A. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AGENCY SETTING
The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) was established in 1955 through the consolidation of seven social work organizations. NASW's primary functions include:

- promoting the professional development of its members
- establishing and maintaining professional standards of practice
- advancing sound social policies
- providing services that protect its members and enhance their professional status

The Association developed and adopted the NASW Code of Ethics and other generalized and specialized practice standards. The Association also sponsors, through its 56 chapters in the U.S. and abroad, professional conferences and continuing education programs, and produces journals--such as the flagship Social Work--books, and major reference works for the profession. For more information on the history of NASW, please visit the national chapter’s website at: [www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org)

Mission Statement: Montana NASW is a professional membership organization that defines best social work practice, promotes, develops, and protects the social work profession and advanced sound public policy that meets human needs and improves the quality of life in Montana.

Vision Statement: A strong association with political clout which provides members the support they need for their work.

The Montana Chapter sponsors two continuing education conferences and three quarterly newsletters a year. The Montana Chapter presently has approximately 516 members located throughout the state of Montana.

B. DESCRIPTION OF CLIENT GROUP
MT NASW's primary "clients" include Montana’s social workers, and the programs and systems within which they work and seek to influence. For example, in November 2007 MT NASW sponsored a conference entitled "Clinical and Community Support for Veteran's and Their Families." Through this conference we acknowledge that Montana has the highest enlistment "rate" of any state in the U.S.; Montanans are "overrepresented" in the incidence of veteran adjustment issues including PTSD, TBI, re-employment, etc.
MT NASW is also working with the Montana Mental Health Caucus, which has served as an informal forum for organizations and agencies concerned with mental health issues to share and coordinate their mental health legislative agendas and strategies. The groups and organizations involved in the Caucus include NAMI, MT, Montana Mental Health Directors Association, Sheriff’s and Peace Officers Assn, and Disability Rights Montana. NASW MT works with and through our Chapter’s Social Action and Policy (Legislative) Committee. The Caucus understands that the state’s mental health advisory councils and state agencies must operate within the state administration’s budget and priorities.

NASW MT is also working with the Montana Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors to develop a bill to give the board the authority to develop a “provisional” licensing category for “in training, pre-licensed” social workers, professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists.

We will also be working with the licensing board to develop a “Clinical Supervision Skills” Curriculum and training program to help clinical supervisors meet the “qualified supervisor” rules.

C. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
MT NASW’s objective is to provide a paid stipend to its practicum student. There are significant ongoing opportunities for a student to learn about and participate in a wide range of policy development opportunities at state administrative and legislative levels. There are also significant opportunities to assist in the planning, development and implementation of professional continuing education conferences. MT NASW has recently re-launched its newsletter as an Enewsletter and has reconstructed its website, and many opportunities await a student who has an interest in helping the association in the development of opportunities for NASW MT and our members to network through social media sites including Facebook, Twitter, My Space, and Google+ to name a few.

D. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
To participate in supporting the development of a legislative agenda for the 2013 legislative session. To closely monitor each bill’s status and provide Caucus members with information regarding upcoming legislative actions including proposed amendments and to identify legislator’s specific concerns regarding a bill. However, the intern will be needed to stimulate public testimony either in person or in writing or both, and work with the NASW MT Social Action and Policy Committee by providing them with periodic and timely legislative updates. To assist in the development of the “provisional license” category legislation.

The student will also need to work with the ED and Clinical Supervision Task Force, and Continuing Education Committees in reviewing and implementing the Clinical Supervision Curriculum.