Q&A from Licensing Information Session, April 20, 2021

Key Points/Information

- Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board can be found online at https://www.in.gov/pla/professions/behavioral-health-and-human-services-licensing-board/
- Social Work licensing information, applications for LBSW, LSW and LCSW and more can be found online at: https://www.in.gov/pla/professions/behavioral-health-and-human-services-licensing-board/social-workers/.
  - Page 4 of the LCSW application has the form for reporting your supervision hours.
- Graduating students are encouraged to begin the application process PRIOR to graduation and request their conferred transcripts be sent to IPLA as soon as they are available to speed up the process. If a student is graduating in May, they might start the application in April. Note the criminal history background check is valid for a limited amount of time.
- Indiana does NOT require any prior work experience for the LBSW or LSW. You must have an BSW to apply for the LBSW. You must have your MSW to apply for the LSW.
- LSW and LBSW have 12-month temporary permits, the LCSW has a temporary permit that is good for 180 days.
- Indiana has title protection – if you have your BSW or MSW, you must be licensed to work unless you work in a position that is exempt from licensing. You can find information on the exemptions at IC 25-23.6-4-2.
- You will be required to complete a background check, information on the process and timing can be found online at https://www.in.gov/pla/professions/criminal-background-checks/.

Testing:

- You MUST submit your application to the Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board prior to and have it approved before you can register with ASWB to take the test. The application fee is $50. You can request a temporary permit for $25.
- Once you receive approval from the BHHS licensing board, you can register with ASWB to take the test. The ASWB exam fee depends on the level of test you are taking. You can find out more information online at www.aswb.org.
- You can ask for an ADA accommodation for the licensing test. You MUST request the accommodation when you register on the ASWB website.

LCSW related questions:

- Indiana law requires supervision towards your LCSW be provided by an LCSW in Indiana.
- Supervision towards your LCSW can be provided in a group setting.
- Supervision requirement is 1 hour per week or 4 hours per month – a total of 96 hours over two years for full-time employment.
- Hours of supervision earned with a temporary permit can count towards the hours needed for your LCSW.