



CHAPTER 90B
ARTICLE 1 - SOCIAL WORKER CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ACT

N.C.G.S. § 90B-4.

Prohibitions.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-7, s. 1(a) — fifth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:44 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 13a1febe9cc59be847cc06ed - 2addcb4657ad901873aebb67 - e2092a3386ba717d
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§ 90B-4(a) Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, it is unlawful for any person who is not certified as a social worker, master social worker, or social work manager under this Chapter to represent himself or herself to be certified under this Chapter or hold himself or herself out to the public by any title or description denoting that he or she is certified under this Chapter. A person who resides and practices social work in this State while credentialed in another state or jurisdiction shall clearly amend reference to his or her credential identifying the state or jurisdiction in which the credential is held.

§ 90B-4(b) After January 1, 1992, except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, it is unlawful to engage in or offer to engage in the practice of clinical social work without first being licensed under this Chapter as a clinical social worker. A person who, pursuant to G.S. 90B-8(b), resides and practices clinical social work in this State for a period of not more than five days in any calendar year while credentialed in another state or jurisdiction, shall clearly amend reference to his or her credential identifying the state or jurisdiction in which the credential is held.

§ 90B-4(c) Nothing herein shall prohibit school social workers who are certified by the State Board of Education from practicing school social work under the title "Certified School Social Worker." Except as provided for licensed clinical social workers, nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting social workers who are not certified by the Board from practicing social work. Except as provided herein for licensed clinical social workers, no agency, institution, board, commission, bureau, department, division, council, member of the Council of State, or officer of the legislative, executive

or judicial branches of State government or counties, cities, towns, villages, other municipal corporations, political subdivisions of the State, public authorities, private corporations created by act of the General Assembly or any firm or corporation receiving State funds shall require the obtaining or holding of any certificate issued under this Chapter or the taking of an examination held pursuant to this Chapter as a requirement for obtaining or continuing in employment.

§ 90B-4(d) Nothing herein shall authorize the practice of medicine as defined in Article 1 of this Chapter or the practice of psychology as defined in Article 18A of this Chapter.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
5 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1983		2004		2025
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR		DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT		
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER	
01	1983	c. 495, s. 1	ENACTED	
02	1991	c. 732, s. 2	AMENDED	
03	1999	S.L. 1999-313, s. 1	AMENDED	
04	2019	S.L. 2019-240, s. 10(a)	AMENDED	
05	2025	S.L. 2025-7, s. 1(a)	AMENDED	

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 90B-8(b)	(b)	"worker. A person who, pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90B-4 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90B-4(a) (2025).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1983, c. 495, s. 1; 1991, c. 732, s. 2; 1999-313, s. 1; 2019-240, s. 10(a); 2025-7, s. 1(a).)

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