

83-00292

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



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Ms. Joyce Greathouse
State Board of Social Work Examiners
One Court Square, Suite 110F
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Social Workers, License, and
Permits, Reciprocity

A person licensed in another
state will not be granted
reciprocity unless licensed
under standards equivalent to
current Alabama law.

Dear Ms. Greathouse:

Your request for an opinion from the Attorney General's
Office raised the following question:

"Through reciprocity, may the Alabama
Board of Social Work Examiners grant
a license to a person possessing a
valid license in Texas even though that
person received the license through a
grandfather clause instead of an
examination?"

Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-30-22(3) requires passage
of an examination before licensure. There are two exemp-
tions from the examination. One exemption is a grandfather
clause which is no longer in effect (§ 34-30-23) and the
other exemption involves reciprocity with states requiring
"standards equivalent to Alabama's for licensing."
(§ 34-30-24).

Ms. Joyce Greathouse
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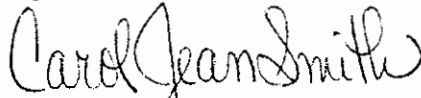
Alabama had a very limited "grandfather" period during which applicants could receive a license without taking an examination. That period started on May 23, 1977, and ended November 24, 1978. Thus, after November 24, 1978, Alabama law requires the passing of an examination before a social worker's license can be granted. The applicant who currently seeks an Alabama license by reciprocity holds a Texas license which was granted under a grandfather provision. Since the applicant has taken no examination, it is, therefore, the opinion of this office that the license may not be granted on the basis of reciprocity.

I hope this answers your question. If I or this office can be of further assistance, please call us.

Sincerely,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK
Attorney General

By--



CAROL JEAN SMITH
Assistant Attorney General

CJS:es