	<p>Completed follow-up survey with current and planned advanced practice doctoral programs to determine interest in seeking accreditation and perception of advantages/disadvantages and utility of accreditation for advanced practice doctoral programs.</p> <p>Survey invitations were sent to 19 contacts for advanced practice doctoral programs on August 19, 2015, through an internet-based survey administration platform. The survey closed on September 14, 2015. Eleven (64.7%) programs participated out of 17 successfully delivered invitations.</p>																		

	Survey results indicate mixed interest in seeking accreditation and varied perceptions on the advantages/disadvantages and utility of accreditation for advanced practice doctoral programs.
October 2015	<p>DSW Committee presented to CSWE BOD the following recommendation (which was unanimously approved):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate a process like the process nursing employed to develop a report on the continuum of social work education that focuses on general content and differentiation amongst the social work degrees (associate, BSW, MSW, research focused PhD and advanced practice doctorates) with multiple groups/stakeholders besides the Commission on Educational Policy (COEP) and Commission on Accreditation (COA). • Identify what is the general curriculum content and educational outcomes of the advanced practice doctorate level with the involvement of multiple stakeholders (SSWR, GADE, BSW, MSW, PhD and DSW programs). • An appropriate structure would need to be created to conduct the above process that includes the multiple stakeholders identified. Nursing utilized a task force representing multiple constituencies in advanced nursing practice. The task force conducted multiple regional meetings to provide opportunities for feedback from a diverse group of stakeholders. Additionally, a national stakeholders' conference was held with nursing education leaders and other professional organizations. Other stakeholders the committee discussed included social work organizations, employers, and graduates of DSW programs to gain a broader understanding of the role of the advanced practice doctorate to the social work profession.
March 5, 2016	<p>The BSWE Board of Directors Chair and DSW Committee Chair presented timeline of practice doctorate activities since 2010 to Board to see if any additional information was needed to move forward on the decision regarding accreditation of practice doctoral programs in social work. No additional information was needed, and the Board voted to move forward with developing a process for the accreditation of advanced practice doctoral programs in social work.</p> <p>From Board minutes: <u><i>Accreditation of Practice Doctoral Programs in Social Work</i></u> <i>President Coffey presented an overview of the number of activities related to discussing and examining the issues of practice doctorates over the last ten (10) years (see attached timeline presented to Board on 3/5/16). A motion was made to The Board requesting that the Commission on Accreditation move forward with developing a process for the accreditation of practice doctoral programs consistent with existing CSWE processes. It was noted that the process will need to be done in a quality way and will need support and staffing to move forward with the implementation process. Dr. Coffey concluded her update, whereupon motion duly made. The motion was seconded and accepted. (Unanimous)</i></p>
June 2016	COA met to discuss board decision and decides to convene an end of summer face-to-face meeting with the Advanced Practice Doctorate Committee members, COA and COEP Chair, GADE President and other stakeholders identified to discuss and develop recommendations for process and timeline for the accreditation of advanced

	practice doctoral programs. Other accreditors were also to be invited to discuss their process and timeline.
August 2016	Practice Doctorate Stakeholder Meeting at CSWE
Jan 2017	<p>Practice Doctorate Sub-Committee of COA & COEP met to develop timeline and framework outline</p> <p>Sub-committee members:</p> <p>COEP Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debra McPhee, Dean, Fordham University; COEP Chair • Larry Ortiz, Professor and Director, PhD Program in Social Policy and Social Research, Loma Linda University • Bob Kersting, Social Work Department Chair, Westfield State University • Chris Mitchell, University of Illinois at Chicago <p>COA Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy Safyer, Dean, Adelphi University; COA Chair • Beverly Black, Professor and PhD Program Director, University of Texas at Arlington • Paul Maiden, Executive Vice Dean & Professor, USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work • Tom Gregoire, Dean, The Ohio State University <p>CSWE Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jo Ann Regan, CSWE Vice President of Education • Stacey Borasky, CSWE Director of Social Work Accreditation • Katie Benson, CSWE Research Associate <p>DSW Program Directors/Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Christenson, Capella University-virtual • Michael C. LaSala, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey • Debora S. Rice, Walden University • David A. Patterson, The University of Tennessee • Bill Rowe, Southern Connecticut University • Sharon Lyter, Kutztown University • Laura Granruth, Millersville University
April 2017	Practice Doctorate Sub-Committee of COA & COEP met to finalize timeline and framework outline
Oct-Dec 2017	Practice Doctorate framework document released for feedback and comment at APM and feedback website
Jan 2018	Practice Doctorate Sub-Committee of COA & COEP met to develop Draft 2 framework based on feedback on Draft 1
Feb-April 2018	Framework document presented to BPD and GADE for review and feedback
June 2018	Practice Doctorate Committee of COA & COEP Representatives and DSW program directors review framework document and develop Draft 1 of accreditation standards
October-Dec 2018	Draft 1 of accreditation standards released for public review and comment via website and presented at APM (13 surveys received and 3 letters)
Jan 2019	Practice doctorate committee reviews feedback and develops Draft 2 of accreditation standards and process recommendations for COA to review

Feb 2019	Draft 2 standards & accreditation process recommendations presented to COA for feedback. Feedback summarized and sent back to COA for review and comment. Feedback shared with committee.
March 2019	Draft 2 standards presented to COEP for feedback. Feedback summarized and shared with committee. BPD Feedback session on Draft 2 of standards.
April-May 2019	Draft 2 of accreditation standards released for public review and comment via website (25 surveys received + 3 emails) GADE Feedback session on Draft 2 of standards NADD Feedback session on Draft 2 of standards
May 2019	Practice doctorate committee reviews feedback and develops updated draft of accreditation standards and process recommendations for COA to review and approve piloting standards
June 2019	COA reviewed accreditation standards and voted not to pilot but to create a subcommittee to explore information that would be needed to determine whether further consideration of accreditation of professional doctoral programs should be considered. COA DSW Subcommittee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael R. Daley, Texas A&M University – Central Texas, Work Group Chair • Beverly M. Black, University of Texas at Arlington • Richard L. Beaulaurier, Florida International University • Debra Fromm Faria, College of Brockport, State University of New York • Michele D. Hanna, University of Denver • Joanne M. Hessmiller, North Carolina A&T State University • Francis X. Origanti, Avila University • Clifford J. Rosenbohm, George Fox University • CSWE Department of Social Work Accreditation (DOSWA) liaison: Mary D. Kurfess
October 2019	COA subcommittee recommended that the definition, scope, and accreditation standards of the June 2019 draft documents be reviewed and revised. A motion was passed at the COA meeting to forward with accrediting DSW [professional practice doctorate] programs contingent on resolving the issues identified by the COA DSW subcommittee [in its October 2019 report to COA]. Issues to be Addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and revise, as needed, the professional practice doctorate definition from June 2019 • Review and revise, as needed, the professional practice doctorate scope of practice from June 2019 • Make revisions, as needed, to professional practice doctorate educational policy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make revisions, as needed, to professional practice doctorate accreditation standards <p>COA Professional Practice Doctorate Workgroup members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beverly M. Black, University of Texas at Arlington, Work Group Chair • Michael R. Daley, Texas A&M University – Central Texas • Laura Kaplan, University of Southern California • Lisa B. Moon, Walden University • Larry P. Ortiz, Loma Linda University • Helen E. Petracchi, University of Pittsburgh • COEP liaison: Christopher Mitchell, University of Illinois at Chicago • DOSWA liaison: Mary D. Kurfess • DSW program directors liaison: Michael C. LaSala, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
January 2020	<p>COA provided feedback on revised definition and accreditation standards</p> <p>COEP provided feedback on revised scope</p>
February 2020	<p>COEP approved posting revised scope for public feedback</p> <p>COA passed a motion to approve the draft definition and scope of practice for stakeholder feedback.</p> <p>COA also passed a motion to approve draft Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards for Stakeholder Feedback.</p>
March 2020	Documents posted on website and survey distributed for feedback from the public
April 2020	Feedback considered and incorporated as appropriate
May 2020	Final documents reviewed by COA and COEP for additional feedback
June 2020	<p>Final feedback from COA and COEP considered and incorporated, as appropriate</p> <p>COA Professional Practice Doctorate Workgroup presented revised definition, scope of practice, and Educational Policy and Accreditation standards to COA.</p> <p>COA passed a motion approving the final version of professional practice doctorate definition, scope of practice, educational policy, and accreditation standards.</p> <p>COA passed a motion to proceed with pilot testing of professional practice doctorate accreditation when sufficient new staff and commission resources are in place as determined by the Director of Accreditation.</p> <p>A sub-committee of COA was established to facilitate the pilot. Members appointed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larry P. Ortiz, Loma Linda University • James Herbert Williams, Arizona State University • Lisa Moon, Walden University • Michael Daley, Chair, Texas A&M University – Central Texas • Helen Petracchi, University of Pittsburgh

Oct 2020	COA was notified by staff (Mary Kurfess) of a website having been created and a contractor having been hired to “provide plan and timeline for Practice Doctoral Program (PDP) accreditation pilot.”
November 2020 – February 2021	<p>Consulting Agreement with Jessica Holmes. Tasks outlined in agreement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Holmes will draft a plan and timeline to be submitted for approval at the February COA meeting for a March 2021 pilot launch. 2. The plan will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a glossary for the COA-approved “Accreditation Standards for the Practice Doctoral Programs in Social Work” (PDP Standards) b. an outline of a delineated step by step process that mirrors the current BSW and MSW accreditation path, to include a period of candidacy c. Policies and procedures necessary that are unique to the PDP pilot. (Existing accreditation policies and procedures will be used otherwise.) d. An Eligibility application based upon the application used for BSW and MSW applications with recommendations incorporated from the spring 2020 COA subcommittee. e. Timetables for COA Agendas f. An assessment reporting form relating to Accreditation Standard 4.0.4 in the PDP Standards 3. Develop criteria for accepting programs for the pilot 4. Post and review applications for the pilot
February 2021	<p>Jessica Holmes (consultant) presented on pilot plan and timeline. Katie Benson (staff liaison) announced that CSWE is in the process of hiring manager to oversee the pilot.</p> <p>COA passed a motion to accredit professional practice doctorate education programs and clarified that the intention of this last motion means long-term commitment to full accreditation past the pilot.</p>
March 2021	<p>Stephanie McNally was hired to manage pilot as a full-time employee with .5 FTE dedicated to post-master’s fellowship accreditation and .5 FTE dedicated to piloting the accreditation of professional practice doctoral programs.</p>
June 2021	<p>CSWE staff and Practice Doctoral Program Implementation Committee presented committee-approved Pilot Plan.</p> <p>COA passed motion to accept the committee’s report, inclusive of the Pilot Plan.</p> <p>Call for applications to participate in the pilot disseminated following June 2021 COA meeting.</p>
October 2021	<p>CSWE staff presented an update on the call for pilot applications and plans select pilot programs and launch the pilot later this month in accordance with the Professional Practice Doctoral Program Accreditation Pilot Handbook.</p>