



CPD in Social Work

Membership Support Factsheet 22



+44 (0)20 3745 6463
info@cpdstandards.com
The Old Station, Moor Lane, Staines upon Thames,
TW18 4BB

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The CPD Standards Office
INDEPENDENTLY ACCREDITED CPD
www.cpdstandards.com





This factsheet provides information on CPD within the social care sector, as well as the professional bodies and institutes that operate within this industry.

The social care industry is made up of occupations that help people who have issues with their general life, their physical or mental health, or both. By undertaking CPD, it aims to improve the quality and standards of social care practices and meet local and national priorities.

In many countries across the world, CPD is a mandatory requirement for social care professionals to maintain registration and practice legally. However, in countries where it is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that CPD is undertaken to improve the quality of care and continually enhance knowledge and skills in the field.

THE REGULATOR: SOCIAL WORK ENGLAND

Social Work England is the regulatory body that oversees social workers in their vital roles throughout England. Their goal is to protect the public, enable positive change and ultimately improve people's lives.

Alongside the sector, Social Work England has created professional, educational and training standards in partnership with everyone who has an interest in social work. These standards set out the requirements that they expect social workers and social work courses to meet.

Visit their website here -
<https://www.socialworkengland.org.uk/>



CPD REQUIREMENTS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

As part of registration, a minimum of two pieces of CPD is required per registration year, and at least one of these pieces must include a peer reflection.

As part of renewing registration with Social Work England, members need to meet the CPD requirements. If members do not meet the CPD requirements by the end of the registration renewal period, they may be removed as members from the register. This means all non-registered members will not be able to use the protected title of 'social worker' and therefore unable to continue to practice.

CPD ACTIVITIES FOR SOCIAL CARE WORKERS

There are lots of ways for social workers to enhance their skills and knowledge through CPD. Here are some examples:

- Attending courses/workshops on topics such as child protection, mental health and substance abuse
- Reading professional publications/journals such as Social Work Today to stay up to date with industry news and developments
- Seeking supervision and guidance from more experienced colleagues
- Developing personal learning plans to identify areas for improvement and set goals for professional development
- Attending industry events

CPD REQUIREMENTS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

Some examples of other professional bodies/institutes in this area are:

- Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)
- The British Association of Social Workers (BASW)
- Care Council for Wales (CCW)
- Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)
- Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC)

We hope you have found this factsheet helpful.



Please see our website www.cpdstandards.com for more information on our accreditation services or call the office on 0203 745 6463 for further advice.