



Board of Social Work Examiner

New Supervision Forms

The new Supervision forms are available on the website. If you are just starting supervision, please use the new contract with your Board Approved Supervisor. The new Supervision Verification forms can be used for new advanced licensure applications.

The Board will continue to accept old forms signed and dated prior to June 1, 2026.

[Supervision Contract - ALL LEVELS.pdf](#)

[Supervision Verification Form.pdf](#)

[SVF Instructions.pdf](#)

Important: CEU Certificates!

Please review your Continuing Education Certificates to confirm that they include the required accreditation language from an MD Board Authorized Sponsor, ASWB, or NASW National, along with an authorized signature. The certificate should also indicate whether the training is Category I (live, real-time, interactive, synchronous) or Category II (asynchronous). Click this link to view a sample CE certificate template:

[Board Authorized Sponsor CE Certificate](#)

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Board Meetings!

Please click the link for upcoming meetings and information on public attendance:

[BSWE Board Meetings](#)

The 2026 Renewal Portal Opens July 15th!

Don't wait until October 31st at midnight to renew!

As a reminder, renewal period is a busy time for Board staff. Please be patient as we work to return your emails and phone calls.

Don't Forget the Required CEUs!

Anti-Oppressive: Cat. I - 3 CEUs
Ethics: Cat. I or II - 3 CEUs
Supervision: Cat. I or II - 3 CEUS
(for Board Approved Supervisors only)

Spotlight on Practice: LBSWs

Attention LBSWs! Consider Applying for Independent Status:

Contributed by Gail Martin, MS, MSW

Congratulations!

If you hold an LBSW license in Maryland, you may legally practice social work. You earned this by completing an accredited BSW, applying and paying for licensure, and passing a national exam. Without a license, you

cannot legally call yourself a Maryland social worker—this is called “title protection.”

What does it mean to “practice” social work?

“Practice” is based on the specialized skills and training you use—not your employer’s job title. Employers also cannot label a position “social worker” unless the person hired is licensed. Maryland law lists what LBSWs may do, such as assessment, intervention, counseling, education, consultation, and advocacy, and what they may not do, such as clinical diagnosis, psychotherapy, or private practice. You can find the full list [here](#).

What do I have to do while practicing and to keep practicing social work?

Just three things:

- Practice ethically within your scope of practice
- Maintain your license by completing the required continuing education and renewing it on time
- Be supervised by a BSWE-approved social work supervisor

These requirements are not optional. You are responsible for ensuring they are in place. If your employer does not provide supervision—or provides a supervisor who is not both a social worker and BSWE-approved—you are not practicing legally, and your license could be revoked.

Do I have to be supervised forever?

Not necessarily. Your employer may still require supervision, but Maryland law allows eligible LBSWs to apply to practice without direct BSWE-approved supervision after gaining enough supervised experience. This is called “independent practice” status.

What do I have to do?

Meet the requirements, complete the application, and submit it to the BSWE. **There are no additional exams and fees.** Required supervised experience depends on whether you received your license before or after January 1, 2021. Full information and the application are on the BSWE website [here](#).

Are there any other advantages?

Independent practice status may make you more employable because employers would not need to provide supervision. It can also help you qualify to become a BSWE-approved supervisor and supervise other LBSWs.

Changes to the ASWB Exam: Click link for more information

[2026 ASWB Social Work Licensing Exams: Information Sheet](#)



Board Offices will be closed on July 17th for Annual Staff Retreat

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