2018 changes to Indiana’s Social Work License

**HEA 1007:** Added in language that provides a 12 month temporary LSW permit as long as the applicant meets all requirements and pays the required fee. The following language was added:

IC 25-23.6.5-11.5 the Board shall issue a temporary permit to practice social work to an individual who:

1. Meets the educational requirements for a license as a social worker; and
2. Pays a fee for the temporary permit set by the board.

A temporary permit issued under this section expires one (1) year after the date the permit is issued, without regard to the number of times the individual passes or fails the required examination to become a licensed social worker. The temporary permit may not be renewed.

**SEA 224** added section (g) and (h) to IC 25-23.6-5-3.5 Clinical social work experience; requirements.

*Section (g)* Up to fifty percent (50%) of the supervised clinical social work experience hours required under subsection (a) may be accounted for through virtual supervision by a qualified supervisor described in subsection (a).

*Section (h)* After obtaining a temporary permit under section 11.5 of this chapter, any supervised clinical social work experience hours that an applicant accumulates under this chapter before the temporary permit expires may be used by the applicant to satisfy the supervised clinical social work experience requirements under this chapter during the following time after the applicant obtained the temporary permit:

1. For not more than four (4) years.
2. After the four (4) year period, if approved by the board.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you decide to use virtual supervision to fulfill the requirement for supervised clinical social work experience hours make sure that you use a platform that is HIPAA and protects the confidentiality of your clients. Guidance on this can be found in reviewing both the *NASW Code of Ethics and the NASW, ASWB, CSWE and CSWA Technology in Social Work Practice*.

**NASW Code of Ethics**

1.04 Competence:

(a) Social workers should provide services and represent themselves as competent only within the boundaries of their education, training, license, certification, consultation received, supervised experience, or other relevant professional experience.

(b) Social workers should provide services in substantive areas or use intervention techniques or approaches that are new to them only after engaging in appropriate study, training, consultation, and supervision from people who are competent in those interventions or techniques.

(c) When generally recognized standards do not exist with respect to an emerging area of practice, social workers should exercise careful judgment and take responsible steps (including appropriate education, research, training, consultation, and supervision) to ensure the competence of their work and to protect clients from harm.
3.01 Supervision and Consultation

(a) Social workers who provide supervision or consultation (whether in-person or remotely) should have the necessary knowledge and skill to supervise or consult appropriately and should do so only within their areas of knowledge and competence.

(b) Social workers who provide supervision or consultation are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries.

(c) Social workers should not engage in any dual or multiple relationships with supervisees in which there is a risk of exploitation of or potential harm to the supervisee, including dual relationships that may arise while using social networking sites or other electronic media.

(d) Social workers who provide supervision should evaluate supervisees' performance in a manner that is fair and respectful.

Additional guidance can be found in the NASW, ASWB, CSWE, CSWA Technology in Social Work Practice Standard 2.18: Confidentiality

Social workers who use technology to facilitate supervision, consultation, or other confidential meetings shall use appropriate safeguards to protect confidentiality.

Interpretation: Social workers who conduct supervision or consultation, and those who facilitate other confidential meetings through the use of technology, should take appropriate precautions to protect the confidentiality of those communications. Precautions to protect confidentiality depend on the type of technology being used, and may include

- using passwords, firewalls, encryption, and antivirus software
- using electronic service providers that rely on standards of security for data that are transmitted and stored
- ensuring a private setting when using their electronic devices

Section 4: Social Work Education and Supervision covers how to use technology during education, training and supervision.

Standard 4.12: Social Work Supervision

Social workers who use technology to provide supervision shall ensure that they are able to assess students’ and supervisees’ learning and professional competence.

Interpretation

Some social workers use technology to provide supervision in a timely and convenient manner. When using technology to provide supervision, social workers should ensure that they are able to assess sufficiently students’ and supervisees’ learning and professional competence and provide appropriate feedback. Social workers should comply with guidelines concerning provision of remote supervision adopted by the jurisdictions in which the supervisors and supervisees are regulated. Social workers who provide remote supervision should comply with relevant standards in the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant technology standards, applicable licensing laws and regulations, and organization policies and procedures.