



## **Required Generalist Social Work Competencies and Practice Behaviors<sup>1</sup>**

### **Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**

#### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to the context.
2. Demonstrate professional behavior; appearance; and oral, written, and electronic communication.;
3. Use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes.;
4. Use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior.

### **Competency 2: Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice**

#### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Advocate for human rights at the individual, family, group, organizational, and community system levels.
2. Engage in practices that advance human rights to promote social, racial, economic, and environmental justice.

### **Competency 3: Engage In Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice**

#### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Demonstrate anti-racist and anti-oppressive social work practice at the individual, family, group, organizational, community, research, and policy levels.
2. Demonstrate cultural humility by applying critical reflection, self-awareness, and self-regulation to manage the influence of bias, power, privilege, and values in working with clients and constituencies, acknowledging them as experts of their own lived experiences

## **Competency 4: Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Apply research findings to inform and improve practice, policy, and programs.
2. Identify ethical, culturally informed, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive strategies that address inherent biases for use in quantitative and qualitative research methods to advance the purposes of social work.

## **Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Use social justice, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive lenses to assess how social welfare policies affect the delivery of and access to social services.
2. Apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice.

## **Competency 6: Engage With Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Apply knowledge of human behavior and person-in-environment, as well as interprofessional conceptual frameworks, to engage with clients and constituencies.
2. Use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to engage in culturally responsive practice with clients and constituencies.

## **Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Apply theories of human behavior and person-in-environment, as well as other culturally responsive and interprofessional conceptual frameworks, when assessing clients and constituencies.
2. Demonstrate respect for client self-determination during the assessment process by collaborating with clients and constituencies in developing a mutually agreed-upon plan.

## **Competency 8: Intervene With Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Engage with clients and constituencies to critically choose and implement culturally responsive, evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals.

2. Incorporate culturally responsive methods to negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of clients and constituencies.

## **Competency 9: Evaluate Practice With Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Select and use culturally responsive methods for evaluation of outcomes.
2. Critically analyze outcomes and apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

## **Competency 10: Develop as an Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive Social Work Leader**

### **Practice Behaviors**

1. Demonstrate the ability to identify the organization's anti-racist and anti-oppressive statements, structures, policies, and leadership strategies.
2. Demonstrate the ability to assess the organization's leadership actions/commitment to address racism and oppression.

<sup>1</sup>Competencies 1-9 (and the associated Practice Behaviors) are prescribed directly by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in their 2022 Education and Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS). Competency 10 is the "Signature" competency of the Mandel School.