



## Board of Social Work EXAMINER



### Social Work Compact

### Maryland is 25th State to Join!

On April 8, 2025, Governor Moore signed the Interstate Social Work Compact into law. The legislation in Maryland will become effective on October 1, 2025.

A huge shout out to NASW-MD for sponsoring the legislation and getting the word out!! THANK YOU to all Maryland Social Workers for showing up to testify, write letters, and show support. This is a win for both licensed Social Workers and Maryland citizens.

The Board will keep licensees updated on the progress of the Compact. The implementation process is expected to take 12 to 24 months before the first multi-state licenses can be issued.

Please refer to this site for updates on the progress.

[Social Work Compact Website](#)

[NASW-MD](#)

## May 2025: Issue V

**New Time and New Schedule for Open Session Board Meetings!**

***Meetings now start at 11am and will end by 12:30pm at the latest.***

**The remaining 2025 Board meeting schedule has changed slightly. Please see below for updates:**

**5/9/2025 - Virtual**

**6/13/2025 - Virtual**

**7/11/2025 - In person**

**8/8/2025 - Virtual**

**9/12/25 - Virtual**

**10/10/2025 - In Person**

**11/14/2025 - Virtual**

**12/12/2025 - Virtual**

***In person meetings are held at 4201 Patterson Avenue,***



The Maryland Department of Health recognizes that Marylanders of all ages are struggling with mental health and substance use challenges. If someone is experiencing — or knows someone experiencing — anxiety, depression, thoughts of suicide or problems with drugs or alcohol, we encourage them to call, text or chat 988 to get support when they need it.

Share these resources with your agency or practice. Help spread the word about the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

Follow the MDH Social Media Accounts to get resources and help spread the word about the **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**:

- X (Twitter) - [twitter.com/MDHealthDept](https://twitter.com/MDHealthDept)
- Instagram - [instagram.com/mdhealthdept/](https://www.instagram.com/mdhealthdept/)
- Facebook - [facebook.com/MDHealthDept/](https://www.facebook.com/MDHealthDept/)
- YouTube - [youtube.com/@MDHealthDept](https://www.youtube.com/@MDHealthDept)
- LinkedIn - [linkedin.com/company/maryland-department-of-health](https://www.linkedin.com/company/maryland-department-of-health)
- Bluesky - [bsky.app/profile/mdhealthdept.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/mdhealthdept.bsky.social)
- Threads - [threads.net/@mdhealthdept](https://www.threads.net/@mdhealthdept)

**Hashtags to Use: #988Lifeline**

**Go to the 988 Website for more information: [988.maryland.gov](https://988.maryland.gov)**

**Baltimore, MD 21215 in Room 110.**

***If a member of the public has a question for the Open Session, please submit prior to the meeting via email to:***

**Board Chair: Susan Coppage**

**[susan.coppage@maryland.gov](mailto:susan.coppage@maryland.gov)**

### **Telehealth Regulations:**

Beyond the COVID emergency, Social Workers continue to provide valuable services via telehealth. Please be aware of the regulations that govern your practice. A Social Worker must be licensed in the state where the client resides and **Maryland residents must receive telehealth services from a Social Worker who is licensed in Maryland**. Please see regulation link for more information:

**[10.42.10Teletherapy](#)**

### **Have You Moved?:**

The Board can charge a \$50 fine for failure to report a change of address. If your address has changed, please click on the link below and update your address with us:

**[Address Change](#)**

## SUPERVISION CORNER

by Jean James, LCSW-C, Staff Social Worker

The Board is often asked if other disciplines may provide supervision. Anyone is welcome to supervise you for administrative or clinical managerial purposes. For example, you work in a practice where the Clinical Program Manager is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) and they monitor your time or workload. However, this would not apply to the supervision needed for your social work license.

If you are an LMSW or LBSW and you are not designated with an **independent** status, you **must** be supervised by a Maryland Board Approved Supervisor (BAS). Only MD licensed social workers can become Board Approved Supervisors. Any **licensed** MD social worker with a **non-independent** LBSW or LMSW license must have regular social work supervision with a Maryland BAS.

Again, it is fine if you are administratively supervised by a nurse, an LCPC or other non-social work professional; however, to remain compliant with the MD Social Work Practice Act, you **must also** have social work supervision by a Board Approved Supervisor (BAS). If there is a time of practice that you did not have supervision with a BAS, you are in violation.

Please remember if you are a licensed Social Worker in Maryland, you are responsible for assuring that you are following the Social Work Practice Act. This includes understanding what is required for **your supervision**. Please see this link to the Responsibility of a Supervisee. [Responsibilities of Supervisee](#)

When applying for a job that requires a social work license, ask about supervision. Understand the responsibilities of a social work supervisor. Understand why supervision is important and what is covered during supervision. See links: [Responsibilities of a Supervisor](#) [Standards for supervision](#)

Finally, a LMSW or an LBSW with Independent status is **not** able to practice **clinical social work** – that is the practice that includes *formulating a diagnostic impression, a diagnosis, or providing psychotherapy*. An LMSW engaged in such practice **must** have the clinical supervision of a Board Approved Supervisor who is licensed as an LCSW-C. Diagnosing and providing psychotherapy is outside of the scope of practice for any licensed LBSW.

The Independent status is not a license level. It is a designation that recognizes the valued experience of LMSWs and LBSWs working in a variety of non-clinical social work settings. Please see regulation link for more information: [Independent Practice\\_10.42.02.05](#)

## Resources for Exam Prep

[ASWB Examination Guidebook](#)| A free download available to all test-takers that includes important information about taking the exam, including study plans, reference lists, content outlines, and sample questions.

[Mindset Resources](#)| A free program focused on test preparation and test readiness, available to all test-takers when they register for a licensing exam.

[Exam Resources for Educators](#)| A free suite of resources to help educators better understand what knowledge and skills their students will need as they enter the profession, including free group review practice questions.



May is Mental Health Awareness month. Mental health awareness plays a crucial role in reducing stigma, encouraging early intervention and fostering empathy and understanding. By normalizing conversations around mental health, it nurtures a more compassionate society where individuals feel empowered to seek help, leading to improved mental wellbeing. For more information, visit [The National Council for Mental Wellbeing](#)

## MD BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 318  
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Phone: 410-764-4788

Fax: 410-358-2469

E-mail: [MDH.SOCIALWORK@maryland.gov](mailto:MDH.SOCIALWORK@maryland.gov)

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

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