

# Lana Hart Elkins, Ed.D., MSW, LMSW

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## Education

<b>University of South Carolina</b> Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)	Columbia, SC 2025
<b>University of South Carolina</b> Master of Social Work (MSW)	Columbia, SC 2003
<b>Washington College</b> Bachelor of Arts (BA), Psychology	Chestertown, MD 2001

## Experience

<b>University of South Carolina</b> <b>Director of Assessment &amp; Compliance, College of Social Work</b>	Columbia, SC January 2022 – Current
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Directed the college's reaffirmation efforts and maintained detailed accreditation documentation in accordance with policy and record-retention standards.</li><li>Spearhead competency-based education and assessment activities to ensure ongoing compliance with CSWE accreditation standards at both undergraduate and graduate levels.</li><li>Actively involved in shaping regional and national accreditation conversations as CSWE track chair and committee member, strengthening organizational strategy and outreach.</li><li>Leverage assessment data, LMS, and Microsoft Office suites (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) to evaluate program outcomes, inform decision-making, and prepare reports.</li><li>Oversee compliance with accreditation standards, translating policy into practice, identifying compliance risks, and engaging with governance structures akin to legal or regulatory consultation.</li></ul>	
<b>University of South Carolina</b> <b>Senior Lecturer/Lecturer, College of Social Work</b>	Columbia, SC August 2018 – Current
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Regularly present to diverse groups, including classes, institutional partners, and external conference audiences, utilizing video-conferencing platforms and varied presentation technologies.</li><li>Championed campus wellness initiatives through leadership roles (Wellness Ambassador, Committee Chair), demonstrating project planning and organizational skills.</li></ul>	
<b>University of South Carolina</b> <b>Continuing Education Coordinator &amp; Field Liaison, College of Social Work</b>	Columbia, SC August 2013 – August 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Served as a primary liaison to over 400 field practicum students and 100 agency partners, providing targeted support, mediation, and technical assistance.</li><li>Established trusted working relationships with academic and community stakeholders, delivering exceptional customer service and maintaining rigorous attention to detail.</li><li>Coordinated 40+ professional training sessions for delivery to diverse stakeholders, including expanding access through online learning platforms and LMS tools.</li></ul>	

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**SoftScript, Inc.**

Remote

**Quality Assurance Specialist**

July 2006 – July 2010

- Reviewed and audited medical transcription documents for accuracy, consistency, and adherence to client specifications, industry standards, and HIPAA regulations.
- Ensured grammatical correctness, medical terminology accuracy, and formatting compliance across a high volume of reports in a fast-paced production environment.
- Collaborated with transcriptionists and editors to provide constructive feedback and support continuous quality improvement initiatives.
- Maintained detailed records of quality assurance reviews, error trends, and performance metrics to inform training and workflow adjustments.
- Applied strong attention to detail and critical thinking skills to identify discrepancies and ensure documentation integrity and patient safety.
- Demonstrated proficiency in using transcription platforms, QA tracking tools, and electronic health record (EHR) systems to support real-time quality monitoring.

**Disability Rights South Carolina**

Columbia, SC

**Advocate**

March 2004 – July 2006

- Led unannounced inspections of community residential care facilities to assess compliance with state regulations and resident rights.
- Conducted interviews, record reviews, and observations to evaluate quality of care, safety, and dignity of residents.
- Produced written reports summarizing findings and recommending action, submitted to state agencies and oversight bodies.
- Interpreted regulatory standards and applied them consistently during inspections and in post-visit evaluations.
- Collaborated with state partners to support monitoring efforts and systemic improvements.
- Maintained accurate, confidential records in compliance with legal and organizational standards.

## Service & Consultancy

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges**

Remote/Throughout Southeast

**Peer Evaluator**

August 2025 – Current

- Evaluate higher education institutions for compliance with SACSCOC accreditation standards through document reviews and on-site visits.
- Analyze institutional self-study reports and provide detailed feedback to support continuous improvement.
- Collaborate with peer evaluators and institutional staff to ensure thorough and objective assessments.
- Prepare clear, comprehensive reports summarizing findings and recommendations for accreditation committees.

**Council on Social Work Education**

Remote/Throughout US

**Site Visitor**

July 2023 – Current

- Conduct comprehensive peer reviews of social work education programs seeking reaffirmation, ensuring compliance with CSWE's Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS).
- Review self-study materials, curriculum design, assessment processes, and field education components.
- Participate in on-site or virtual accreditation visits, engaging with faculty, students, and administrators to gather evidence and clarify institutional practices.
- Prepare detailed site visit reports, contributing to CSWE's accreditation decision-making process with

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fairness, accuracy, and integrity.

- Collaborate with fellow site visitors and CSWE staff to ensure consistency in applying accreditation standards and uphold the rigor and credibility of the peer review process.
- Maintain confidentiality, objectivity, and adherence to CSWE protocols throughout all phases of the review process.

## Association of Social Work Boards

Remote

### Item Writer

August 2021 – Current

- Develop examination items for ASWB licensure exams, ensuring alignment with test specifications, psychometric standards, and the ASWB practice analysis.
- Create scenario-based, multiple-choice questions that accurately reflect real-world social work practice across a variety of settings and populations.
- Apply principles of fairness, cultural competence, and accessibility to ensure content validity and inclusivity for diverse test-taker populations.
- Participate in training and collaborative review sessions with ASWB staff and fellow item writers to refine item quality, clarity, and relevance.
- Maintain strict confidentiality and adhere to ASWB guidelines for secure content development and ethical test construction practices.

## Advances in Social Work Journal

Remote

### Peer Reviewer

August 2020 – Current

- Evaluate manuscript submissions for scholarly merit, alignment with the journal's mission, methodological rigor, and clarity of argument.
- Provide structured recommendations and detailed feedback to authors and editors.

## Invited Presentations

1. **Elkins, L.** (2025, August). Update on 2022 EPAS: Explicit and implicit curriculum. *2025 University of South Carolina College of Social Work Annual Faculty & Staff Retreat*. Columbia SC.
2. **Elkins, L.** (2025, August). Student performance in field: A closer look at social work competencies & demystifying evaluating ADEI. *2025 University of South Carolina College of Social Work Field Education Annual Program Meeting*. Webinar.
3. Roth, B., **Elkins, L.**, Anderson, B., & Wooten, N. (2024, August). Transitioning to 2022 EPAS: Workshop and gallery walk. *2024 University of South Carolina College of Social Work Annual Faculty & Staff Retreat*. Columbia SC.
4. **Elkins, L.** (2024, August). Field educators approaching the 2022 CSWE EPAS. *2024 University of South Carolina College of Social Work Field Education Annual Program Meeting*. Webinar.
5. **Elkins, L.** (2024, August). Unpacking the nine (9) core social work competencies of the 2022 CSWE EPAS. *Columbia VA Health Care System Social Work Health Care Professions Trainee Program Practicum Instructors Academy*. Webinar.
6. Williams, J., **Elkins, L.**, Withrow, J., & Conti, M. (2024, March). Introducing the Program Accreditation and Curriculum Development (PAC-D) Committee: A discussion providing mentoring, support and guidance to social work educators. [Board-sponsored conference session]. *The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA.

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7. **Elkins, L.** (2023, June). Competency-based assessment in social work education: From curriculum development to competency assessment – Part 2. *University of Aruba, Department of Social Work and Development*. Webinar.
8. **Elkins, L.** (2023, May). Competency-based assessment in social work education: From curriculum development to competency assessment – Part 1. *University of Aruba, Department of Social Work and Development*. Webinar.

## Peer-Reviewed Presentations

1. **Elkins, L., & DiNovo, R.** (2024, October). Decolonizing work culture in social work academia - Recommendations from literature and our committee experience. [Conference session]. *CSWE's 70th Annual Program Meeting*. Kansas City, MO.
2. Freedman, D., DiNovo, R., & **Elkins, L.** (2024, October). Teaching anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion approaches in the treatment of substance use disorders. [Conference session]. *CSWE's 70th Annual Program Meeting*. Kansas City, MO.
3. **Elkins, L.,** Freedman, M., Freedman, D., & DiNovo, R. (2024, April). Promoting equity in social work education role management: Balancing program integrity and student wellness. [Conference session]. *The Joint Conference on Social Work Education and Social Development*. Panama City, Panama.
4. Freedman, M., **Elkins, L.,** Freedman, D., & DiNovo, R. (2024, April). Social media and the implicit curriculum. [Conference session]. *The Joint Conference on Social Work Education and Social Development*. Panama City, Panama.
5. DiNovo, R., Freedman, M., Freedman, D., & **Elkins, L.** (2024, April). Creating antiracist, diverse, equitable and inclusive learning experiences using motivational interviewing. [Conference session]. *The Joint Conference on Social Work Education and Social Development*. Panama City, Panama.
6. Freedman, D., DiNovo, R., **Elkins, L.,** & Freedman, M. (2024, April). Developing social workers who use antiracist, equitable and inclusive practices in the treatment of substance use disorders. [Conference session]. *The Joint Conference on Social Work Education and Social Development*. Panama City, Panama.
7. **Elkins, L.,** Freedman, M., & Freedman, D. (2023, October). Social work education role management: Balancing program integrity & student wellness. [Conference session]. *CSWE's 69th Annual Program Meeting*. Atlanta, GA.
8. Freedman, D., Freedman, M., & **Elkins, L.** (2021, April). Using relational learning environments to socialize undergraduate students to the profession [Conference session]. *The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference*. Webinar.
9. **Elkins, L.,** & Freedman, M. (2020, March). Role management in social work education: Balancing program integrity and student wellness [Conference session]. *The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference*. Birmingham, AL, United States. (Conference cancelled due to COVID-19.)
10. **Elkins, L.,** & Reitmeier, M.C. (2020, March). Transitioning from generalist to advanced practice social worker: Student perceptions of learning outcomes during an MSW bridge course [Conference session]. *The Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference*. Birmingham, AL, United States. (Conference cancelled due to COVID-19.)
11. Reitmeier, M.C., Freedman, M., Pitner, R.O., **Elkins, L.,** & Ottone, M. (2019, October). Attainment of CSWE

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competencies through integrative field seminar courses [Panel presentation]. *CSWE's 65th Annual Program Meeting*. Denver, CO.

## Publications

1. **Elkins, L.** (2025, August). I belong here and am thriving: Understanding full-time graduate student well-being and belonging in an MSW program. [Doctoral dissertation, University of South Carolina].  
<https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/etd/>

## Teaching Experience

### University of South Carolina, College of Social Work, Columbia, SC

(\*Curriculum Leader) (+Online)

+SOWK 712: Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (2025, 2024)

SOWK 732: Social Work Practice with Communities & Organizations (2024)

SOWK 781: Field Instruction I - MSW Generalist Integrative Field Seminar I (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014)

SOWK 782: Field Instruction II - MSW Generalist Integrative Field Seminar II (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015)

\*SOWK 701: Professional Development Bridge (2021, 2020, 2019, 2015)

SOWK 764: Independent Study (2021)

SOWK 735: Advanced SW Practice with Organizations and Communities: Social Planning (2014)

+\*SOWK 201: Introduction to Social Work (2025, 2024, 2021)

SOWK 412: Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities (2025)

SOWK 382: Introduction to Field Education (2020, 2019)

SOWK 483: Practicum Seminar (2019)

### University of South Carolina, University 101 Programs, Columbia, SC

UNIV 101: Student in the University (2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019)

## Licenses, Certificates & Professional Development

2004 – Present **Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)** SW#7325 (South Carolina)

2024 **Teaching and Learning with Generative Artificial Intelligence** (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2022 **Intercultural Inclusion and Diversity Learning Certificate** (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2021 **Mental Health and Well-Being Competency Certificate** (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2021 **Anti-Racist Education Certificate** (University 101 Programs, USC)

2019 **Fostering Proactive Learning Environments Certificate** (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2019 **Teaching Towards Inclusive Excellence Certificate** (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2019 **Case Method Institute** (3-day training) (College of Social Work, USC)

2019 **Recovery Ally** (Substance Abuse Prevention & Education, USC)

2019 **University 101 Teaching Experience Workshop** (3-day training) (University 101 Programs, USC)

2018 **Technology for Online Teaching and Learning** (7-week course) (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2018 **Getting Started Teaching Online** (7-week course) (Center for Teaching Excellence, USC)

2015 **Green Zone Certified** (Veteran and Military Services, USC)

2015 **Safe Zone Ally** (Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, USC)

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## Service

2025 – Present **Track Chair: Educational Outcomes Assessment** (CSWE Annual Program Meeting)

2024 – Present **B/MSW Policy Subcommittee, Chair** (College of Social Work, USC)

2024 – Present **Data Council** (University of South Carolina)

2022 – Present **BSW Program Committee** (College of Social Work, USC)

2022 – Present **MSW Comprehensive Assessment Subcommittee** (College of Social Work, USC)

2020 – Present **Carolina Judicial Council Student Conduct & Academic Integrity** (University of South Carolina)

2019 – Present **MSW Program Committee** (College of Social Work, USC)

2019 – Present **University 101 Peer Leader Application Reviewer** (U101 Programs, USC)

2018 – Present **Wellness Ambassador** (Student Health Services, University of South Carolina)

2024 – 2025 **Online MSW Program Subcommittee** (College of Social Work, USC)

2022 – 2025 **Graduate Assistant Supervisor** (College of Social Work, USC)

2021 – 2024 **Wellness & Social Planning Committee, Chair** (College of Social Work, USC)

2021 – 2024 **Midlands Heart Walk, Coach** (Columbia, SC)

2023 **Self-Study Writing Group, Lead** (College of Social Work, USC)

2022 – 2023 **ADEI Subcommittee** (College of Social Work, USC)

2022 – 2023 **Faculty & Staff ADEI Book Club, Organizer & Co-Facilitator** (College of Social Work, USC)

2021 **Alumni Council, Faculty Liaison** (College of Social Work, USC)

2020 – 2021 **Reviewer of Annual Conference Proposals** (Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors)

2020 **University 101 Peer Leader Interview Facilitator & Evaluator** (U101 Programs, USC)

2020 **Faculty-Student Summer Book Club, Facilitator** (College of Social Work, USC)

2020 **Grant Reviewer** (United Way Association of South Carolina)

2019 – 2021 **Reviewer of Annual Conference Proposals** (Council on Social Work Education)

2018 – 2019 **Mentor** (Women's Mentor Network, USC)

2012 – 2013 **Visitor Host** (Business Networking International)