

State of Nevada
Board of Examiners for Social Workers

Information for Independent Social Worker Licensure

Social Work means the application of methods, principles and techniques of case work, group work, community organization, administration, planning, consultation and research to assist persons, groups or communities to enhance or restore their ability to function physically, socially and economically. [NRS 641B.505(2)] A person who holds an Independent Social Worker license has an advanced practitioner license that allows the person to practice independently. It does not allow the practitioner to practice clinical social work or mental health therapy.

For the purposes of licensure as an Independent Social Worker, an applicant must complete an internship consisting of not less than 3,000 hours of supervised, postgraduate social work in an appropriate social work setting. The required work must be completed no earlier than 2 years or later than 3 years after the board approves the program. A minimum of one hour of supervision by an approved supervisor who is a licensed Independent Social Worker or a licensed Clinical Social Worker per week is required. The applicant must be able to demonstrate at an advanced practitioner level the ability to assist persons, groups, agencies, organizations or communities to enhance or restore their ability to function physically, socially and economically by the application of methods, principles and techniques of case work, group work, community organization, administration, planning, consultation, research including but not limited to the following:

- Client centered advocacy
- Design organizational procedures and policies
- Plan, implement and evaluate programs
- Establish and implement organizational goals
- Develop effective service programs
- Knowledge of social programs and resources
- Obtain, manage and be accountable for agency resources including staff
- Coordinate services
- Facilitate and interpret and implement policy
- Formulate and use referral services
- Resolve or mediate conflict
- Program consultation
- Staff development
- Fiscal management skills
- Bring about system change

As noted in our information materials, an applicant has the burden of proving that their hours meet the requirement for the state of Nevada. The following items are required for review:

1. Verification of a passing score for the Advanced level of the ASWB examination from a State Board or ASWB.
2. A letter of verification from your social worker supervisor or state board which documents at a minimum that:
 - a. you completed a total of 3,000 post graduate advanced generalist social work practice hours in no less than two years and no more than 3 years
 - b. the practice site was an appropriate social work setting
 - c. supervision meetings were held face-to-face at least one hour per week during the supervision period
3. Verification of supervisor's qualifications including his/her current license status and qualifications to be a social worker supervisor. Minimum qualifications include at least 3 years experience as an advanced practitioner and appropriate training to supervise.

Verification of hours must be received before your application can be reviewed. A job description may also be submitted to support the supervisor's description as an appropriate social work site and which would be equivalent to meet the requirements for a person to receive approval in Nevada.