



**PSW
EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAM
ACCREDITATION**

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Clarification Community Placement Standards

Relevant Standard(s)

Practicum Organization Standards 5, 6, 7, 8

Quality

5. *Students must do no less than 40% of their practical training in a community or facility setting.*

Innovative

6. *Students must complete practical training in both community and facility settings.*

Collaborative

7. *Community settings are defined as:*
- *those in which the client lives in her/his own residence*
 - *those in which the client lives in a small group setting of 8 or fewer persons, IF that setting can be accurately described as one in which the clients exercise direction over their support and that the support is tailored to the person;*
 - *a day programme attended by persons who live in their own residences, or*
 - *a special purpose programme attended by persons who live in their own residences.*

Knowledge

8. *Community settings exclude the following:*
- *work in a dietary, housekeeping, laundry or activation department of a long term care facility*
 - *work in any capacity within a rest or retirement home. (NB PSW-like work in a rest or retirement home may be considered for facility placement.)*



Rationale

The purpose of community placement is to give students the opportunity to develop the following:

Quality

- skills as outlined in the *Skills Passbook*
- knowledge of community support delivery
- skill in working with clients who direct their own support

Innovative

- skills in eliciting the client's needs and preferences
- skill in incorporating client needs and preferences into the worker's scope and the time available

Collaborative

- comfort in exercising the wider range of independent judgment and critical thinking required when working in an indirectly-supervised environment
- ability to problem-solve, generalize appropriately skills to various community contexts in which the PSW works

Knowledge

- ability to accurately assess within the role, to accurately describe situations when the recipient of the information is not on site.

Retirement home and LTCH department settings do not meet the requirements set out above and as per standard 8, above, may not be used for community placement.

The Skills Passbook intentionally does not identify sites in which skills must be demonstrated, as most may be demonstrated in either.

The widest range of opportunity for skill development may be found in community placement. In fact, the data analysis conducted when the PSW was developed, as well as more recent work (Canada Health Survey and others), has shown that community client needs often equal or exceed those of residents in long term care homes. PSWs working in these settings must have experience in the more independent nature in order to better meet the needs of clients residing in the community.