

## **Analysis of COVID-19 Through the Lens of the 9 Social Work Competencies**

The situation with COVID-19 is extremely dynamic. Many agencies/communities continue to monitor the spread of the virus in order to make proactive decisions necessary to protect community members. The purpose of this assignment is for social work students to demonstrate integration of the 9 social work competencies to analyze the impact of COVID-19.

Directions: Using either your agency or community placement setting, discuss the following:

1. Where applicable include what you know about the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. properties, spread, incubation, duration, fatality, etc.) and CDC guidelines for best practice during a pandemic.
2. Use the 9 social work competencies to analyze the impact across systems (micro-macro) for each competency as specified below. Full descriptions of the competencies for your field course are available at: <https://socialwork.msu.edu/Programs/Field-Education/Student-Resources>
3. Summarize findings and recommendations for your agency and community. Describe how this assignment impacted your understanding or beliefs about the role of the profession in responding to a pandemic.

Students completing this assignment will receive 45-hours of field credit. Students should notify their field coordinator and field liaison if they choose to complete this paper. This paper should be 15-20 pages and adhere to APA format. Students should submit the final paper to their field instructor and upload the document in IPT.

### **Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**

Examine and apply an ethical decision-making model to the steps being taken to mitigate the spread of the virus at the individual, local (agency), community, and State levels. In addition, students should consider the following:

- a. Policies and laws
- b. Personal and professional values
- c. Relevant standards in the Code of Ethics
- d. Role of other professionals involved
- e. Ethical use of technology, etc.

### **Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice**

Discuss cultural structures and values that marginalize, discriminate, oppress, alienate and/or create power and privilege. Responses should also include a thoughtful analysis of:

- a. Diversity, culture, equity, and inclusion
- b. Intersectionality of those involved

### **Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice**

Discuss local and global interconnections that impact social justice and strategies that promote social and economic justice and human rights. List 3 strategies to eliminate structural barriers to ensure equity.

### **Competency 4: Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice**

Based on a literature review, describe 2 evidence-based approaches that informs practice relevant in this situation.

### **Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice**

Identify 1 local, state or federal policy and 1 public health policy and their role in services provided by the agency or community. Write an evaluative summary of the effectiveness of these policies (who benefitted and who didn't).

### **Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

Identify 2 HBSE theories and discuss how they apply in this situation. Describe your engagement approaches across systems based on these theoretical frameworks and constituencies' strengths and needs.

### **Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

Identify 2 theories and discuss how you would use them in assessing your agency's or community's strengths and needs. Reflect on your personal experiences and reactions that affect your assessment and decision-making.

### **Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

Describe 2 evidence-informed interventions you would use to achieve identified goals. Discuss how you would collaborate and communicate in interventions.

### **Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

How would you evaluate the effectiveness of your interventions? Identify 2 evaluation approaches you would use.