



Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

Juneau Office

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February 21, 2020

Dear licensees and interested parties:

Alaska's professional licensing statutes (AS 08.01.065) require the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing (CBPL) to "annually review each fee level to determine whether the regulatory costs of each occupation are approximately equal to fee collections related to that occupation." Alaska's licensing fee statutes go on to say, "If the review indicates that an occupation's fee collections and regulatory costs are not approximately equal, the department shall calculate fee adjustments and adopt regulations...to implement the adjustments."

The division conducted a thorough fee analysis and proposes an <u>increase</u> in licensing fee amounts for the Social Work Examiners program to comply with the AS 08.01.065. Program expenses have slowly been depleting the surplus for several years. To that end, we recommend increasing licensing fees this time.

The board of Social Worker Examiners reviewed the fee analysis at a meeting on January 27, 2020, and made recommendations to increase certain fees. The division took those recommendations under careful consideration. However, the division selected a slightly more conservative plan to fulfill the mandate of AS 08.01.065 and to more closely match revenue with expenditures. The proposed fee amounts are enclosed and can also be found on the program's web page at:

http://professionallicense.alaska.gov/SocialWorkExaminers

This fee proposal is entering a public comment period. The division encourages all licensees and interested parties to comment on this proposal through the division's regulations specialist. After the comment period closes and the division reviews all comments received, the division may adopt the regulation as drafted, may amend a proposed fee, or may withdraw the regulations in part or in whole.

All comments received will be reviewed and taken into consideration prior to adopting the final regulations. The final decision will result in fee implementation prior to the upcoming license renewal.

Follow the instructions enclosed to make written comments during the public comment period. Comments must be addressed to CBPL Regulations Specialist, PO Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811 or regulationsandpubliccomment@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

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Sara Chambers Division Director