

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE
LEVELS OF LICENSURE
Effective 08/01/09

Three levels of social work practice are licensed in North Dakota and social workers at all levels of licensure must complete thirty 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
- state and federal criminal history record checks ##
- Child Abuse Information Index check ##
- 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 Bachelor's 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
- state and federal criminal history record checks ##
- Child Abuse Information Index check ##
- 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 Bachelor's level exam
- agree to adhere to the code of social work ethics adopted by the board
- \$25 application fee
- \$75 licensing fee

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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 Master's 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 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: LICSW

Supervision Plan

Applicant for LICSW must submit a plan for supervision to the board office prior to beginning the process of working toward LICSW status.

- Plan for Supervision must include:
 - Minimum of 150 hours of face-to-face clinic supervision with a supervisor approved by the board
 - Not more than 50 hours may be group supervision
 - Name of proposed supervisor
 - Copy of supervisor's license
- Group supervision may consist of no more than seven, including the supervisor.
- Should the supervisor change, a new plan must be submitted to the board's office by applicant.
- Applicants must maintain a record of supervision including dates, time, and content of supervisory sessions should the board request same for verification purposes.
- For more information, see sections 75.5-02-01-03 and 75.5-02-03-04.1 of the ND Administrative Code.

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

State and federal criminal history record checks and Child Abuse Information Index check not required if currently licensed in North Dakota and upgrading license to LCSW or LICSW level.