

**Certified Senior Advisor (CSA)®** is not listed below because it represents a combined or holistic approach to serving seniors; it does not represent a certain expertise in a specific profession. The CSA designation signifies that a professional has knowledge about the health, social and financial issues of aging, and it supplements a professional's existing expertise. **CSA Disclosure Statement:** Certified Senior Advisors (CSAs) have supplemented their individual professional licenses, credentials and education with knowledge about aging and working with seniors. The CSA designation alone does not imply expertise in financial, health or social matters. For details, visit [www.csa.us](http://www.csa.us); **1-800-653-1785**.

The **CSA designation** is offered by the **Society of Certified Senior Advisors®**. **CSA is accredited** by the **National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)** and governed by the independent SCSA Certification Council. The independent CSA Board of Standards enforces the CSA Code of Professional Responsibility.

**CSA Requirements:** complete the CSA application; pass a background check; pass the CSA Code of Professional Responsibility online module and sign the CSA Code; fulfill education/experience requirements (see options below), pass the CSA exam; after being designated, fulfill 18 CSA CE credits every 3 years, which includes 3 ethics credits. Education/experience options: 1) complete the CSA course or its training equivalent and have one year of paid work experience working with seniors or 50 hours of volunteering with seniors in the last three years; 2) two years of paid work experience working with seniors or 100 hours of volunteer experience with seniors within the last three years; 3) a certificate or degree in a field related to working with seniors from an accredited college or university.

Designation	Description	Requirements	Governing Body and Contact Information
CGP (Certified Geriatric Pharmacist)	Credential for pharmacists who advocate patient care, learn how to contain costs most effectively, and understand senior reactions to drugs.	Candidates must be a pharmacist, meet the eligibility criteria, complete the application form, submit required documentation and pay the application fee. The certification examination consists of 150 multiple choice questions.	Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy (CCGP) 703-535-3036 <a href="http://www.ccgp.org/">http://www.ccgp.org/</a>



CHCE (Certified Home/Hospice Executive)	National certification program for credentialing home care and hospice executives. It is the only certification designed especially for individuals in leadership in home care and hospice.	Candidates must meet education and experience requirements, submit two letters of reference, pass the certification exam, and comply with the NAHC Code of Ethics. Certification must be renewed every four years by either re-taking the exam or completing 40 points of continuing education.	National Association of Home Care and Hospice (NAHC) 202-547-7424 <a href="http://www.nahc.org/">http://www.nahc.org/</a>
GCNS-BC (Clinical Nurse Specialist in Gerontology)	Designed for nurses who wish to become Clinical Nurse Specialists in care of older adults. Emphasizes a holistic approach to management of aging clients and families in the promotion, protection or restoration of health.	In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: a completed clinical nurse program; GCNS-BC certifications must be renewed every five years.	American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) 1-800-284-2378 <a href="http://www.nursecredentialing.com">http://www.nursecredentialing.com</a>
GNP-BC (Gerontological Nurse Practitioner)	Education to help diagnose and manage acute and chronic diseases, taking a holistic approach to meet the medical, psychosocial, and functional needs of older patients.	In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: a completed nurse practitioner program; GNP-BC certifications must be renewed every five years	American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) 1-800-284-2378 <a href="http://www.nursecredentialing.com">http://www.nursecredentialing.com</a>
RN-BC (Gerontological Nursing)	To improve the quality of nursing care given to older adults.	In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: a completed registered nurse program; RN-BC certifications must be renewed every five years.	American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) 1-800-284-2378 <a href="http://www.nursecredentialing.com">http://www.nursecredentialing.com</a>



<p>ACHP-SW (Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Social Worker)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in hospice and palliative care for patients and families. Also provide leadership in their organizations through community education and the development of resources, services, and programs to meet patient and caregiver needs.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: a degree in social work from an accredited university; minimum two years supervised social work experience in hospice and palliative care; license to practice as a clinical social worker; minimum of 20 continuing education units related specifically to the specialty practice; commitment to compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics and NASW Standards for End Of Life Care; professional affiliations with both the National Association of Social Workers and the National Council of Hospice and Palliative Professionals, a division of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>
<p>ACSW (Academy of Certified Social Workers)</p>	<p>Indicates a social worker is member of the academy; will often have other social worker credentials showing specialty practice areas.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: member of NASW; a Master's Degree in social work from an accredited school; two years of postgraduate social work employment and professional supervision by an MSW credentialed a supervisor; professional evaluations from supervisor and two social work colleagues; 20 hours of continuing education; and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics and NASW Standards for Continuing Professional Education, and are subject to the NASW adjudication process.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>



<p>ASW-G (Advanced Social Worker in Gerontology)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in senior care and attention. Also provide leadership in their organizations through community education and the development of resources, services, and programs to meet patient and caregiver needs.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: member of NASW; Master of Science in Social Work from an institution accredited by the Counsel on Social Work Education (CWSE); minimum two years documented experience working with older adults; complete 20 contact hours of continuing education relevant to work with older adults; provide a reference from a supervisor or a social work colleague; provide one of the following: ACSW, current state master's-level or advanced generalist-level license or passing score on the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) master's-level or advanced generalist-level exam; and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, the NASW Standards for Social Work Services in Long-Term Care Facilities, and the NASW Standards for Continuing Professional Education, and are subject to the NASW adjudication process.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>
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<p>CACSW-G (Certified Advanced Clinical Social Worker in Gerontology)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in senior care and attention. Also provide leadership in their organizations through community education and the development of resources, services, and programs to meet patient and caregiver needs.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: member of NASW; Master of Science in Social Work from an institution accredited by the Counsel on Social Work Education (CWSE); minimum two years experience working with older adults; complete 20 contact hours of continuing education relevant to work with older adults; provide a reference from a supervisor or a social work colleague; provide one of the following: ACSW or current exam-based state clinical-level license or certification; and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, the NASW Standards for Social Work Services in Long-Term Care Facilities, and the NASW Standards for Continuing Professional Education, and are subject to the NASW adjudication process.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>
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<p>CASW-G (Certified Advanced Social Worker in Gerontology)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in senior care and attention. Also provide leadership in their organizations through community education and the development of resources, services, and programs to meet patient and caregiver needs</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: member of NASW; Master of Science in Social Work from an institution accredited by the Counsel on Social Work Education (CWSE); minimum two years experience working with older adults; complete 20 contact hours of continuing education relevant to work with older adults; provide a reference from a supervisor or a social work colleague; provide one of the following: ACSW or current exam-based state clinical-level license or certification; and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, the NASW Standards for Social Work Services in Long-Term Care Facilities, and the NASW Standards for Continuing Professional Education, and are subject to the NASW adjudication process.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>
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<p>CHP-SW (Certified Hospice and Palliative Social Worker)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in hospice and palliative care for patients and families.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: a degree in social work from an accredited university; minimum two years supervised social work experience in hospice and palliative care; license to practice as a clinical social worker; minimum of 20 continuing education units related specifically to the specialty practice; commitment to compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics and NASW Standards for End Of Life Care; professional affiliations with both the National Association of Social Workers and the National Council of Hospice and Palliative Professionals, a division of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>
<p>CSW-G (Clinical Social Worker in Gerontology)</p>	<p>Social workers specializing in clinical senior care.</p>	<p>In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements, member of NASW; Master of Science in Social Work from an institution accredited by the Counsel on Social Work Education (CWSE); minimum two years experience working with older adults; complete 20 contact hours of continuing education relevant to work with older adults; provide a reference from a supervisor or a social work colleague; and ACSW or current exam-based state clinical-level license or certification.</p>	<p>National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a></p>



ASW-G (Advanced Social Worker in Gerontology)	Provide a level of service to seniors in the area of social work that others do not specialize in.	Must meet state licensure requirements: be a member of NASW; have a 4 year social work degree from an accredited college or university; no less than two years experience working with older adults under social work supervision; complete 20 contact hours of continuing education relevant to work with older adults; provide approved documentation of social work supervision; provide a reference from a social work colleague; and one of the following: ACBSW (Academy of Certified Baccalaureate Social Workers), current state BSW (Bachelor of Social Work)-level license, ASWB (Association of Social Work Boards) BSW-level exam passing score, or one additional year of experience and ten additional contact hours of continuing education; and agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, the NASW Standards for Social Work Services in Long-Term Care Facilities, and the NASW Standards for Continuing Professional Education, and are subject to the NASW adjudication process.	National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a>
DSW (Doctor of Social Work)	College level degree regulated by the NASW.	Doctoral level coursework (Master's plus doctoral requirements)	National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a>



MSW (Master of Science in Social Work). MSS (Master of Social Science) and MSSW (Master of Science in Social Work) are equivalent	Acronyms for college degrees in social work.	Master's level coursework	college or university
QCSW (Qualified Clinical Social Worker)	Credential for active clinical social workers.	In addition to fulfilling state licensure requirements: member of NASW; Master's Degree in social work from an accredited school; documented two years (3,000 hours) postgraduate supervised clinical experience.	National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 202-408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org/">http://www.socialworkers.org/</a>
CRTS (Certified Relocation and Transition Specialist)	Designation designed for those who help seniors & their families with downsizing, organizing, packing, moving, real estate, resettlement, age-in-place home design.	Pass training, testing, security screening and continuing education requirements and adhere to a Code of Ethics and Professional Standards.	Senior Transition Society <a href="http://www.seniortransition.org/">http://www.seniortransition.org/</a> 1-866-793-5152
SRES Senior Real Estate Specialist	The SRES Council trains REALTORS® to meet the special needs of maturing Americans when selling, buying, relocating, or refinancing residential or investment properties.	Two-day training program.	SRES Council, 430 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611, 800-500-4564, <a href="http://www.seniorsrealestate.com">http://www.seniorsrealestate.com</a>

