

August 13, 2020

NASW Advocates for Expansion of ASWB Testing

Dear NASW-NYC, Family, and Friends,

We have been keeping our pulse to the ground regarding the concerns over delays in licensure testing and availability of dates and locations to sit for the Association of Social Work Board (ASWB) exams. We understand the direct impact of COVID-19 on testing and also the impact to your personal lives in seeking employment, taking care of your family, and supporting your personal and professional needs. Some of you have shared that you are going to other states to sit for the exam(s) and the additional anxiety that this creates in the pandemic. Others have shared frustration with having scheduled to sit for the exam, only to have the dates moved or exams cancelled without much notice. While no one entity, including NASW-NYC, can address or fix every issue that impacts you and the profession, we do want you to know that we value you as members, and as your professional association, we will continue to advocate on your behalf to the best of our abilities.

NASW-NYC wants to let you know that partnership, advocacy, listening to understand, and raising our collective voices matters. The National office of [NASW issued a statement to ASWB](#) asking that they and Pearson work to expand testing capacity to allow social workers to sit for exams online as well as open the lines of communications with NASW and our state licensing boards to work to address the needs.

While NASW is not the authority or entity responsible for testing, nor do we have any jurisdictional or legal authority to change social work education criterion or administer exams, we do work in partnership with other organizations that do have this authority. Our goal is serving you, our membership---you are among our most valued partners. Our mission is and will always be to advance and advocate for the profession. Social workers are essential, necessary, and on the front lines of every crisis, issue, community, and individual need. **WE ARE NECESSARY!**

NASW-NYC, NASW-National, as well as all chapters across the country will continue our efforts to advocate on your behalf. We ask for your support in doing this as we cannot do this work alone. We are stronger together because social work is **#GenerationsStrong**.

With appreciation and admiration for you and our profession,



Dr. Claire Green-Forde, LCSW
Executive Director, NASW-NYC