

Stay Tuned: Office-Based Continuing Education Courses Coming

The NYSSCSW is committed to providing clinically relevant educational opportunities to its members. Traditionally, these opportunities consist of large statewide and chapter-based conferences and workshops offered continuously throughout the year on topics of general interest. Often, but not always, continuing education credits or units (CEUs) are offered for these educational events.

As of January 1, 2015, CEUs will be required for re-registration to practice in New York State. According to Chapter 443 of the Laws of 2013, each licensed master social worker (LMSW) and licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) will need to complete 36 hours of acceptable continuing education credits prior to their next triennial registration. If one's registration is due before January 1, 2018, one is required to have one CE credit per month. For example, if the registration were due in September 2015, one would have to demonstrate nine acceptable CEUs for the nine month January-September 2015 period.

The newly formed NYSSCSW Continuing Education Task Force (CETF) is developing a series of short courses on various topics as an educational service to the general membership. These one-to-three session courses will be offered in the offices of Society member-instructors whose submitted course proposals are accepted by the CETF. Courses offered in members' offices can provide an opportunity to explore issues in small group format, allowing for the study of subjects either more in depth or not offered at more formal conferences.

Guidelines for submission of course proposals will be available in the next few months. In addition, a CE course fee structure will be developed and announced. Preparing and delivering an approved CE course instruction qualifies as a Continuing Education activity and, once approved, is granted CE credit. It is our hope that these courses will enable our members to have greater, more convenient and affordable access to quality educational opportunities within our organization. We are working diligently to make it less necessary for members to seek outside sources of new knowledge and skill building, preferring to have their educational needs met "in-house."

For more details contact Helen M. Goldberg, LCSW, Chair, Continuing Education Task Force, at helengoldberg11@gmail.com or call 212-877-0544.