

**645—280.5(154C) Educational qualifications.**

**280.5(1)** Bachelor level social worker. An applicant for a license as a bachelor level social worker shall present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant possesses a bachelor's degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of graduation.

**280.5(2)** Master level social worker. An applicant for a license as a master level social worker shall present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant:

*a.* Possesses a master's degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of graduation; or

*b.* Possesses a doctoral degree in social work from a college or university approved by the board at the time of graduation.

**280.5(3)** Independent level social worker. An applicant for a license as an independent level social worker shall present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant:

*a.* Possesses a master's degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of graduation; or

*b.* Possesses a doctoral degree in social work from a college or university approved by the board at the time of graduation.

**280.5(4)** Foreign-trained social workers shall:

*a.* Provide an equivalency evaluation of their educational credentials by International Educational Research Foundations, Inc., Credentials Evaluation Service, P.O. Box 3665, Culver City, California 90231-3665, telephone (310)258-9451, website [www.ierf.org](http://www.ierf.org) or email at [info@ierf.org](mailto:info@ierf.org); or obtain a certificate of equivalency from the Council on Social Work Education, 1701 Duke Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3457, telephone (703)683-8080, website [www.cswe.org](http://www.cswe.org). The professional curriculum must be equivalent to that stated in these rules. The candidate shall bear the expense of the curriculum evaluation.

*b.* Provide a notarized copy of the certificate or diploma awarded to the applicant from a social work program in the country in which the applicant was educated.

*c.* Receive a final determination from the board regarding the application for licensure.

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