

# **Alberta College of Social Workers Continuing Competence Program**

## **Information for Providers of Continuing Education**

Organizations offering continuing education for social workers are encouraged to go through a formal process to become recognized as an accredited provider. The Alberta College of Social Workers belongs to the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). One of the services provided by ASWB for its members is an Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. If you are providing continuing education for social workers, you may wish to apply for approved provider status through ASWB. The application can be found on their web site, [www.aswb.org](http://www.aswb.org).

Many other bodies in Canada and the US have accreditation programs for educational organizations. Examples include

- Council for Higher Education Accreditation,
- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs,
- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education,
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs,
- British Accreditation Council for Independent Further and Higher Education,
- Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council,
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT/COAMFTE)  
Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education,
- American Psychological Association (APA) Committee on Accreditation (CoA),
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, and
- College of Family Physicians of Canada

The Alberta College of Social Workers will recognize continuing education approved through any of these or similar organizations. We will also recognize any program that has been approved by another regulated profession for credit by their members. The standards required for this process help to guarantee that social workers who attend approved programs will receive an appropriate level of quality.

If your organization is not normally a provider of continuing education, you may wish to consider a partnership with an approved provider to deliver your program. Please be aware that a partnership does not mean simply applying for approval for credit; it generally involves working with the institution in the program planning and an agreement with regard to financial arrangements. Approved institutions include

- Accredited universities
- Colleges recognized by Alberta Learning or another provincial government

The ACSW does not do approvals directly. If you have questions about the approval process, please contact the organization you are seeking approval through.