

## **SOCIAL WORK LICENSING GUIDE**

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR FULL MASTER'S SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE (LMSW) BY EXAMINATION**

- Graduate with a master's degree from an educational program that is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).
- Complete at least 4,000 hours of post-degree supervised social work experience over at least a two-year period. If the experience is gained in Michigan, must hold a Limited LMSW License. Must complete experience in a setting that includes work in the area of designation that will part of the MSW license; either Clinical, Macro (administrative), or both.
- Arrange for submission of verification of licensure in any state where licensed, even if the license is no longer active.
- Pass either the Clinical or the Advanced Generalist (Macro designation) Examination that is conducted by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR FULL LMSW LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT (currently licensed in another state)**

- Graduate with a master's degree from a CSWE-accredited educational program.
- Provide verification that at least 4,000 hours of post-degree supervised work experience that was completed in the other state.
- Arrange for submission of verification of licensure in any state where licensed, even if the license is no longer active.
- Contact the ASWB to have the Clinical or Advanced Generalist exam scores sent to the Michigan Board.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL SPECIALTY DESIGNATION**

- Must have an active license in the other specialty or Limited LMSW license.
- Complete an additional 2,000 hours of post-degree social work experience, over at least a 1 year period, in the second specialty designated area with at least 50 hours of supervisory review.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR LIMITED LMSW LICENSE**

**Limited** – A license for applicants used to obtain 4,000 hours of supervised social work experience and take the examination. It can be renewed up to 6 times.

- Graduate with a master's degree from a CSWE-accredited educational program.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR FULL BACHELOR'S SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE (LBSW) BY EXAMINATION**

- Graduate with a bachelor's degree from a CSWE-accredited educational program.
- Complete at least 4,000 hours of post-degree supervised social work experience over at least a two-year period. If the experience is gained in Michigan, must hold a Limited LBSW License.
- Pass the Bachelors Examination that is conducted by the ASWB.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR LBSW LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT (currently licensed in another state)**

- Graduate with a bachelor's degree from a CSWE-accredited educational program.
- Provide verification that at least 4,000 hours of post-degree supervised work experience that was completed in the other state.
- Contact the ASWB to have the Bachelors Examination scores sent to the Michigan Board.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR A LIMITED BSW LICENSE**

**Limited** – A license for applicants used to obtain 4,000 hours of supervised social work experience and take the examination. It can be renewed up to 6 times.

- Graduate with a bachelor's degree from a CSWE- accredited educational program.
- Practice under the supervision of a licensed master's social worker.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR A SOCIAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN (SST) REGISTRATION**

- Must have completed an Associate's degree in Social Work from a CSWE-accredited program, or be currently employed in social or human services and have either completed at least 2,000 hours of supervised social work experience over at least a one year period, or have completed at least two years of college in a regionally-accredited institution with at least four courses relevant to human service needs.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR A LIMITED SST REGISTRATION**

**Limited** – A license for applicants used to obtain 2,000 hours of supervised social service experience. It can be renewed once.

- Must have completed at least two years of college in any field from a regionally accredited institution.
- Must either be currently employed in human or social services or have been made an offer of employment in the practice of social work.
- Submit the fee with the application that is found [here](#).
- A criminal background check is required if not previously taken for a Michigan health professional license. Fingerprints must be taken using the instructions and ID numbers that are sent to the applicant after the license application and fee are received.