

How to Obtain Your Michigan Social Work License

Step 1

Research and understand the requirements and process of social work licensure in Michigan



Step 2

Obtain a social work degree from an accredited social work institution (BSW or MSW)



Step 3

Apply for your limited license

- ☐ Submit application LLBSW or LLMSW (Clinical or Macro) (\$43.20)
- ☐ Get fingerprints taken (\$60-75)
- ☐ Have school submit transcripts

Step 4

Complete limited license requirements

- ☐ 4000 hours of work experience
- ☐ LMSW supervision (~100 hours)
- ☐ Pass the licensure exam (\$230, \$260)



Step 5

Apply for your full license

- ☐ LBSW or LMSW application (Clinical or Macro) (\$43.20)
- ☐ Have supervisor(s) submit verification form

Step 6 (optional)

Obtain second license. Have both a clinical and macro LMSW

- ☐ Submit application
- ☐ 2040 work hours
- ☐ ~50 hours of LMSW supervision
- ☐ Second ASWB exam

In Michigan, you must be licensed to call yourself or work as a social worker.

Key Websites:

- ✓ **Licensure Application** – Licensing & Regulatory Affairs (LARA)
 - ✓ www.michigan.gov/lara, BPLHelp@michigan.gov
- ✓ **Exam** – Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)
 - ✓ www.aswb.org
- ✓ **Licensure/Exam Prep/Career Services/Advocacy/Professional Development** – NASW-Michigan
 - ✓ www.nasw-michigan.org, careers.socialworkers.org



National Association of Social Workers - Michigan Chapter

**NASW members may call the
NASW-MI Licensure Hotline at
517-487-1548, ex 15 with any
questions.**

**Join NASW today at
www.socialworkers.org**

Michigan Scope of Practice

Social Work Task or Function	Tech	BSW	MSW	
			Macro	Clinical
Administration of assessment checklists requiring interpretation	YES	YES	YES	YES
Administration and interpretation of assessment checklists			YES	YES
Advocacy for group/communities		YES	YES	YES
Advocacy for individual		YES	YES	YES
Case Intervention planning and evaluation				YES
Case Management (for individual, family, couple, group)		YES		YES
Child or adult custody determination		YES		YES
Child or adult custody assessments and recommendations				YES
Child welfare case management		YES		YES
Community organization		YES	YES	
Conduct case-finding activities in community	YES	YES	YES	YES
Consultation regarding agency practice and policy development			YES	YES
Consultation regarding clinical issues				YES
Coordination and evaluation of service delivery			YES	
Development of social welfare policy			YES	
Diagnosis of mental, emotional or substance abuse disorders with a diagnostic code				YES
Directing clinical programs				YES
Directing social work agencies but not clinical practice			YES	
Directing social work agencies including clinical practice			YES	YES
Identification of presenting problem		YES		YES
Impart general information and referral for assistance		YES	YES	YES
Interventions with individuals, couples, families or groups to enhance or restore the capacity for social functioning		YES		
Intervention methods using specialized and formal interactions				YES
Interviewing clients regarding client's situation	YES	YES	YES	YES
Monitor client's compliance with program's expectations	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pre-admission general assessment for mental health facilities		YES		YES
Private practice – clinical				YES
Private practice – macro			YES	
Program Intervention planning and evaluation		YES	YES	
Provide assistance regarding community resources	YES	YES	YES	YES
Provide information about available services	YES	YES	YES	YES
Provide life-skills training	YES	YES	YES	YES
Provide linkages to community services	YES	YES	YES	YES
Provision of training regarding community needs and problems			YES	
Psychosocial assessment		YES		YES
Psychotherapy with adults				YES
Psychotherapy with children				YES
Research – design and analysis			YES	YES
Research – data collection		YES	YES	YES
Supervision of clinical social workers				YES
Supervision of macro social workers			YES	
Teaching or education of client		YES	YES	YES
Treatment planning and evaluation				YES