FOR BSW STUDENTS: GETTING THE LSW IN MAINE

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Based on Information obtained via the Maine Board of Social Work Licensure

WHAT CAN A "LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER" (LSW) DO?

- Conduct basic data gathering of records and specific life issues of individuals, groups, couples and families;
- Assess the above data, formulate and implement a plan to achieve specific goals related to specific life issues;
- Serve as an advocate for clients or groups of clients for the purpose of achieving specific goals relating to specific life issues;
- Refer clients to other professional services;
- Plan, manage, direct or coordinate social services;
- Participate in training and education of social work students;
- Supervise other LSWs, other professionals practicing related professions and paraprofessionals engaged in related activities.
- A LSW with a BSW who has been licensed for at least two years may provide consultation required by the LSW Conditional licenses to those licensees.

AN LSW CANNOT ENGAGE IN PRIVATE/INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

TO APPLY FOR THE LSW, YOU MUST HAVE:

- A completed Application for Licensure (Send to: 35 State House Station. Augusta, ME 04333-0035)
- Official transcript of an earned Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program (transcript);
- Documentation of successful passage of the required examination (Basic/Bachelors);
- Three current letters of professional recommendation (within the past year), two of which must be from licensed social workers at any level of licensure from any state.

AND THE $$!!!

To the Licensing Board

- Application Fee: $25
- License Fee: $70
- Criminal Records Check Fee: $21

TOTAL: $116

To AWSB for the Exam

Bachelors Exam Fee: $230

Optional Printed Study Guide: $35

Optional Online Practice Test: $85

TOTAL: $230-$350, depending on the optional items purchased

THE ASWB EXAM

- Must first have approval by the Maine board to take the test (authorization to test)—Approval will be granted once you have your degree, complete the application and submit fees.
- Test is taken at a Pearson Vue Test Center: Contact for reservations (www.pearsonvue.com/aswb or 1-877-884-9537
- When you make an appointment to take the test you need to supply:
  - First and last name as it appears on the ASWB "authorization to test"
  - Your candidate number form the "authorization to test"
  - Your address
  - Date of Birth
  - The test you want to take (which is the Bachelors test)

THE ASWB EXAM--CONTINUED

170 multiple choice questions—only 150 counted toward score (20 are pilot questions, nut you will not know which ones they are

Exam is 4 hours long

Bring TWO valid forms of identification—one must be a valid government issues photo ID with your signature; the other can be a valid ID with signature without photo.

Disability accommodations can be made—contact ASWB for details

Pearson test site location: Main St. Westbrook, ME

ONCE LSW IS ACQUIRED:

- Supervision/consultation must be established (See Agreement to provide consultation for licensee)
  - A total of 96 hours of supervision must be provided for 3200 hours of social work employment in two to four years.
  - Consultant can be anyone with a social work license in Maine (LSW, LCSW, etc).
- License must be reviewed every two years (with renewal fee of $70)
- Continuing education (CE) required over two year period:
- 25 hours including 4 hours focused on ethics
- All CE must be directly related to social work (and ultimately, the board decides this)
- Save ALL CE certificates and descriptions because you may be asked to submit this to the board for review (they do random audits now).