

Licensing of Social Workers in Louisiana And Continuing Education Requirements

Licensing Requirements

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

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Obtaining an MSW is only the first step. A new MSW graduate will want to pursue licensure in whatever state they live. In Louisiana, there are three levels of licensure for social workers in Louisiana:

License	Requirements and Scope of Practice
Registered Social Worker (RSW)	Requires a BSW or MSW and application to the Board. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agency based Generalist practice
Licensed Master Social Worker or Certified Social Worker (LMSW or CSW)	Requires MSW and exam; application to the Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agency based, supervised practice.• May not engage in private practice.• May engage in psychotherapy under the supervision of a LCSW.
Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)*	Requires MSW; 5760 hours of postgraduate practice with 3840 hours of supervision; exam; application to the Board <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent advanced social work practice either in an agency or private practice

*The LCSW can also obtain a LCSW-BACS (Board Approved Clinical Supervisor) license

A Requirement for Maintaining Licensure: Social Work CEUS

To maintain one's license in Louisiana, twenty (20) hours of social work continuing education is required annually prior to the renewal of a license, certification, provisional certification or registration. The collection period for continuing education is July 1 through June 30 of each year.

- All social workers are required to obtain three (3) hours in the area of social work ethics every two years.
- LCSWs are required to obtain ten (10) of the twenty (20) hours in the area of clinical social work to include diagnosis and treatment annually.
- LCSW-BACS are required to obtain three (3) hours in the area of clinical supervision every two years to maintain Board Approved Clinical Supervisor (BACS) designation

Please visit the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners for detailed information.

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