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Important News

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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Notes from the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Committee

Advancing Social Work Through Leadership, Collaboration, and DEIJ Initiatives: A Reflection on Recent Engagements

I am deeply honored to share that I was appointed to the Association of Social Work Boards' (ASWB) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Committee in January of this year. Serving on this committee has been both a privilege and a significant responsibility. Our committee's mission is to promote meaningful dialogue and action that advance DEIJ principles within the social work profession, ensuring that our practices reflect the diverse needs of the communities we serve.

In May, I had the opportunity to participate in the ASWB Education Meeting held in Arlington, Virginia. One of the key activities during this event was the Board Member Exchange (BMX), a facilitated session designed to foster discussions between member boards. This was an invaluable platform for representatives from various states to share their challenges, successes, and emerging trends within social work regulation and legislation.

Among the most commonly discussed challenges were clinical supervision, legislation, telesupervision, backlog of investigations, and ethical violations related to the scope of practice. A particularly hot topic was the debate surrounding alternative pathways to licensure, which elicited strong opinions from various participants. Other key topics of discussion included:

- Ensuring supervisor accountability and supervisee protection
- Building bridges within the profession, involving stakeholders such as NASW, CSWE, private companies, special interests groups and the public.
- Supporting aspiring licensees on their path to licensure

Another highlight of the Education Meeting was an introduction to Factuality, a powerful board game that uses facilitated dialogue and audience participation to explore the impact of social oppression. Dr. Natalie Gillard, the game's creator, led us through an eye-opening session that illustrated how race, class, gender, faith, sexual orientation, ability, and age intersect to shape people's life outcomes. This experience deepened our understanding of the inequities that exist within our society and reaffirmed the importance of integrating DEIJ principles into our work.

In August, committee members gathered in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, for the Leadership Meeting. This two-day, closed-door meeting brought together over 80 committee members, elected leaders, and staff. As a member of the DEIJ Committee, our discussions were particularly intense, focusing on strategies to educate various stakeholders on pressing DEIJ issues. The passion and commitment displayed by all involved were palpable, and I encourage everyone to read the Association update shared on August 15, which provides further insights and photos from this impactful weekend.

I recognize the importance of being involved in decision-making processes that shape social work regulation and impact social workers across the nation. This role is significant not only to the profession but also to me personally, as social work is an integral part of who I am.

~Ukawia



UKAWIA JOHNSON, DISTRICT 1



BOARD FAQ'S

Applications for exam and re-exam can take 14-21 days to receive approval.

Transcripts and immigration compliance forms can now be emailed to the office at info.socialwork@swb.alabama.gov

If you submit a transcript to the office, please let us know if it is in different last name other than what is on your application.

Please keep in mind if you mail something to our office it is routed through a central mail room. We do not receive certified, overnight, Fed Ex or UPS items physically at our office. These items are delivered to us from another location. Please know the email above is the fastest way to receive a document.

Effective now, if you renew online you will now have the option to print your own wallet card and license. We will no longer print and mail wallet cards or seals for online renewals.

As a reminder, all LICSWs must have 6 hours of Clinical CE's, with 3 hours devoted to covering the most current version of the DSM, at each renewal. If renewing online, you will be required to upload proof of the DSM CEU. If mailing in your renewal ALL CEU's documents must be included.

Supervisors must have 3 hours of Supervision CE's at each renewal. Supervision contract must be approved before initiating supervision.

All licensed Social Workers must have 3 CE's of Ethics at each renewal. Please remember that you need 10 classroom-based CE hours as part of your 30 CE total. Live/interactive webinars will count toward your classroom requirements. Recorded webinars are not considered live.

Please keep in mind you cannot earn CEU's during your 60-day grace period.

HELLO!

If you would like to keep a record of your continuing education hours, print a copy of your license or wallet card, you must register through our website. To do so you need the code that was provided in your original license packet. If you do not have this letter, please contact the Board & we can provide the code again.

Open Board Positions



Open Positions – Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Master Social Worker

**U.S. Congressional District 1
&
U.S. Congressional District 6**

Interested Candidates Must....be in current and in good standing; live in that district; collect letters of nomination from fellow social workers in your district; the nomination letters and a resume must be mailed to the board – postmarked by September 30, 2024. The Board appointment will be for three years running through September 30, 2027

For more details, Contact the Board

In Other News

Next Board meeting

September 19th, 10 am.

The Social Work Census has been completed. Please be on the lookout for updates from its findings!!!

The Social Work Licensure Compact has been enacted in at least seven states and has reached activation status. However multistate licenses are not yet being issued. The implementation process for the compact will take 12 to 24 months before multistate licenses are able to issued. There are several contributing stakeholders and organizations working on this compact, so stay connected!