

# Get Your Social Work License

A quick overview of the Michigan  
Social Work Licensure Process & Exam

# Start Here

NASW "How to Obtain Your Social Work License in Michigan" YouTube Presentation



# Today's Agenda

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1

Licensure Timeline

2

Who's Who?

3

Preparing for the Exam

4

Let's Practice!

# Michigan Licensure Timeline



1

Graduate from your MSW/BSW program with a certified degree

2

Apply for your Limited License (LL)

3

Work the required 4000 hours (two years full-time)

4

Take and pass the ASWB Licensure Exam after completing hours

Start thinking about licensure **BEFORE** you graduate!



**Limited License  
(LLMSW) =  
LARA Application  
Official Transcripts  
Fingerprints**

Renews every year for a maximum of 6 years

**Full Licensure (LMSW) =  
4000 Supervised Hours  
by an LMSW  
Successfully passing the  
ASWB Exam**

# Two Licenses in Michigan

## Clinical License

The 'micro'  
interpersonal  
practice license



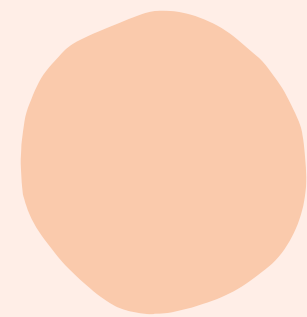
## Advanced Generalist

The 'macro'  
community  
practice license



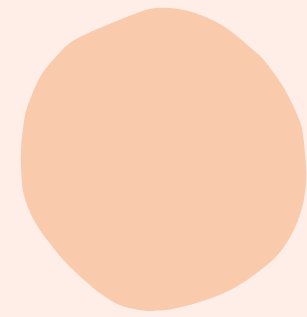
Your LMSW  
Supervisor must be  
licensed in your  
specific scope of  
practice

The main licensure stakeholders in Michigan are...



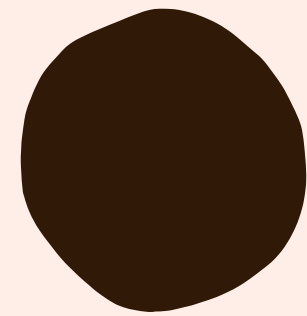
Michigan Department of  
Licensing and Regulatory  
Affairs (LARA)

Issues & renews your license



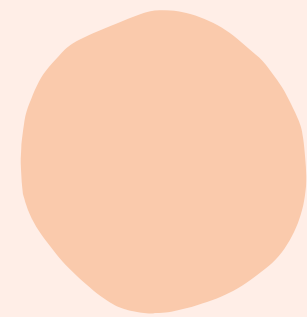
MIPLUS

Online portal for submitting  
documentation



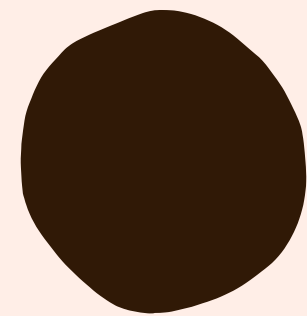
Association of Social Work  
Boards (ASWB)

Creates & administers the exam



National Association of Social  
Workers Michigan (NASW-MI)

Advocates for and supports  
social workers approaching  
licensure



Council on Social Work  
Education (CSWE)

Sets social work education  
accreditation standards



# Preparing to Pass the Exam

Remember: what works for one social worker might not work for another.



Do your own research and discover the workflow that best suits you.

Study buddies can be great too!

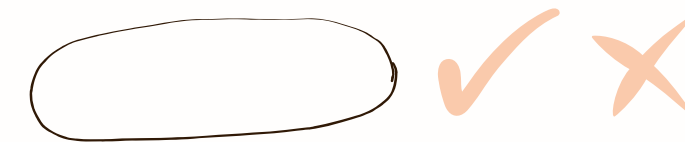
Take a prep course - Therapist Development Center and PassItPro are popular

Utilize practice tests, exam books, and online tools

ASWB Content Guidelines

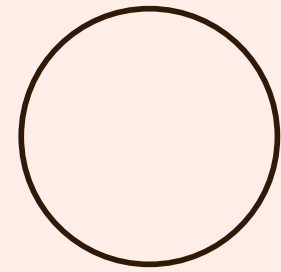
Practice tests available from SSW for \$20

Study 1-2 hours a day, no more than 3-4 days a week

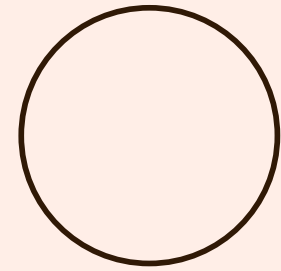


WSU Social Work Exam Mentoring Program - ask us!

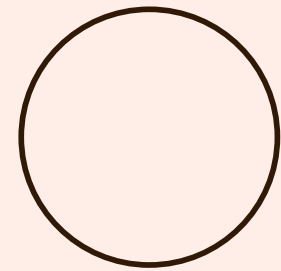
# The ASWB Exam



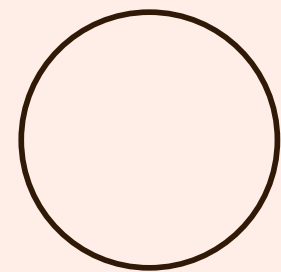
170 Multiple Choice questions -  
only 150 count (20 test questions)



Taken at a Pearson Test Site



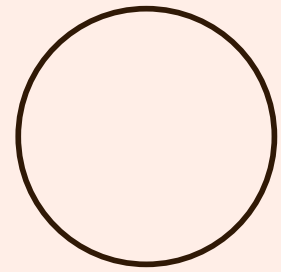
Two types of questions:  
Direct Questions and Case Vignettes



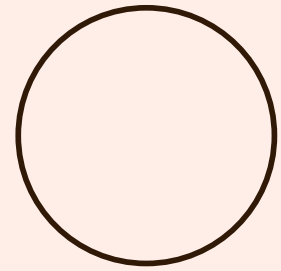
Generalist perspective -  
what is the 'best' answer?



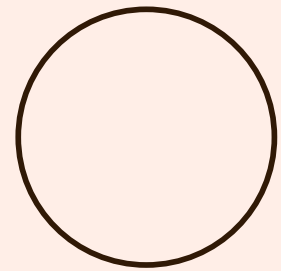
# Exam Tips



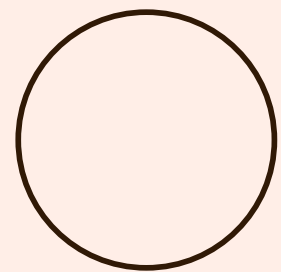
"Just answer the question" -  
come back to questions



The most specific answer is  
usually the correct one



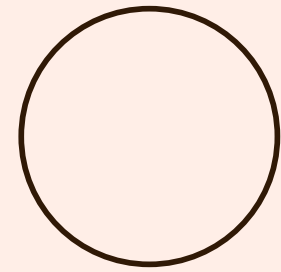
Don't assume information -  
if it is not there, it did not  
happen



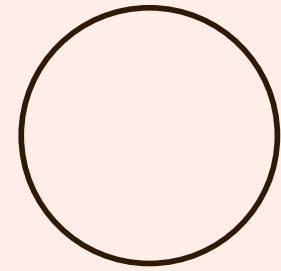
Order of operations -  
what is the 'best' or 'first'  
answer?



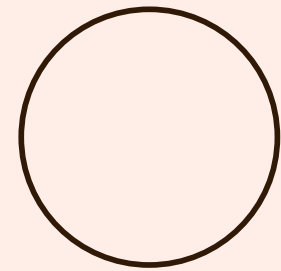
# Exam Tips



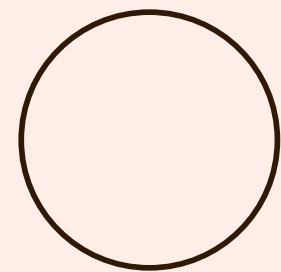
Look for the stem of the questions = most critical information



Setting of the question, level of the question



Critical words – “most, first, least, best, most”




“What would the average Social Worker across the nation do?”



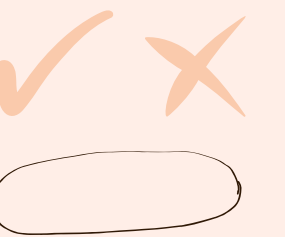
# Practice Question #1

A hospital social worker meets with an elderly woman after nurses express concerns about possible elder abuse. The woman resides with her grandson and was admitted for pneumonia, but nurses have discovered several bruises on her arms and legs. When the social worker goes to talk to the woman, her grandson and several other family members are present. The social worker wants to interview the woman today as she may be discharged soon. What should the social worker do?

- A. Provide the woman with a business card and ask her to call if she needs anything.
- B. Ask the woman if she would like to talk to her alone.
- C. Interview the woman with her family present. 
- D. Ask the family leave and interview the woman by herself.

The Correct Answer is....

(D) Ask the family leave and  
interview the woman by herself.



## Practice Question #2

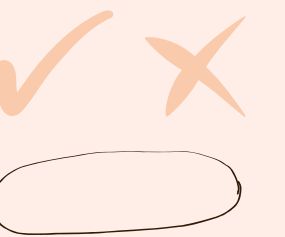
A clinician is working with a seven-year-old who has been sexually abused by his father. The father is now in prison. The child's mother reports that the child often hits her and screams, "I hate you!" Which ego defense mechanism is the child MOST likely using?

- A. Répression
- B. Displacement
- C. Projection
- D. Sublimation



The Correct Answer is....

B. Displacement

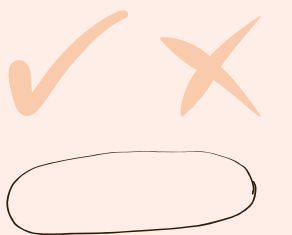
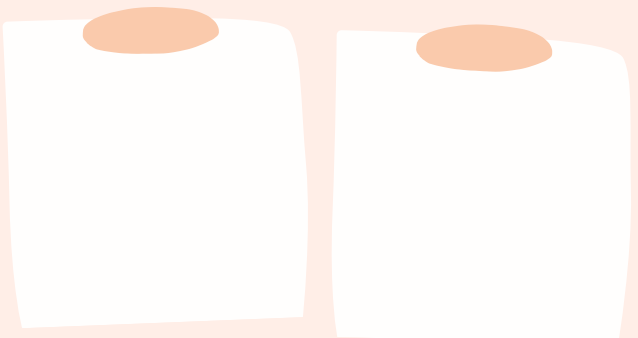




## Practice Question # 3

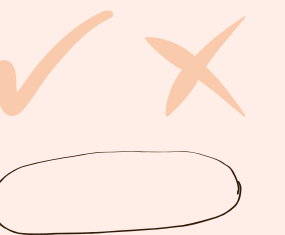
**A social worker shopping at a grocery store sees that the cashier is a former client. How should the social worker respond?**

- A. The social worker should go to a different checkout lane.
- B. The social worker should greet the client just as she would anyone else.
- C. The social worker should ask the client if she feels comfortable checking out her groceries.
- D. The social worker can talk to the former client to see how she's doing.



The Correct Answer is....

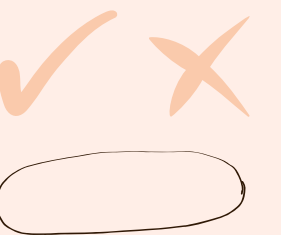
(B) The social worker should greet the client just as she would anyone else.



# Practice Question #4

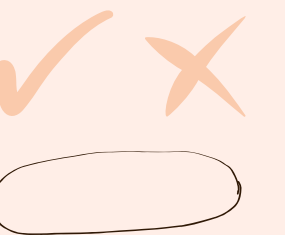
Which of the following assumptions is not accepted by a social worker engaged in family treatment?

- A. Each person strives for a sense of relatedness and closeness with others
- B. Treating the scapegoated family member will help the rest of the family
- C. Family members explain their own sense of worth on the basis of the behavior of others
- D. Family boundaries are the means for individuals protect differences and maintain identity



The Correct Answer is....

(B) Treating the scapegoated family member will help the rest of the family



## Practice Question #5

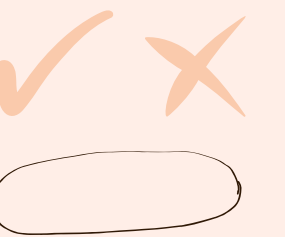
5) A man brings his 16-year-old son to a therapy appointment to have him assessed for depression. His son has started wearing black and has dyed his blond hair black. The boy denies he's depressed and says that all his friends dress the way he does. According to Erik Erikson's stages of psychosocial development, which crisis is the client experiencing?


- A. Industry vs. inferiority
- B. Intimacy vs. isolation
- C. Identity vs. role confusion
- D. Autonomy vs. shame and doubt



The Correct Answer is...

(B) Identity vs. role confusion.





# That's a wrap!

Best of luck on your licensure journey  
You Got This!