



BSWE Newsletter

GREETINGS COLLEAGUES,

Today I would like to share with you information on two of our outstanding Board Members who have demonstrated their dedication to the social work profession.

Denise Capaci, LCSW-C, completed her two year term as chair of the Board of Social Work Examiners. Under her leadership, the Disciplinary Case Review Committee became more efficient in reviewing complaints received by the Board. The Continuing Education Committee is focusing on improving the quality of continuing education programs and has updated the list of Board Authorized Sponsors on the Board’s website. The Board completed the submission of a bill regarding revisions to the Social Work Practice Act and began a review of all regulations. Lastly, the Board attempted to improve customer service and respond to inquiries from applicants and licensees. The Board also held a meeting at Salisbury University in order to enable the public to attend a meeting of the Board without coming to Baltimore. Ms. Capaci continues her service to the Board and we are fortunate that her term does not end until June, 2019. She also continues on a major committee of the Association of Social Work Boards.

Dr. Joyce A. Bell, LCSW-C, has completed 8 years of service to the Board. She served on a number of committees and was the Chair of the Statute and Regulations Committee during its most challenging times. The Committee welcomed input from community representatives as it completed proposed legislation to make revisions to the Social Work Statute. Dr. Bell encouraged various points of view and helped the Board deliberate on the final draft. Then once the Bill was signed into law, she led the development of regulations as required by the Bill. Dr. Bell was recently elected as a Board Member of the Association of Social Work Boards.

The Board and the staff of the Board are grateful to Ms. Capaci and Dr. Bell for their leadership and commitment to the citizens of Maryland.

Stanley E. Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C

Executive Director

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REVISED SOCIAL WORK STATUTE – HEALTH OCCUPATIONS TITLE 19 2017 HB-1183 / CHAPTER 548 and 2017 SB-986 / CHAPTER 549

As you may know, the 2017 Legislature revised the social work statute. Some revisions became effective on October 1, 2017 and other revisions were given an effective date of July 1, 2018. The July 1, 2018 effective date was established in order for the Board to develop new regulations. The Board's Statute and Regulations Committee developed regulations which the Board approved. In April 2018, the proposed regulations were submitted to the Office of Regulation and Policy within the Maryland Department of Health. Currently the proposed regulations are being reviewed by the Office of the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health.

The Board will alert all licensees by email when the proposed regulations are published in the Maryland Register for a 30 day period for public comment.

► The following **WILL** be effective on July 1, 2018

LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER DESIGNATION

The designation of LGSW will be automatically changed to LMSW on July 1, 2018.

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK (CHRC) FOR RENEWAL

Section § 19-308.Beginning in calendar year 2021.....

Begins for the 2021 renewal (odd year renewal)

For 2021 the CHRC must be completed from 11/01/2019 to 10/31/2021

Begins for the 2022 renewal (even year renewal)

For 2022 the CHRC must be completed from 11/01/2020 to 10/31/2022

NO CHRC IS NEEDED TO RENEW IN OCTOBER 2018 or OCTOBER 2019

NO ACTION NEEDED UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, 2019

LMSW & PRIVATE PRACTICE

Effective January 1, 2020 LMSWs can no longer engage in private practice as defined in statute.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

“Private practice” means the provision of psychotherapy by a licensed certified social worker-clinical who assumes responsibility and accountability for the nature and quality of the services provided to a client....”

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE INCLUDES

“..Treatment of behavioral health disorders, including substance use disorders, addictive disorders, and mental disorders, and the provision of psychotherapy....”

CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS

The Board has the authority to issued cease and desist orders or obtain an injunction for anyone practicing social work without a license or identifying themselves as a social worker without a license.

► The following will **NOT** be effective on July 1, 2018

The regulatory requirements and application process for LBSWs & LMSWs as Board Approved Supervisors

The regulatory requirements and application process for LBSWs & LMSWs for Independent Practice.

A roster of approved LBSWs and LMSWs for Independent Practice and Board Approved Supervisors will not be posted on the Board's website until after the regulations have been adopted.

The regulations for Tele-therapy

The regulations allowing for "secure video conferencing" for supervision

The regulation for "*a minimum of 1 hour of face-to-face supervision for every 40 hours worked*"

REMINDER

The requirements for the LCSW-C license, of 2 years of LCSW-C supervised experience with 3,000 hours, which includes 1,500 face-to-face client hours and 144 hours of LCSW-C supervision under a contractual agreement form, HAVE NOT CHANGED.

The 3 years as a LBSW or LGSW/LMSW with 4,500 hours of supervised experience and 150 supervision hours is the requirement for INDEPENDENT practice. This means LBSWs & LGSWs/LMSWs may apply for independent practice which is LBSW & LGSW/LMSWs practice without the requirement of social work supervision.

The scope of the LBSW does not include providing psychotherapy and rendering a diagnosis.

The scope of practice of the LGSW/LMSW includes the provision of psychotherapy & rendering a diagnosis under LCSW-C supervision.

Please send any questions to Gloria Jean Hammel, LCSW-C, Director, Licensing,

Gloria.hammel@maryland.gov

**CEU REGULATIONS
IMPLEMENTATION DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2017
10.42.06 and 10.42.08**

1. ETHICS

COMAR 10.42.06 Continuing Education Requirements

Ethics requirement: Complete 3 Category I or II CEUs each renewal cycle

Starting with the 11/1/2016 – 10/31/2018 License Renewal Cycle

10.42.06.03.A.(1)(b) “3 of the required Category I or Category II continuing education units shall have a content area focusing on ethics and professional conduct including boundary issues, or pertaining to the standards of practice and laws governing the profession of social work in Maryland.”

2. SUPERVISION

COMAR 10.42.06 Continuing Education Requirements

10.42.06.03.A.(1)(c) ”For registered and Board-approved supervisors, 3 of the required Category I or II continuing education units shall have a content area focusing on supervision as stipulated in COMAR 10.42.08.04.A(2)(c).”

COMAR 10.42.08.04.A(2)(c) states:

“(c) Supervision training required in §A(2)(a) of this regulation shall be obtained in Category I or Category II and may include, but is not limited to:

- (i) The role and responsibilities of the social work supervisor;
- (ii) The needs of the supervisee, supervisor, and the agency setting while maintaining a clear ethical perspective;
- (iii) The role of the social work supervisor as gatekeeper to the profession;
- (iv) Methods for building effective and appropriate relationships with clients;
- (v) Methods for group supervision; and
- (vi) Models and modalities for practice intervention.”

COMAR 10.42.08 Supervision

Board Approved Supervision requirement: Complete 3 Category I or II CEUs each renewal cycle

Starting with the 11/01/2017 – 10/31/2019 License Renewal Cycle

10.42.08.05.A.(8) “At the time of license renewal, demonstrate to the Board completion of 3 of the required Category I or Category II continuing education units in a content area focusing on supervision training as stipulated in Regulation .04.A.(2)(c) of this chapter.”

To review the adopted language in both chapters in its entirety, please visit the Board’s website at www.health.maryland.gov/bswe/ , click on Statutes and Regulations.

CLARIFICATION TO THE ETHICS AND SUPERVISION CONTINUING EDUCATION REGULATIONS

1. A supervision course may include ethics as part of the overall training. However, your certificate should document the number of CEUs earned for supervision only. One may not earn both supervision and ethics CEUs for the same training.
Ex: One training course held on Supervision and Ethics

2. The certificate you receive after completing an ethics or supervision training should specify the learning activity on the certificate.
Ex: 3 CEUs earned in Ethics (Category I or Category II)
or 3 CEUs earned in Supervision (Category I or Category II).

3. If a conference is held with multiple workshops on various topics and you attend a workshop with the entire focus on ethics, will this workshop count towards the ethics CE requirement?
Yes, as long as you attended this workshop and the authorized sponsor designates it on the certificate.
Ex: 3 Category I CEUs earned in Ethics

4. The *Continuing Education Report Form* will be modified for the November 1, 2017 – October 31, 2019 license renewal period to capture the 3 Supervision CEUs required for Board approved Supervisors.

NARCAN USE AND SOCIAL WORKERS

Submitted By Sherryl Silberman, MSW, LCSW-C, BCD, Board Member



It has come to our attention that there may be some confusion as to whether or not Social Workers are allowed to provide Narcan to someone who has overdosed. To be clear, licensees can undergo Narcan training for the express purpose of administering Narcan to someone who has overdosed on opioids.

In order to clear up any confusion, please note that Social Workers are not legally allowed to dispense, give out, supply or provide Narcan or any other medications, for later ingestion, insertion, injection or other use. Any of the aforementioned actions would be outside of the social work licensee's scope of practice.

However, with proper training, social workers may administer Narcan directly to someone who is actively overdosing on opioids. Administration of Narcan is viewed by the Board as similar to CPR; a lifesaving measure that is allowed as long as the social worker is properly trained to do so.

For further information or to inquire about future Narcan trainings, please contact your Local Health Department. A listing is available on the Maryland Department of Health's website at

<https://health.maryland.gov> .

DOES YOUR LICENSE EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 31, 2018?



A licensee can check the status of her/his license by going to the Board's website at www.health.maryland.gov/bswe and then click on License Verification under Popular Links.

On or after July 15, 2018, a licensee may renew her/his license which expires October 31, 2018.

Be sure your name, mailing address and email address are current with the Board.

Notification of renewal will be mailed the week of July 16th 2017 (yellow post card) to each licensee at the last known mailing address on file with the Board

☀ **Criminal History Records Checks are NOT required to renew in October 2018.**

☀ **Board Approved Supervisors: Obtaining 3 Category I or II credit units in supervision is NOT required for this renewal period.**

☀ **Licensees can now meet the Ethics requirement by earning 3 credit units in Category I or II learning activities.**

Check your continuing education credit units while there is still time to attend CE programs to complete the requirement of 30 credit units for LBSWs and 40 credit units for LMSWs, (formerly LGSWs), LCSWs, and LCSW-Cs. Continuing education questions may be directed to the Continuing Education Supervisor, Deborah A. Evans at deborah.evans@maryland.gov or 410-764-5962.

ONLINE APPLICATIONS



Effective July 1, 2018, the BSWE will launch online applications for:

1. Initial licensure by examination or by endorsement,
2. Reactivations and Reinstatements,
3. Re-licensure.

As in years past, licensees can renew online from July 15, 2018 to October 31, 2018.



**MARYLAND BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
VISIT TO SALISBURY UNIVERSITY ON APRIL 13, 2018
Submitted By Letha Moszer, MSW, LCSW-C, Board Member**

The Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners (BSWE) held their April Board meeting at Salisbury University on Friday, April 13, 2018. This was the second time in recent years the Board has traveled to hold a Board meeting outside of its Baltimore-based offices, and Salisbury University (SU)'s Social Work Department was excited to collaborate with BSWE to host the meeting on SU's campus.

As the meeting began, the Executive Director, Board Chair, and Chairs of the Statutes and Regulations and Continuing Education Committees presented on various topics to provide education on the Board's work to SU faculty, staff, and students, licensees, and community members. A brief history of the Board was detailed as it relates to legislative efforts and the work BSWE has done to address regulation of social work practice in Maryland. For example, did you know that the Board had to work diligently to advocate for matters related to licensure and confidentiality?! In addition, the Statutes and Regulations Committee Chair discussed changes in licensure titles and licensing requirements, as well as discussed teletherapy and private practice matters, addressed in the recent statutes and (draft) regulations changes. The Continuing Education(CE) Committee Chair addressed CE requirements and resources available for licensees on the Board's website. The Board also had a question and answer period during this period, which led to additional information sharing about the draft regulations and related changes.

In addition to the information shared about the Board and its work, BSWE conducted its monthly open session while on campus. During this portion of the meeting, the Board Chair and Executive Director both gave reports and addressed matters such as nominations of Board officers, the status of the soon to be implemented online applications, the number of licensees in the State, and the ASWB licensing exam pass rates just published for 2017.

Thank you to BSWE for traveling to SU to hold its April meeting, and thank you to the SU faculty, staff, and students, licensees, and community members who attended!

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION MEMORANDUM
REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROVIDING PROBLEM GAMBLING SERVICES**

Licensed social worker in solo or group practices are able to take advantage of an exciting opportunity to expand their area of expertise to include gambling treatment services, and increase their client base to include individuals with gambling problems and their significant others.

The Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) will reimburse (through Beacon Health Options Maryland) licensed practitioners for the provision of counseling and treatment services to individuals with problem gambling and their significant others. Licensed practitioners in group or solo practices can become eligible to provide and bill for gambling services regardless of whether or the practitioner accepts Medicaid or other insurances, and regardless of the client's insurance status. There is NO requirement for providers to enroll as a Medicaid provider to provide services and bill through this system. However, those who are not Medicaid providers will have to fill out a short application and be set up in the Beacon Health Options system in order to bill for services. Practitioners who are Medicaid participating providers are already eligible to bill for services.

Reimbursement for problem gambling services is available to support assessment, individual therapy and group therapy for persons with problem gambling and/or significant others.

To read the entire memorandum which includes information on Provider Registration, Reimbursement, and Joining the Center of Excellence on Gambling Helpline referral list, please click here

[Reimbursement for problem gambling services](#)

“NO SEX, NO EXCUSE”

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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The following Introduction is an excerpt from the entire document. To review the document in its entirety, please click on this link [“NO SEX, NO EXCUSE”](#)

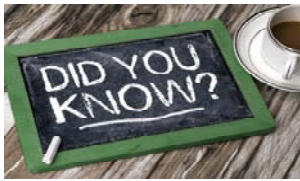
INTRODUCTION

Most therapists who practice psychotherapy are ethical people who care about their clients. Only a small percentage of therapists behave unethically. Therapists, who encourage, ask for, or permit sexual involvement with their clients are exploiting them. Professional therapy never includes sexual behavior. All therapists are educated and trained to know that this kind of behavior is unethical, self-serving and harmful to the client.

By the nature of their profession, therapists are trusted and respected. It is common for clients to admire and feel attracted to them. A therapist who accepts or encourages these normal feelings in a sexual way - or tells a client that sexual involvement is part of the therapy - is using the trusted therapeutic

relationship to take advantage of the client. Once sexual involvement begins, therapy for the client ends. The original issues that brought the client to therapy are postponed, neglected, and sometimes lost.

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners and other licensure boards want this kind of behavior stopped. This literature was developed to help victims of sexual exploitation by therapists. It defines sexual exploitation, gives warning signs of unprofessional behavior, presents a Client Bill of Rights, and answers questions frequently asked by victims of professional abuse. It also outlines the client's rights and options for reporting therapist misconduct.



An applicant for a social work license is **not licensed on the day she/he passes the exam.**

Effective January 1, 2014, the Board no longer prints paper licenses. Licensees, employers and clients etc., may verify a social work license by selecting "License Verification" on the right side of the Board's homepage. www.health.maryland.gov/bswe/

If you have a concern around an approved sponsor and/or the trainings or activities you have taken, please contact the approved sponsor directly. If you would like to contact a staff member, please email:

Deborah A. Evans, CEU Supervisor at deborah.evans@maryland.gov

The Board convenes on the second Friday of each month at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore Md. 21215. The Open Session Meeting begins at 10:30 A.M. and the Agenda is posted on the Board's website under Board Meetings.

Standards of practice in the Code of Ethics require that the licensee limit her/his practice to the area in which the licensee has gained proficiency through education, training and experience.

COMPLAINTS & PUBLIC ORDERS

Do you want to file a complaint against a licensed social worker? Go to the Board's website at www.health.maryland.gov/bswe/, and click on COMPLAINT. Please complete the Complaint form and the Authorization for Release of Information form online or print out and mail to the Board.

Public Orders (formal disciplinary actions) from 2005 – present may be viewed on the Board's website: www.health.maryland.gov/bswe/. The link to the Public Orders is on the right side of the Board's homepage.