

QUICK GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA LCSW LICENSURE

1. Obtain a MSW from an Accredited College or University

2. Register with the BBS as an Associate Clinical Social Worker (ASW)

For application and information, visit www.bbs.ca.gov. Submit a completed and signed [application](#) for registration as an Associate Clinical Social Worker to: *Board of Behavioral Sciences, 1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S200, Sacramento, CA 95834.*

Include:

- A 2" x 2" passport quality photo of yourself taken within 60 days of filing
- Non-refundable fee of \$75.00 in the form of check or money order made payable to: *Behavioral Sciences Fund*
- LiveScan Fingerprinting completed no more than 60 days prior to application
- A sealed envelope containing an official academic transcript verifying your receipt of a master's degree from an accredited school or department of social work. Your degree must be posted to your transcript to complete this application. For more information about transcripts, visit http://registrar.berkeley.edu/Registrar/diploma_current.html.

3. Gain Supervised Post-Masters Work Experience

Requirements:

- 104 weeks of supervision
- 3200 hours of supervised work experience

All required supervised experience gained in California must be accrued while registered with the Board as an Associate Clinical Social Worker. Field placement hours earned while in your MSW program cannot count towards ASW hours.

4. Complete Any Required Additional Coursework

Additional Coursework required (if not already completed):

- Child Abuse Assessment and Reporting (7 hours) - SW250N
- Human Sexuality (10 hours) – SW150L, SW250L
- Substance Abuse and Dependency (15 hours) – SW148, SW238B, SW250U
- Spousal Abuse Assessment and Reporting (15 hours) – SW186, SW245, SW250X, SW400
- Aging and Long Term Care (10 Hours) - SW226, SW210C, SW246

5. Apply for ASWB Clinical Examination

Upon completion of supervised experience and additional coursework, you may apply for the clinical examination. Upon approval, applicants will be eligible to take the [ASWB Clinical Examination](#). A passing score on the California Law & Ethics Examination is also required for approval to take the ASWB Clinical Examination. Candidates will have a one-year time limit to take the ASWB Clinical Examination once eligible.

6. Pass the LCSW Standard Written Examination

Upon passing the Standard Written Examination, you must pass a LCSW Written Clinical Vignette Examination. When in the exam cycle, you must take an examination within one year of failing an examination or within one year of passing the Standard Written Examination.

7. Pass the Clinical Examination

Upon passing, candidates must apply for an Initial License Issuance within one year of passing the ASWB Clinical Examination in order to receive a license number. Candidates who do not pass have a one-year time limit to retake the ASWB Clinical Examination after failing. There is a 90-day waiting period between examination attempts.

Get your official Clinical Social Worker License!

For detailed information and forms required for California Social Work Licensures, please visit the Department of Consumer Affairs Board of Behavioral Science at www.bbs.ca.gov.