

## **Social Work Licensure Requirements**

*Note -- Accreditation information can be obtained by calling the institution from which you received your degree.*

### **Licensed Bachelor Social Worker**

1. An applicant for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker shall have a baccalaureate degree in social work from a regionally accredited college or university in a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent foreign degree as determined by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education.
2. To be licensed as a baccalaureate social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score on the bachelors examination offered by A.S.W.B.

### **Licensed Master Social Worker**

1. An applicant for licensure as a master social worker or a clinical social worker shall have a master or higher degree in social work from a regionally accredited college or university in a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent foreign degree as determined by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education.
2. To be licensed as a master social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score on the masters examination offered by A.S.W.B.

### **Licensed Clinical Social Worker**

1. An applicant for licensure as an clinical social worker shall have a master or higher degree in social work from a regionally accredited college or university in a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent foreign degree as determined by the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on Social Work Education.
2. To be licensed as a clinical social worker, an applicant shall receive a passing score on the clinical examination offered by A.S.W.B.
3. After completing the degree required in (1), an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall complete a minimum of 3200 hours of supervised work experience in the practice of clinical social work in no less than 24 months.
  - A. Supervised work experience in the practice of clinical social work is limited to the use of psychotherapy for the purpose of assessment, diagnosis and treatment of individuals, couples, families and groups.
  - B. The 3200 hours of supervised work experience in clinical social work shall include a minimum of 1600 hours of direct client contact.
4. During the supervised work experience required in (3), an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall receive a minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervision in no less than 24 months.
5. During the supervised work experience required in (3), an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall demonstrate satisfactory performance in the following areas: assessment, diagnostics, individual and group psychotherapy, referrals, personal

integrity, appropriate use of supervision, insight into client's problems, objectivity, ethics, concern for welfare of clients, responsibility, boundaries, recognition of own limits, and confidentiality by having the applicant's clinical supervisor submit a performance evaluation on forms available from the agency.

6. The time span covered by the performance evaluations shall be the same as that for the supervised work experience required in (3).
7. Clinical supervision of an applicant for clinical social worker licensure shall be provided by a clinical social worker licensed in Arizona.
8. An applicant may submit a written request to the social work credentialing committee for an exemption from requirement of subsection (7). The social work credentialing committee shall review the supervision exemption request to determine whether the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience to provide supervision acceptable for clinical social worker licensure. If the proposed supervisor has the necessary education, training, and experience, the social work credentialing committee shall grant the supervision exemption request.
  - A. When reviewing supervision exemption requests, the social work credentialing committee will only consider supervision provided by a masters or higher level professional certified or licensed at the independent level by a state behavioral health regulatory entity, a licensed psychologist, or a medical doctor with a specialty in psychiatry. The social work credentialing committee will take into consideration an applicant's ability to demonstrate that supervision by a certified or licensed social worker was not available or available supervision was not specific to the applicant's area of practice. When considering the availability of a certified or licensed social worker, social work credentialing committee will consider the size of the professional setting in which the professional worked and its geographic location.
  - B. The social work credentialing committee shall accept a maximum of 75 hours of clinical supervision provided by an alternative behavioral health professional as provided in 8(A). An applicant must obtain a minimum of 25 hours of clinical supervision by a social worker at the masters or higher level certified or licensed at the independent level by a state behavioral health regulatory entity.
  - C. The social work credentialing committee will not grant an exemption request for an unlicensed clinical supervisor providing clinical supervision in Arizona after July 1, 2006.
  - D. Beginning on July 1, 2006, the social work credentialing committee will not grant an exemption request for a substance abuse counselor.

### **Testing Information**

**Testing Organization:** ASWB (Association of Social Work Boards)  
**Please refer all questions regarding the examination to ASWB.**

Phone Number: (800) 225-6880

Fax Number: (540) 829-0142

ASWB website: [www.aswb.org](http://www.aswb.org)

**You must have prior authorization to test. Your application has to be reviewed and approved by the Social Work Credentialing Committee. Once the committee approves your application you will receive testing information.**