



Questions and Answers - CASW Membership

What are the different membership categories in the CASW federation?

CASW has Partner Organizations that comprise the CASW federation. Social workers that are members of one of CASW's Partner Organizations are automatically Affiliate Members of CASW as well as Affiliate Members of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW). Members affiliated to CASW via a Partner Organization have CASW Board representation.

Beginning on July 29, 2011, CASW initiated an offering whereby social workers are able to apply directly to CASW to become Affiliate or Student Members.

Who qualifies for Affiliate Individual Membership in CASW?

To qualify for Affiliate or Student Individual Membership Categories with CASW you must be attending or have a degree from a university program accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education or a degree/diploma which is recognized by the provincial social work regulatory authority for the purpose of registration in the social work profession.

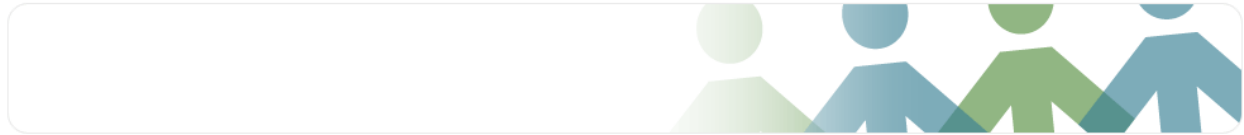
Internationally educated social workers must have received the designation of equivalency from CASW or a provincially recognized foreign trained assessment service. Applicants with assessments other than from CASW must provide confirmation of the results of the assessment with their application.

Only social workers from Ontario and Québec can apply directly for membership to CASW as all social workers from the other provinces and territories are already Affiliate Members. International membership is not available for social workers outside Canada.

What is considered an accredited or recognized social work program in Canada?

There are five levels of education that provide preparation for professional social work practice:

- Diploma in Social Work (Alberta only)
- Undergraduate Degree - Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
- Graduate Degrees - Master of Social Work (MSW)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Doctor of Social Work (DSW)



In general, the minimum educational requirement for entry into the profession is a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a university accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE). Please [click here](#) to access the list of accredited Schools of Social Work in Canada.

Who are CASW's Partner Organizations?

CASW *Partner Organizations* with automatic affiliation to CASW include:

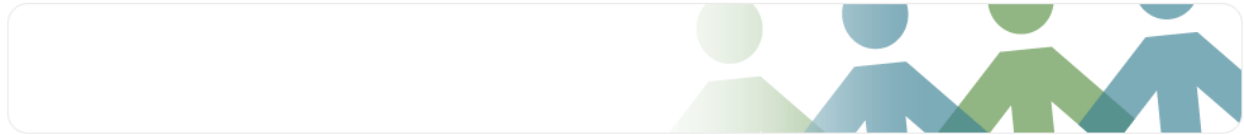
- [Alberta College of Social Workers](#)
- [British Columbia Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Manitoba College of Social Workers](#)
- [New Brunswick Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Nova Scotia College of Social Workers](#)
- [Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Prince Edward Island Association of Social Workers](#)
- [The Association of Social Workers of Northern Canada](#)

Why is CASW offering individual memberships?

The decision to provide Individual Membership categories was made in order to maintain a national mandate for CASW, given the fact that there are two provinces – Quebec and Ontario – that are not partners in the national federation. A number of social workers from these two provinces have approached CASW to become direct members in order to demonstrate support for the national federation.

What are the benefits of membership in CASW?

- Affiliation to the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) and automatic affiliation to the [International Federation of Social Workers \(IFSW\)](#)
- Access to a national [BMS Group Insurance Plan](#) including Professional Liability Coverage.
- *Canadian Social Work (CSW)* journal - the official publication of the CASW published annually in the autumn.
- *Reporter* – Monthly update on CASW initiatives and national resources.
- Access to Member's only content on the CASW web page
- National representation on [coalitions](#) and sustained lobbying to the Parliament of Canada that is focused on promoting and strengthening the profession while advocating on issues of social justice.



- Option to receive CASW's Media Monitoring Service – a daily e-mail service of national news relative to the social work profession.
- National Sponsorship opportunities.

What is the renewal date of my Individual Membership?

The renewal date for your Affiliate Individual Membership is the *date of issue* of your membership. CASW will send you a reminder prior to your renewal date. The option for automatic renewal does not exist at this time.

Student memberships cease on the renewal date following the successful completion of their qualified social work program.

As an Affiliate Individual Member, do I have access to the national insurance programs available through CASW?

Yes, Affiliate Individual Members have all the benefits of Affiliate Members of Partner Organizations including access to the CASW National [BMS Group Insurance Plan](#) including Professional Liability Coverage.

Please direct any questions on membership not answered above to sandra.veilleux@casw-acts.ca or call 1-855-729-CASW (2279).

