Objectives

1. Increase understanding of NASW/NASW Indiana Chapter and the benefits of membership.
2. Overview of SW licensing and the process in Indiana:
   – Why licensing is important;
   – Steps for licensing and information on the Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board;
   – Association of Social Work Boards.
3. Other questions.
NASW

- Began in 1955 with the merger of 7 organizations
- Currently have 55 chapters
- NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards for social workers, and to advance sound social policies.

NASW is your Professional Association

- Largest organization of professional social workers
- 120,000 members
- 18,000 student members

NASW – Indiana Committees

- SOGI – Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity
- CORED – Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity
- Public Policy/Advocacy & LEAD
- PACE – Political Action and Candidate Education
- Annual Conference Committee
- Ethics Committee
Joining NASW provides benefits throughout your career

• News and information
• Advocacy efforts
• Career resources
• Training and education
• Ethics and legal guidance
• Practice resources
• Malpractice insurance
• Building a professional network

Reasons to Join NASW

NASW is YOUR Membership Association

We advocate on behalf of our members and the clients served to help support:
• A network of licensed, well trained social workers (LBSW, LSW, LCSW)
• Opportunities to network
• Job opportunities
• Learning opportunities & professional development
• Leadership opportunities

LICENSING: WHY IT’S IMPORTANT
Why licensing?

• Social Work is regulated the same way that medicine and nursing are.
• Regulation assures that all social workers are competent to practice and interact in an ethical and safe manner.
• Regulation provides a means to address concerns if a social worker steps outside the bounds of ethical and safe practice.

Why is a license important?

• Becoming licensed proves that you are competent to practice and ready to provide ethical safe care.
• Protection of the Public – a license is a guarantee to the public that a social worker is in good standing.
• Title Protection – you must be licensed to call yourself a social worker.

Licensing Board

• Establishes rules, regulations and scope of practice for the profession and the standard for licensure in Indiana.
• Issues licenses to social workers who meet the set professional standards.
• Sets the requirements for continuing education requirements.
• Provides oversight and is an avenue for the public to seek help if there are concerns that the care received does NOT meet the standards.
• The Board holds the hearing and makes a determination on complaints that are filed through the Indiana Attorney General.
QUESTIONS ON WHY LICENSING IS IMPORTANT?

NEXT SECTION - OVERVIEW OF THE LICENSING PROCESS IN INDIANA

3 LEVELS OF LICENSING IN INDIANA

1. LBSW – Licensed Bachelor of Social Work – Bachelor level license
2. LSW – Licensed Social Worker – Master’s level license
3. LCSW – Licensed Clinical Social Worker – Master’s, plus experience

Licensing Oversight

- The Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board provides oversight for:
  - Social Work
  - Marriage and Family Therapists
  - Mental Health Counselors
  - Addictions
Licensing Steps in Indiana

1. Download and review the appropriate application and carefully read instructions.

2. As you work through the application, read all of the questions carefully.

   ![Questionnaire Image]

3. Don’t forget to request your official conferred transcript. It should be sent directly to the licensing board.
   - Confirmed transcript may not be available until a few weeks after graduation.
   - An unpaid parking ticket or bill on your account may delay your transcripts being sent.

4. Once your application has been approved you will get confirmation by email from the licensing board and then you can register with ASWB.

5. For $25 you can request a temporary permit—once your application is approved the permit will be good for 12 months or until you pass the test. Only one permit.
Licensing Steps – Reminders

• Your application and Temporary Permit are good for 12 months.
• You must have a temporary permit to legally work in Indiana. There are limited exemptions for licensing.
• ASWB requires you to wait 90 days between testing attempts.
• ADA Accommodations must be requested when you register on the ASWB website.

Licensing via Test

• Testing for all three levels of licensing is through Association of Social Work Boards www.aswb.org.
• You cannot register with ASWB until your application is approved by the Indiana licensing board.
• Make sure you carefully review the information on the ASWB website prior to completing the registration process with ASWB.
• ADA Accommodations must be requested through ASWB.
• Once you’ve completed your registration and it’s been approved, you can schedule your test via Pearson|VUE.

Reciprocity for LBSW, LSW, LCSW

• Have a valid license to practice from another state or jurisdiction;
• Passed an exam substantially equivalent to the exam required for Indiana licensure;
• Do NOT have a pending disciplinary action in another state and pass criminal history/background check; and
• Submit your completed application with the $50 application fee and all required documents.
Requirements for LCSW application

• Full-time paid experience of at least 1,500 hours/year for a total of 3,000.
• Part-time experience will be considered if the applicant can verify a total of 4,500 hours, and that 3,000 hours have taken place after receiving the graduate degree.
• Supervision must be face-to-face contact for a minimum of 4 hours/month.
• Up to 50% of supervision can be virtual, but still must be face-to-face.

Questions about the steps for licensing in Indiana?

Next Section – Licensing Prep Two Options sponsored by NASW-IN

Live/Virtual 6.5-Hour Class

• Learn the content & strategies to pass the Bachelor's, Master's or Clinical level exam for social work licensing!
• Appropriate for all levels of licensing – LBSW, LSW, LCSW.
• Strategies for reducing test anxiety.
• Cost includes a comprehensive study guide ($95 value), 6-month access to an online community and more.
PassItPro - [https://www.passitpro.com/](https://www.passitpro.com/)

PassItPro is 100% virtual, allowing you to personalize the learning experience. It includes:

1. Access to five 1-hour videos to learn the essential exam content at your convenience, 24/7 for 90 days.
2. An extra 90-minute video teaches how to identify the concept being tested in the question.
3. Option to connect with one of the expert teachers for more personalized training.
4. Access to a 170-question practice exam, plus 50 bonus practice questions.

Other Options/Resources

- Check with your local university or alumni program to see if they have licensing prep resources available.
- Check online for resources including study groups, flashcards and more.
- NASW members can find numerous resources and conversations on the MyNASW online community.

Continuing Education & Renewals

- License renewal is March 31st on even years. $50 for renewal.
- Required to have 20 hours of continuing education each year (40 for the two years) to maintain your license. Must include at least one hour of Ethics each year.
- Minimum of 10 Category I CEs and a maximum of 10 Category II CEs each year.
Continuing Education & Renewals

- Category I is defined as formal programming including seminars, workshops and more.
- Category II CEs are self-directed and can include case conferences, inservices and more.
- If you’ve been licensed less than 2 years at the time of renewal, the CE requirement is less.
- Review the statute for more details.

Resources:

Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board website can provide on Indiana Statute, rules, criminal background checks and more. Online at: https://www.in.gov/pla/professions/behavioral-health-and-human-services-licensing-board/

The Social Work Licensing information can be found at http://www.in.gov/pla/3030.htm

Questions/Comments

- A copy of the recording, slides and the FAQ page will be available in approximately 48 hours on our website – www.naswin.org
- NASW members can contact us via email at info.naswin@socialworkers.org