



# CASW Membership

## CASW Background

Founded in 1926 to monitor employment conditions and to establish standards of practice within the profession, CASW has evolved into a national social work voice that promotes the profession and advocates for social justice. The [CASW Board of Directors](#) determines and oversees general and financial policies. Each of CASW's eight provincial and territorial [Partner Organizations](#) has representation on the national Board.

In June 2011, the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW) chose to withdraw their support from the national federation, and CASW adopted an individual membership category in order to maintain a national voice. [L'Ordre des travailleurs sociaux et des thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec](#) withdrew from the national federation in 2003.

Individual memberships are being offered only to regions of Canada that do not have *Partner Organizations* (Ontario and Québec).

The CASW Federation adopted the development of a *National Affiliated Chapter* of CASW Individual Members to be comprised of all CASW Affiliate Individual Members in provinces that do not have CASW Partner Organization representation. The CASW Board presented, and Industry Canada approved, CASW By-laws that incorporate the option of Individual Members developing a National Affiliated Chapter of CASW.

## Direct Benefits of Membership

- 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.
- Access to Member's only content on the CASW website
- *Reporter* – Monthly update on CASW initiatives and national resources.
- 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 scholarship opportunities.



## Membership Options

### Partner Organizations

By joining the appropriate provincial /territorial social workers' organizations, social workers automatically become Affiliate members with CASW. CASW *Partner Organizations* with automatic affiliation to CASW include:

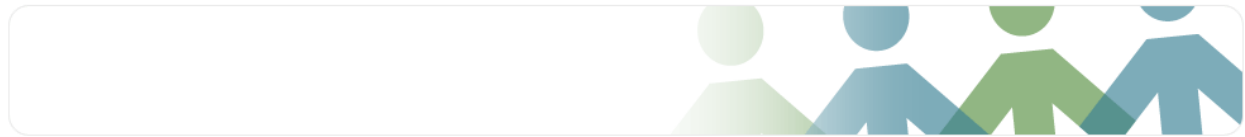
- [Alberta College of Social Workers](#)
- [British Columbia Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Manitoba College of Social Workers](#)
- [New Brunswick Association of Social Workers](#)
- [Nova Scotia College of Social Workers](#)
- [Newfoundland and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

### Individual Membership

In June 2011, CASW made the decision to welcome social workers to register directly as individual members. Applicants for individual membership must be from a region in Canada without *Partner Organization* representation in the CASW federation. ***Only social workers from Ontario and Québec are eligible.***

The following are qualifications recognized by CASW:

- To qualify for membership 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 social work registration.
- Direct individual student memberships are available only to students living and studying in Ontario and Québec.
- Internationally educated social workers must have received the designation of equivalency from CASW or a provincially recognized foreign trained assessment service.



## Membership Categories

1. **Affiliate Member** (\$50.00) – Practicing (Full Time/Part Time) or retired social workers.
2. **Student Member** (free) – individuals attending a social work 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.

All Affiliate members are entitled to full member benefits, including access to [BMS Group Insurance Plan](#).

