

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

GRADUATE COLLEGE of SOCIAL WORK

Licensure in the State of Texas

Office of Alumni, Career & Professional Development

Presented By:

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Director Center for Career & Professional Development

Why Get Licensed in Texas

Why Should I Get Licensed?

- Regulation protects the public by establishing a minimum standard of professional competence
- Regulation helps society understand the profession's legal and political context
- Increases public trust in the profession
- Delineates the limits of the profession
- Sets standards of practice for the profession and defines the consequences of misconduct.

TX Governing & Regulatory Boards

BHEC – Behavioral Health Executive Council is the governing body for the mental health professions in Texas. (Social Workers, Psychologists, LPCs, & LMFTs)

TSBSWE – TX State Board of Social Worker Examiners is the regulatory authority of Social Workers in Texas.

Requirements for Licensure

LMSW

- The MSW or PhD has been conferred from a CSWE accredited social work graduate program
- A successful field placement has been completed and verified by University transcript
- Must pass the LMSW License Exam administered by ASWB
- Must complete the Jurisprudence Exam and submit proof of completion
- Submit application for licensure and payment of required fees after graduation and conferral of degree
- Request official UH transcript be sent to email address given for licensing board in TX.
- Once licensed, must maintain proof of completion of 30 hours of continuing education coursework every 2 years with 6 of the hours as Ethics ceus

Requirements for the LCSW

LCSW

- Must apply to take the LCSW exam after having completed 2 years of clinical supervision with a TX Board Certified Clinical Supervisor
- The LCSW license is the highest license in the state
- The Clinical Social Work license provides for independent and billable work
- Must maintain proof of completion of 30 hours of continuing education coursework every 2 years with 6 of the hours as Ethics ceus

LCSW and IPR

LCSW and IPR Credentials

- Require 2 years of supervision to achieve credentials if working fulltime; 3-4 years of supervision if working parttime
- Must be under supervision with a TX Board Approved Social Work Supervisor and must submit and have plan approved by supervisor
- By law, a social worker must be under supervision to provide any contract work until having received the LCSW or IPR

Licenses Within Texas

- LBSW – Licensed Bachelor Social Worker
- LMSW – Licensed Master Social Worker
- IPR – Independent Practitioner Recognition
- LCSW – Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- A Temporary License can be issued prior to taking the LMSW exam with the expectation that the LMSW exam must be taken and passed within 6 months

FEES

The fee for the LMSW application, testing and licensure is \$442.00

*An additional \$150 is required to be paid if applying with a criminal history

*All licensing and examination fees are waived for military service members and military veterans

References

www.bhec.Texas.gov

www.aswb.org/texas

www.npdb.hrsa.gov

Contact Information

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