



State of Nevada

Board of Examiners for Social Workers

4600 Kietzke Lane, #O-264, Reno, NV 89502

(775) 688-2555

Pursuant to NRS 641B.500, it is unlawful for any person to represent him/herself as a Social Worker in Nevada without a license. You may not engage in the practice of social work until you are licensed.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS / REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN NEVADA

1. Applicant must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
2. Possess either a Social Security Number or an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN).
3. Applicant must pass both a state and federal background check.

LEVELS OF LICENSURE IN NEVADA

Nevada has four levels of licensure available.

Two levels are considered **entry level licenses** -

- Licensed Social Worker (**LSW**)
- Licensed Master Social Worker (**LMSW**)

Two levels are considered **advanced practice licenses** and require a post-graduate internship -

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (**LCSW**)
- Licensed Independent Social Worker (**LISW**)

Each level of licensure has a distinct scope of practice. It is the responsibility of the licensee to know their scope of practice and to practice within that scope. Please refer to the Scope of Practice Table for specific information for your level of licensure.

The table below shows the requirements for each level of licensure.

	LSW	LMSW	LCSW	LISW
Degree in Social Work from a CSWE Approved Program	Bachelor's (BSW)	Master's (MSW)	Master's (MSW)	Master's (MSW)
ASWB Exam Requirements	Bachelor's Exam	Master's Exam	Master's Exam AND Clinical Exam	Master's Exam AND Advanced Generalist Exam
Minimum Post-Graduate Internship Hours Required	N / A	N / A	3000	3000

ROUTES TO LICENSURE IN NEVADA

Nevada has four routes to licensure –

- Initial license via examination (LSW and LMSW)
- Endorsement of an equivalent level of licensure from another state(s)
- Advanced licensure via a Post-Graduate Internship (LCSW and LISW).
- Provisional Licensure (temporary licenses)

Licensure via EXAMINATION

The **LSW** and **LMSW** levels of licensure are available via examination.

- Must have a bachelor's or master's degree from a CSWE accredited program and has completed an application for licensure.
- Provides transcripts directly from the university to verify social work degree.
 - A student in his / her last semester may apply before graduation with written verification from the university of their graduation date.
- Passes relevant examination.
- Passes a state and federal background check.

Licensure via ENDORSEMENT

All levels of licensure listed above can be sought via endorsement from another state. The minimum qualifications for each level must be met for endorsement to be granted (see page one).

- Must have a current and unrestricted license in another state(s) to qualify for endorsement. License verification from all state(s) currently or previously licensed in, is required.
- Must have a bachelor's or master's degree from a CSWE accredited program and will provide transcripts directly from the university to verify social work degree.
- Passes a state and federal background check.
- Passed the equivalent ASWB exam.
- Completed a minimum of 3000 hrs. of post-graduate internship for either the LCSW or LISW licenses.

Simply being licensed in another state is not sufficient. An applicant who does not meet all these qualifications is not eligible for licensure by endorsement.

Advanced Licensure via Internship

The **LCSW** and **LISW** licenses can be obtained after completing an approved post-graduate internship. Minimum requirements are as follows –

- Must have the LMSW license in Nevada.
- Provides transcripts directly from the university to verify social work degree.
- Passing score on the Master's exam from ASWB.
- Approved post-graduate internship which includes a Board approved site, a Board approved supervisor, and a Board approved supervision plan.
- Completion of required hours and a minimum of 24 months of practice.
- Passing score on the relevant advanced exam (Clinical or Advanced Generalist).

Provisional Licenses

Nevada has two Provisional Licensure options. These are considered temporary licenses. The minimum requirements are as follows –

- **Provisional "A"** License – 90-day temporary license.
 - Has a bachelor's or master's degree from a CSWE accredited program in social work. Has provided transcripts directly from the university to verify social work degree.
 - Passes a state and federal background check.
 - Has one opportunity to pass the relevant exam within ninety (90) days. Application is closed if the exam is failed or not passed in ninety (90) days.
- **Provisional "B"** License – Issued up to three years.
 - Must have a bachelor's or master's degree in a related field which has been approved prior to application. Board may request unofficial transcripts to determine eligibility.
 - Has completed two semesters or four quarters (one scholastic year) in a CSWE accredited program in social work prior to application.
 - Passes a state and federal background check.

- Renews the license each year with confirmation of continued enrollment in a CSWE approved social work program.
- Must pass the relevant exam prior to graduation. This license expires on the day of graduation from the social work program.
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Please refer to NRS 641B and NAC 641B for specific laws and statutes about licensure. Links to these documents can be found at the Board website - <http://socwork.nv.gov/>.