

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE
LEVELS OF LICENSURE
Effective 08/01/03

Three levels of social work practice are licensed in North Dakota and social workers at all levels of licensure must complete twenty contact hours of continuing education each two year licensing period.

Licensed Social Worker (LSW)

Bachelor's degree in social work and must work for an agency or organization.

Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW)

Master's or doctorate degree in social work and must work for an agency or organization.

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)

Master's or doctorate degree in social work, and may engage in independent practice
Eligible for reimbursement by third party insurance payers

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Licensed Social Worker (LSW)

If you are a recent graduate, or have never worked as a social worker:

- bachelor's degree in social work from an accredited social work program
- notarized application
- three references including field supervisor, faculty advisor, and social worker
- official transcript sent directly from college or university
- score of 70 or better on the ASWB basic level exam
- agree to adhere to the code of social work ethics adopted by the board
- \$25 application fee
- \$75 licensing fee

If you are already licensed in another state:

- bachelor's degree in social work from an accredited social work program
- notarized application
- three references including two social workers and a work supervisor
- verification of out-of-state licensure form completed by state board in state of licensure – available on website
- copy of current license
- copy of rules and regulations from current state of licensure
- official transcript sent directly from college or university
- score of 70 or better on the ASWB basic level exam
- agree to adhere to the code of social work ethics adopted by the board
- \$25 application fee
- \$75 licensing fee

Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW)

Same as LSW except:

- master's or doctorate degree in social work from an accredited social work program
- score of 70 or better on the ASWB intermediate, advanced, or clinical level exam
- \$25 application fee
- \$75 licensing fee **

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)

Same as LCSW requirements plus:

- score of 70 or better on the ASWB clinical level exam
- 3000 hours, post-master's, supervised clinical experience earned within 2 to 4 years
- \$25 application fee
- \$75 licensing fee **

Supervised Clinical Experience

- Defined as the professional relationship between a supervisor and a supervisee in which the supervisor provides evaluation of and direction over the supervisee's practice, for the purpose of the supervisee's professional development.
- Must be obtained through:
 - LCSW with two years of experience or LICSW
 - Licensed clinical psychologist
 - Licensed psychiatrist
- May consist of:
 - Individual supervision
 - Group supervision of no more than seven, including supervisor
- Board Recommendations: Clinical supervisory sessions should occur at least one hour per week for a total of 50 weeks per year for the four-year period.

Licensee should have each supervisor utilized during the four-year period complete and sign the supervision verification form available on the website upon completion of his/her supervisory responsibilities.

Licensee should maintain a concise journal of name of supervisor, dates, times, and content of supervisory sessions should the Board request same for verification purposes.

Licensee should submit supervision plan to Board for review.

** LSW's and LCSW's currently licensed in North Dakota and upgrading their license to the LCSW or LICSW level have the \$75 licensing fee waived.