

SOCIAL WORK LICENSING

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SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL WORK

Presentation Outline

- Why get licensed
- Types of licenses in Texas
- Changes to process in Texas
- LBSW process
- Exam info
- LMSW process
- LCSW process
- Other practice recognitions
- Criminal History
- License reciprocity
- Renewal/ CEUs
- Contacting the Board



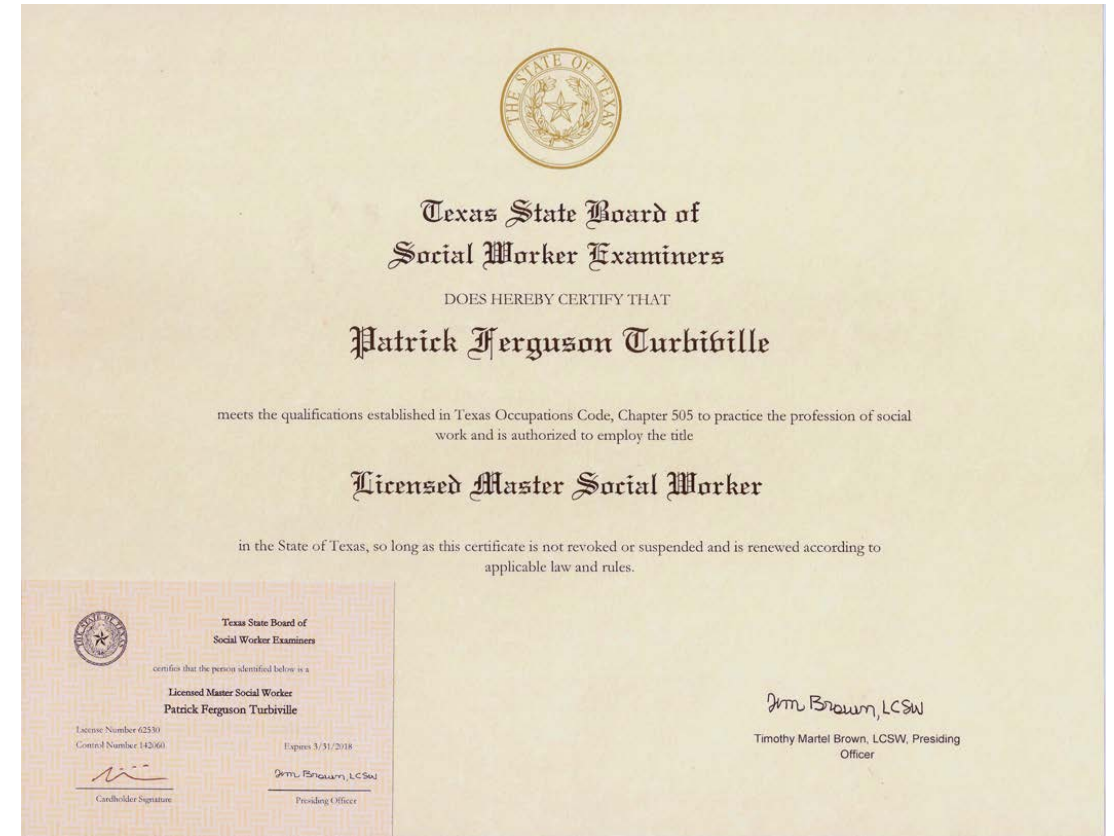
DISCLAIMER

September 2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Why do I need a license?

- Can legally call yourself a “social worker”
- “Licensed or registered social workers provide a practice backed by a legal guarantee—that service will be safe, competent, ethical, and responsible.”
([ASWB, 2020, p.1](#))
- Significant advantage in job market
- Indicates knowledge and professionalism
- Potential stigma associated with not being licensed



[Click here](#) to search/verify an existing license

Types of Licenses in Texas

Licenses

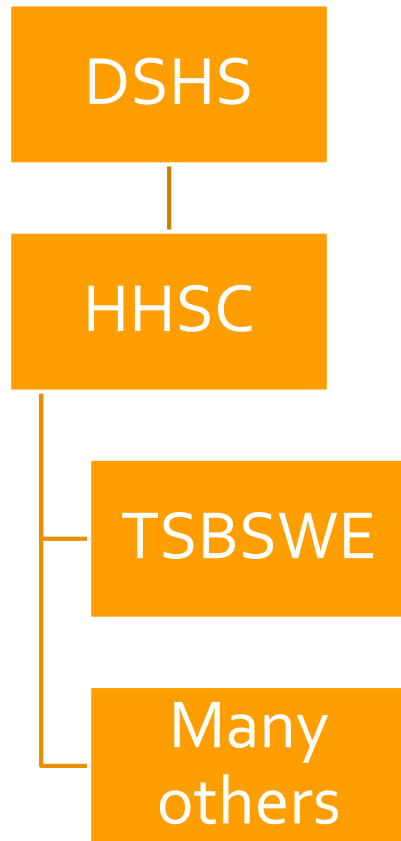
- LBSW
 - Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker
- LMSW
 - Licensed Master Social Worker
- LCSW
 - Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Specialty Recognitions

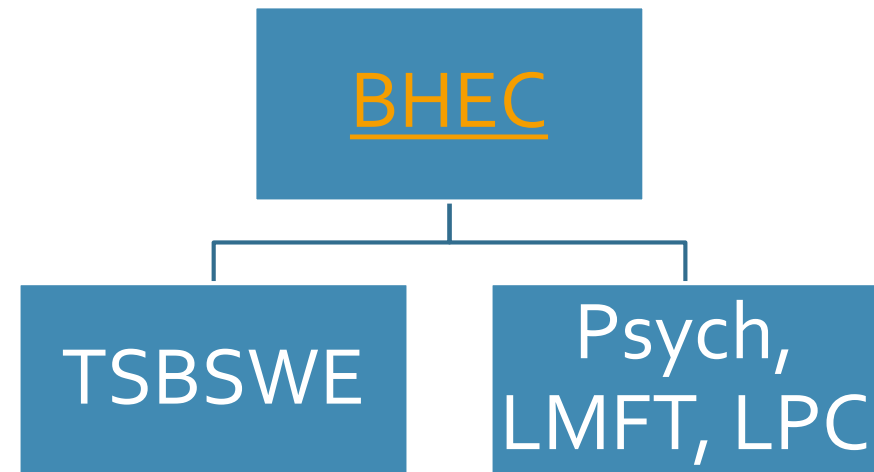
- LBSW-IPR
 - (Independent Practice Recognition)
- LMSW-IPR
- ~~LMSW-AP~~
- LCSW-S
 - (Supervisor)

Changes to the Texas board process (Sep 1, 2020)

Before



Now



Applying for LBSW

Application

1. Application for licensure
 - Must use new BHEC forms, not "old" forms (e.g. Form A, Form III)!
2. Pay fee (\$109)
 - Online, check or money order
3. Official college transcript verifying BSW degree conferred from a CSWE accredited program
 - Can apply in your last semester- need Dean's Letter
 - Must submit official transcripts after graduation
4. Proof of completion of Jurisprudence Exam
 - \$39
 - Online, untimed, open book, can't fail
 - Completion certificate within 6 months of applying
5. Copy of valid photo ID with full legal name

Online
or by
Mail*

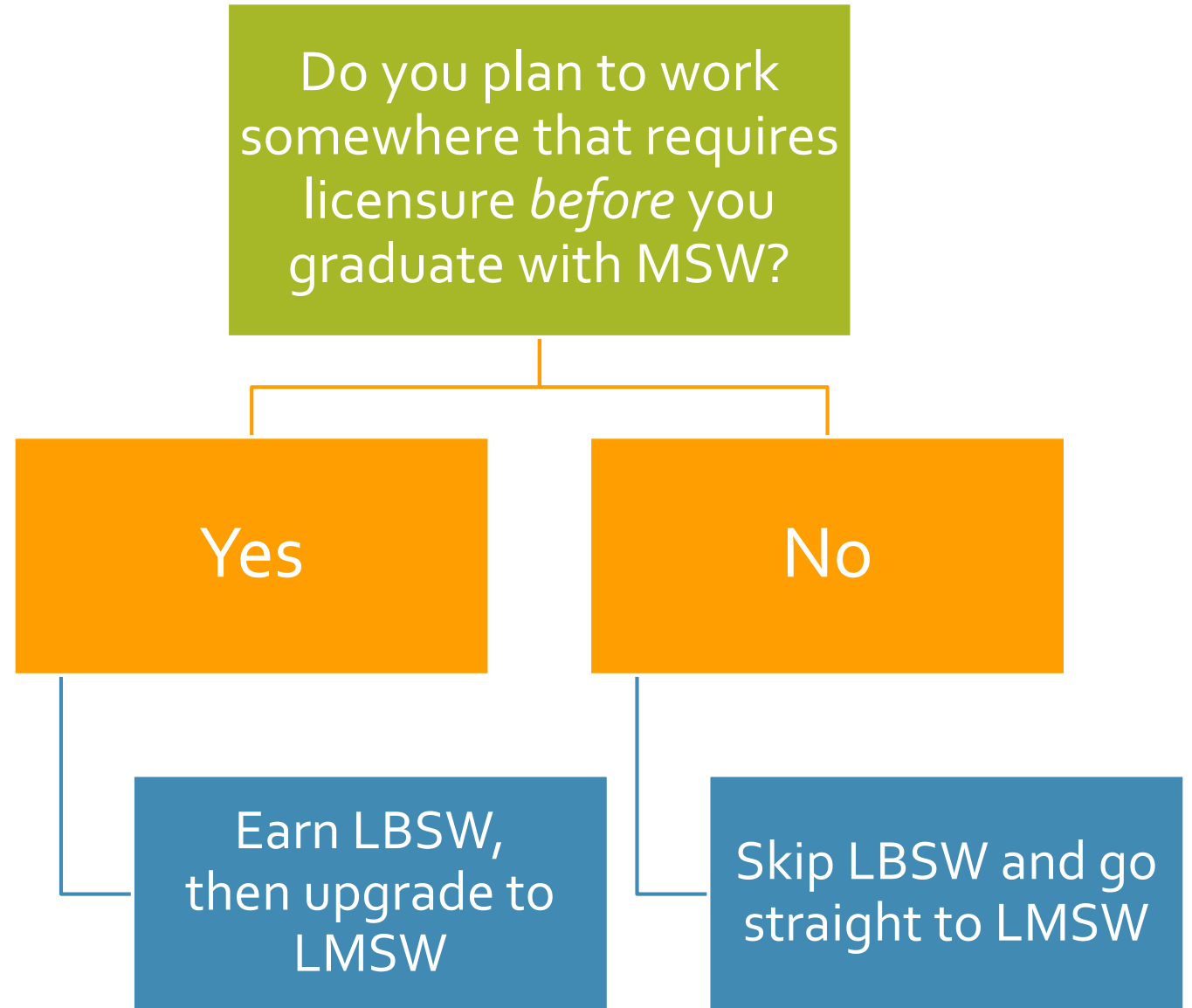
Registering and Taking Test

1. (Wait several weeks for approval to take exam)
2. Once approved, register for exam with ASWB (\$230)
3. Sign up for exam at an approved PearsonVue testing center
 - Nearby testing centers may not have availability for a few weeks
 - Can take ASWB exam in any state
4. ASWB sends score to the Board within 2 weeks
5. You receive license in the mail within 1 month+

Coming Soon!

- Sometime in the near future, the application process may be two-fold and you will apply directly to ASWB and to BHEC/TSBSWE **simultaneously**, to reduce current wait times in scheduling exams, and allow for more streamlined processing of other application materials required.

What if I'm going
straight into my
MSW with
advanced standing
status?

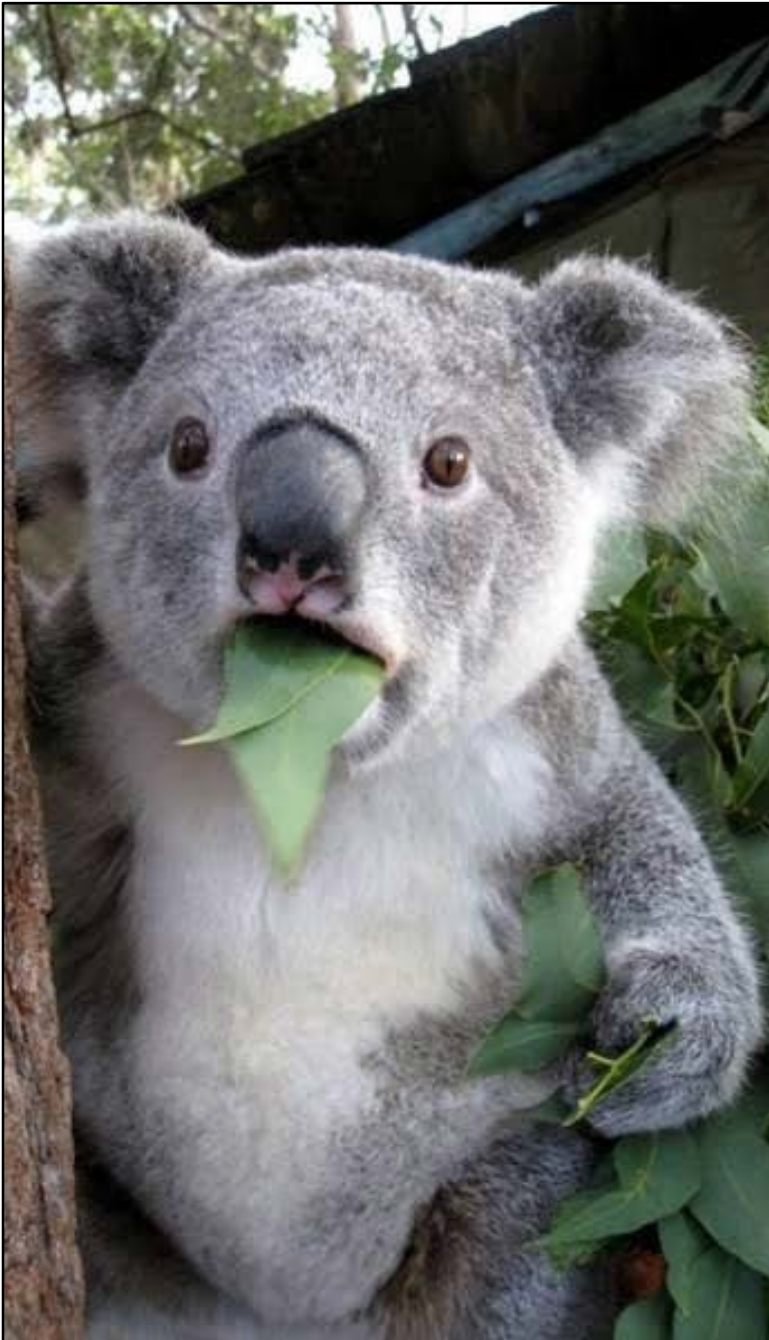


ASWB Exam Format

- Computer-based
- Multiple Choice
- 4 hours to complete
- 170 Questions
 - 150 “real” questions
 - 20 being tested for validity
 - You will never know which 20
- Passing Score depends on which version of the test you get
- Range:
 - “Easiest”= Need 107 / 150 (71%)
 - “Hardest”= Need 93 / 150 (62%)

ASWB Exam Content

Level	Human Development, Diversity, & Behavior	Assessment	Interventions	Ethics
LBSW	25%	29%	26%	20%
LMSW	27%	24%	24%	25%
LCSW	24%	30%	27%	19%



What if I fail the exam?

- Exam attempt & fail 1
- **Wait 90 days**
- Exam attempt & fail 2
- **Wait 90 days**
- Exam attempt & fail 3
- **Apply to board for subsequent exams**
 - Submit plan to the board about how you will ensure success on future tests (form forthcoming)
 - No official limit, but board approves each request on case by case basis

Get
Score
Instantly

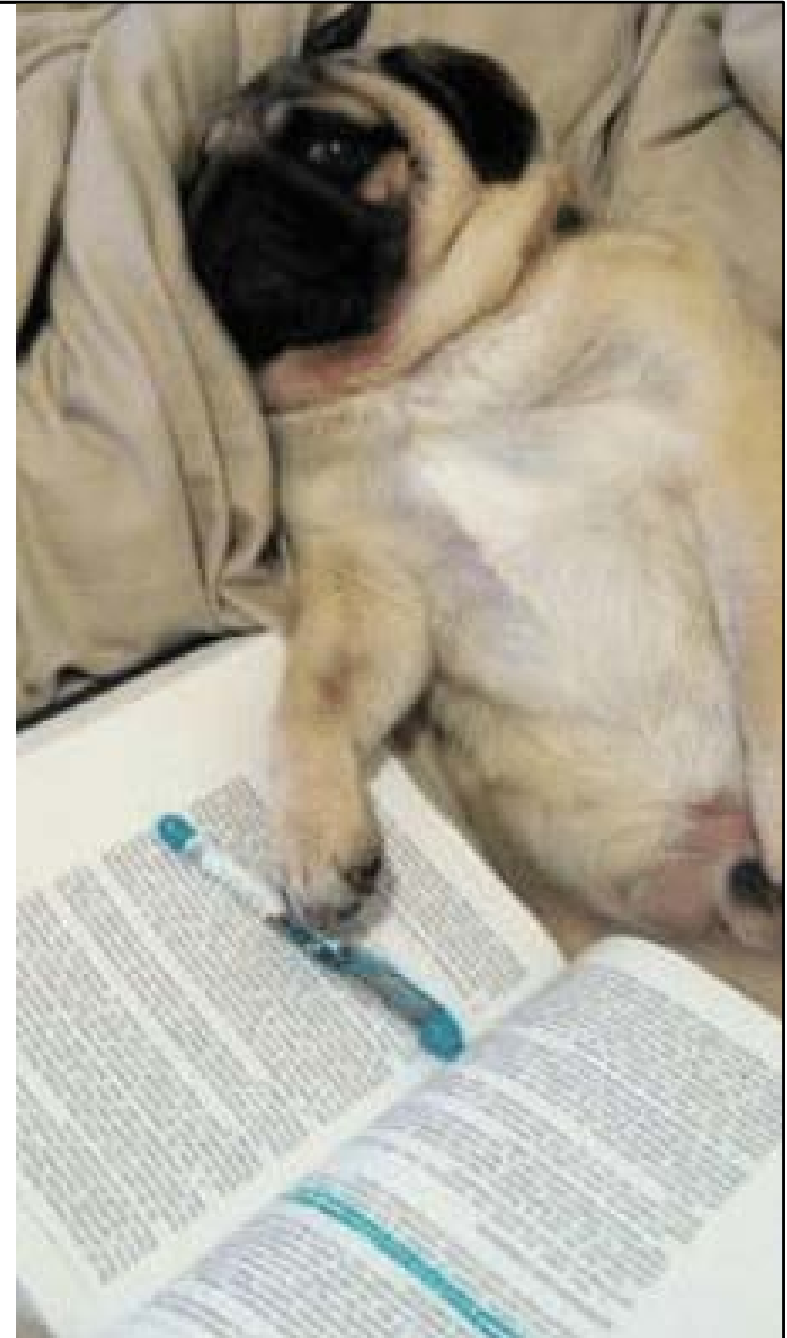


No more AMEC (Alternative Method of Examining Competency)
(no supervision alternative)

Study Resource Options*

- Official [ASWB Practice Exam](#) (\$85)
- Social Work ASWB Exam Guides by Dawn Apgar
- Free YouTube Resources
 - [Phillip Lutrell](#)
 - [Karen Magruder, LCSW](#)
 - [Rachel Haskell](#)
- Tutoring
- PocketPrep- free questions of the day
- Course prep classes

**Proceed with caution! Not official endorsements*



Applying for LMSW

Application

1. [Application for licensure](#)
2. [Pay fee](#) (\$109 for new, \$20 to upgrade from LBSW)
 - Online, check or money order
3. Official college transcript verifying MSW degree conferred from a CSWE accredited program
 - Can apply in your last semester- need [Dean's Letter](#)
 - Must submit official transcripts after graduation
4. Proof of completion of [Jurisprudence Exam](#)
 - \$39
 - Online, untimed, open book, can't fail
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or by
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Registering and Taking Test

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Coming Soon!

- Sometime in the near future, the application process may be two-fold and you will apply directly to ASWB and to BHEC/TSBSWE **simultaneously**, to reduce current wait times in scheduling exams, and allow for more streamlined processing of other application materials required.



R.I.P.

LMSW-AP

9/1/17

LCSW ★

Getting Started

- Must have LMSW
- Must be supervised by LCSW-S
 - Workplace or outside supervision
- Must submit supervision plan to your supervisor
 - Must update plan if switching employers/supervisors



- On Sep 11, a motion was passed that **"eliminates the current requirement that supervision plans be submitted and approved by TSBSWE. Instead, an LBSW or LMSW under supervision (working towards their IPR or LCSW) **would simply need to turn the supervision plan in to his or her supervisor**, who will retain the form and submit it to BHEC after the requirements have been completed, along with the verification form. **As soon as the supervisor has that form, supervision can officially begin, rather than the person waiting on board approval.**"** -NASW TX
- This applies to LBSW-IPR and LMSW-IPR supervision plans too

LCSW

What you need

- Over the course of 24-48 months post-MSW:
 - **3,000 hours of social work experience**
(30 hrs/week, 50 weeks a year)
 - **100 hours of supervision from a board approved LCSW-S**
(at least 8 must be individual)
- At least 4 hours/week must be clinical, plus 26 hrs/week of other social work duties
 - Clinical= assessing, diagnosing and treatment mental illness

LCSW

After Finishing Hours & Supervision

- Submit to the board:
 - Application (\$129)*
 - Copy of Driver's License
 - Official transcripts
 - Certificate of completion for passing Jurisprudence Exam (\$39)
 - Application to upgrade license (\$20)
 - Clinical Supervision Verification Form

(Wait several weeks for approval to take exam)*

- Once Board approves, register with ASWB (phone or online)
 - \$260 exam fee
- Sign up at approved (PearsonVue) testing center
- May have to wait a few weeks for local testing site availability
- ASWB sends score to the Board within 2 weeks
- You receive license in the mail within 1 month

Coming Soon!

- Sometime in the near future, the application process may be two-fold and you will apply directly to ASWB and to BHEC/TSBSWE **simultaneously**, to reduce current wait times in scheduling exams, and allow for more streamlined processing of other application materials required.

Practice Recognitions

LBSW-IPR and LMSW-IPR

- Must have “base” license
- Similar supervision process as LCSW, but work is non-clinical
 - 24-60 months to complete
- May work under contract, bill directly for services, and bill third parties for reimbursements for ***non-clinical*** services
- Retake Jurisprudence Exam

LCSW-S*

- 2 years full time post LCSW licensure practice experience
- 40-hour training course from board-approved provider
- Additional CEU requirements (3 hours per renewal period on supervision)
- *LBSW-S and LMSW-S are also offered, but this is much less common

Temporary Licenses

- Mostly commonly used for recent graduates who have a job that requires a license.
- Only offered for LBSW and LMSW
- To qualify:
 - You must have a **current application on file** for licensure as an LBSW
 - AND
 - You must never have taken the ASWB examination for LBSW

Doctoral Level Licenses



NO LICENSURE FOR
PHD OR DSW



CAN MAINTAIN MASTER'S OR
CLINICAL LICENSURE IF YOU
GET A DOCTORATE

License Requirement Summary

License Type	Education	Examination	Experience	Supervision
LBSW	BSW	Bachelors	None	None
LBSW-IPR	BSW	None	3,000 hours over 24-60 months post LBSW	100 hours
LMSW	MSW	Masters	None	None
LMSW-IPR	MSW	None	3,000 hours post LMSW	100 hours
LCSW	MSW	Clinical	3,000 hours post LMSW	100 hours
LCSW-S	MSW	None	-Minimum 2 years post LCSW -40 hours of training	None

Criminal History

- What if I have a record? Can I still get a license?
 - Criminal history disclosure on licensing application
- Criminal History evaluation
 - \$50
 - Board reviews background and provides a statement as to whether the history would preclude licensure upon graduation
 - Complete ***before*** pursuing degree!

License Reciprocity



Texas does not have
official reciprocity

[Military Exception](#)



Endorsement is determined on a
case-by-case basis.



[Verification of Licensure in Another
District](#)

Renewing license every 2 years

Online
Only

Example 1: You get licensed in May and have a March birthday

Year Licensed	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year
January	January	January	January	January
February	February	February	February	February
March	March 1	March 2	March 1	March 2
April	April	April	April	April
May	May	May	May	May
June	June	June	June	June
July	July	July	July	July
August	August	August	August	August
September	September	September	September	September
October	October	October	October	October
November	November	November	November	November
December	December	December	December	December

Example 2: You get licensed in January and have a March birthday

Year Licensed	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year
January	January	January	January
February	February	February	February
March 1	March 2	March 1	March 2
April	April	April	April
May	May	May	May
June	June	June	June
July	July	July	July
August	August	August	August
September	September	September	September
October	October	October	October
November	November	November	November
December	December	December	December

Maintaining your license

Renewal fee

- \$141 for LBSW & LMSW
- \$163 for LCSW

CEUs

- 30 hours in 2-year period
- 6 must be ethics
- 1 in human trafficking prevention- free SOAR course

Display license, certificate of renewal, and Code of Conduct

Fingerprints- *Coming April 2021*

Updating home address

Inactive Status

Contacting the Board

Set aside adequate time

Contact Info

- Licensing questions: licensing@bhec.texas.gov
- Enforcement/compliance: enforcement@bhec.texas.gov
- General/administrative/legal: general@bhec.texas.gov
- General questions (all BHEC): 512-305-7700
- For complaints: 800-821-3205 (24 hour)
- TX BHECTSBWE
333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-900
Austin, TX
78701

Option to attend public [meetings](#)

YOU CAN DO IT!

