Professional Field Education in your place of employment

Generally, field education must be undertaken in a practice setting and field of practice which is different from your place of employment or regular voluntary work. Under exceptional circumstances one placement may be undertaken in an agency where employment or voluntary work is being, or has recently been, undertaken. This depends on all other AASW requirements for field education being met.

Any placement undertaken in a student's place of employment or voluntary work will be for duration of a maximum of 72 days (500 hours). In these circumstances, the academic liaison person must be satisfied that the following conditions have been met:

- The student has been in their place of employment for 12 months or more.
- The student will have appropriate learning opportunities and educational goals, and that sound educational processes are in place.
- The student will be allocated tasks or projects in a field of practice which is different from the field of practice this student is employed in.
- The students are not carrying any workload related activities while they are on placement
- The field educator is a social worker who is not the student's usual supervisor.

Students wishing to undertake a placement in their place of employment are advised that the negotiation of such a placement will be a lengthy process due to the complexity of issues and number of people involved. The assessment of a potential workplace placement is the responsibility of the academic liaison person, and involves a written contract between the employing agency and CSU (contact CSU staff about this).

A placement will not be established in a student's place of employment unless the placement establishment academic is convinced that all the conditions, stated above, can benefit. All parties to the placement are expected to sign an agreement for meeting the above conditions. As part of CSU's duty of care, the student is not permitted to undertake a combined working/placement week of more than a standard working week.