

Remote, Self-Directed, and Professional Learning Opportunities for Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Practicum Students

Students who are required to complete part or all of their learning during practicum remotely and/or in a self-directed way can remain engaged in the work of their agencies by supporting research (formal or informal), resource development, community education, and knowledge translation. Examples of this include:

- Developing resources for people who access services, programs, and/or communities (handouts, infographics, presentations/slide decks)
- Creating “explainer” videos, handouts, infographics, or other resources on topics relating to the agency’s area of focus, communities served, etc.
- Curating and/or creating content for agency social media channels, blog/website, newsletter, etc. and posting content (as appropriate)
- Researching and/or implementing creative program and support approaches that allow agencies to expand reach to diverse individuals and communities
- Researching policies, procedures, and leading/wise practices on topics relating to the agency’s area of focus, communities served, etc. and sharing those with colleagues, classmates, and community partners

Additional learning activities to supplement student hours may be needed. These activities are typically in the area of continuing professional education (CPE). If you are looking for CPE opportunities, here are some suggestions to get started:

- [Indigenous Cultural Safety Collaborative](#) webinars
- [Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers](#) and [Canadian Association of Social Workers](#) webinars (CASW webinars require membership to log in)
- Child & Youth Mental Health [Clinician’s Corner](#) webinars
- Red Cross [Psychological First Aid](#) course
- [Four Seasons of Reconciliation](#) certificate program (when prompted, the password is sweetgrass)
- [Homelessness Learning Hub](#) self-directed trainings
- Alberta Health Services [Trauma Training Initiative](#)
- Alberta Family Wellness [Brain Story](#) certification
- Alberta Health Services Addiction & Mental Health [Lunch & Learn Series](#)
- UBC [Continuing Professional Development Courses](#) (mostly for physicians, you will need to scroll through to find sessions relevant to social work – but they’re there!)
- Saskatchewan Prevention Institute [recorded webinars](#) and [live virtual sessions](#) – they are also offering an in-person workshop on [Introductory Motivational Interviewing](#) in February (fee is \$150)

Does it count as practicum hours?

- Activities which fit within SASW [policy on Continuing Professional Education \(CPE\)](#) may be counted as practicum hours if they align with your learning goals and your Field Instructor agrees to this use of your time.
- Activities such as staying engaged with community groups and events, reading non-academic articles, and gathering SW-related resources do not typically count toward practicum hours, *unless they have been assigned by your Field Instructor, align with your learning goals, and are completed during your regular/planned placement hours.*

Remember – if there is a fee for a training or event, always ask if they have a student rate or if you could volunteer to assist at the session/conference in exchange for registration!

If you have questions about remote and self-directed learning during BSW practicum, please feel free to contact your Field Liaison or the BSW Field Education Coordinator, Erin Beckwell, at erin.beckwell@uregina.ca