Ontario College of
Social Workers and
Social Service Workers

WEBSITE NAVIGATION GUIDE

HOMEPAGE

Visit the College's **Homepage** to verify a social worker or social service worker's registration status, access professional standards and resources, learn about complaints and discipline processes, and find information about registration requirements and public protection initiatives.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The **Professional Practice Support webpage** explains how registrants, employers, and members of the public can access guidance on ethical social work and social service work practice, ethical decision-making, and interpretation of the College's Standards of Practice through consultations and live presentations.

- **Requesting a Classroom Presentation**
- **Booking a Practice Consultation Online**

STUDENTS & NEW GRADUATES

Students and new graduates can find information on how to apply to the College on the **Applicants tab**.

Graduating soon? Register for a live 45-minute Information Session on How to Apply for Registration with the OCSWSSW on the **Students** webpage.

Helpful video recordings on registering with the College and the Risks of Private Practice and Psychotherapy can be found on the OCSWSSW YouTube Playlist: **Students and Graduates**.

RESOURCE ROOM

The **Resource Room** is a publicly accessible free library of practice resources, videos, educational materials, podcasts, and guidance documents that students and faculty can explore to support their learning. Content is organized by practice area and topic, making it easy to find information on ethics, consent and confidentiality, documentation, supervision, privacy, psychotherapy, and more.

CODE OF ETHICS & STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

The **Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice** sets out the minimum requirements of professional and ethical practice and conduct for registrants of the College.

PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Practice Guidelines contain practice advice on the following topics:

- **Consent and Confidentiality in Children and Youth**
- **Parenting Plans**
- **Performing the Controlled Act of Psychotherapy**
- **Medication Practices**

Practice Guidelines are also available for download from the **Resource Room**.

ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING TOOL

The **ETHICS→A: Ethical Decision-Making Tool** was developed by the College to assist registrants in considering the issues and applying their professional judgment in particular scenarios. The Tool supports ethical and professional practice by providing a decision-making process for registrants to follow.

PRIVACY TOOLKIT

To assist registrants in understanding the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA), the College developed the **Privacy Toolkit**.

COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Complaints and Discipline process at the College, watch The **Lifecycle of a Complaint** facilitated by the Professional Conduct Department.

For information on discipline decisions that have been published on the College website, please visit the **Discipline Committee Decisions webpage**.

PRACTICE NOTES

Practice Notes is a regular feature in the College's **Perspective** registrant newsletter. Please see the most recent issue here: **Spring 2026**.

Practice Notes are educational tools to assist in gaining a better understanding of how the Standards of Practice may apply to recurring issues in everyday practice. Practice Notes span many topics including:

- Consent and confidentiality
- Boundaries
- Professional and ethical practice
- Competence
- Private practice
- Relationships with clients
- Documentation
- Electronic Practice

Practice Notes are also available for download from the **Resource Room**.

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

- **College publications**
- **The use of Title and Holding Out Provisions**
- **The Duty to Report under Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017**
- **Medical Assistance in Dying: What Are My Professional Obligations?**
- **Ethical and Competent Responses to Anti-Black Racism**

For more information, email **practice@ocswssw.org**.