

SOCIAL WORKER

(or Social Service Officer)(1)

Nature of the work

The social worker (or social service officer) is a professional whose occupation includes, in particular, the diagnosis of the causes of abnormal social behaviour appearing in certain students or groups of students, the analysis of the influence of the social or family environment on the behaviour of these students and carrying out or assisting in the development of appropriate corrective programs for given situations.

Required qualifications

To be a member of the Professional Corporation of Social Workers of Quebec.

Some characteristic duties

The social worker (or social service officer) uses either an individual or a group approach to ensure that the student reaches his full potential, above all in matters of personal development and relations with his family and society.

He presents recommendations he judges appropriate in order that the student may benefit fully from his educational experience.

He creates a sense of awareness and a sense of motivation in the milieu with regard to certain socio-educational problems such as absenteeism.

He receives and analyzes the requests for aid that are submitted to him, and after due research applies the appropriate solution, in some cases referring students to the specialized organizations with which he collaborates.

He keeps the case files for which he is responsible up to date.

(1) The professionals who are not members of the Professional Corporation of Social Workers of Quebec have to bear the title of "Social service officer". In accordance with the "Codes of professions" these professionals may not use the title of "Social worker". In this case the required qualifications are to hold a bachelor's degree with a specialization appropriate to the employment such as social work.