Social Work License Map
Four types of credentialing are available through the Board

1. Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker (LBSW)
2. Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)
3. Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW-Clinical Practice) and
4. Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW-Advanced Practice)
License Baccalaureate Social Work

- Must have a baccalaureate degree from a social work program, accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, and must also pass an examination approved by the Board.
- Currently the Board requires that an applicant for LBSW take and pass the Bachelors level of the examination that is administered by a testing service through the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).
License Master Social Work

- Must have a Masters or a Doctorate degree from a social work program, accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and must also pass an examination approved by the Board.
- Currently the Board requires that an applicant for LMSW take and pass the Masters level of the examination that is administered by a testing service through the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).
License Independent Social Work

- Must have a Master’s or Doctorate degree from a Board-approved social work program.
- An applicant must have at least forty-five academic contact hours each of psychopathology and psychodiagnostics.
- An applicant must demonstrate 15 academic contact hours or 20 continuing education contact hours in professional ethics during the course of the professional supervision period or have completed a Board-sponsored specialty course in professional ethics.

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License Independent Social Work

- Must demonstrate to the Board the satisfactory completion of 3000 hours of social work practice under clinical supervision.
- This supervised experience must have occurred after licensure as a Masters Social Worker and over a minimum two-year and maximum four-year period within a recognized, organized setting such as social, medical, or governmental agencies.
- This supervised experience must include 100 hours of face-to-face meetings between the approved clinical supervisor and the supervisee, equitably distributed.
South Carolina **does not** have formal reciprocity with any other state, however, if you have already passed the ASWB examination in another state and the level of the exam you took is appropriate to the licensure level you are applying for in South Carolina, your score will be accepted in South Carolina. You will have to contact the testing service ASWB and request that they send an official copy of your test score directly to the Board office. Their number is (800) 225-6880. Test score verifications are not accepted from other states.
South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners

Need More Information on South Carolina Requirements

http://www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/socialworkers
Telephone: (803) 896-4664
Email: contactllr@llr.sc.gov
North Carolina Social Workers
Four levels of credentialing are available through the Board

- Levels: A, B, C, & H

Three voluntary certifications for non-clinical social work practice, and one license which is required for clinical social work practice in the state of North Carolina.
LEVEL A - CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER (CSW)

- **EDUCATION:** BSW from CSWE accredited undergraduate school
- **EXAMINATION:** ASWB Bachelor level examination.
LEVEL B - CERTIFIED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER (CMSW)

- **EDUCATION:** MSW, DSW, or PhD in social work from CSWE accredited school.
- **EXAMINATION:** ASWB Master level examination or ACSW examination
LEVEL C - LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER (LCSW)  
[MANDATORY for clinical practice]

- **EDUCATION:** MSW, DSW or PhD in social work from CSWE accredited school.
- **EXAMINATION:** ASWB Clinical level exam.
- **EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of 3,000 hours of clinical paid employment appropriately supervised clinical practice) accumulated in no less than two (2) years, nor more than six (6) years.
- **SUPERVISION:** Minimum of 100 hours of supervision from a LCSW, MSW with an additional 2 years post LCSW clinical social work practice, on a regular basis: at least one (1) hour of supervision for every thirty (30) hours of clinical practice. A maximum of twenty-five (25) hours may be group supervision.
- **LCSW Associate License** (LCSWA) is available at this level to begin acquiring the experience and supervision requirements. [For more information, refer to the LCSW ASSOCIATE LICENSE tab.]
LEVEL H - CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORK MANAGER (CSWM)

- **EDUCATION:** BSW, MSW, DSW, or PhD in Social Work from a CSWE accredited school.
- **EXAMINATION:** ASWB Advanced Generalist level examination
- **EXPERIENCE:** Three thousand (3,000) hours of paid employment accumulated in no less than two (2) years, no more than six (6) years.
- **SUPERVISION:** Minimum of 100 hours of supervision on a regular basis, by a Social Work Administrator certified by the Board on at least one level and who has a minimum of five years administration experience in a Social Work or Mental Health setting. A maximum of fifty (50) hours may be through group supervision.
Educational requirements are based on a social work degree from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Applicants whose social work degree was obtained outside of the United States or its territories must contact CSWE at 1725 Duke Street Suite 500 Alexandria VA 22314-3457 to determine educational equivalency.
For Comity at all levels, a applicant must be current and actively certified, registered or licensed by examination as a social worker, by a similar board of another country, state or territory whose certification, registration or licensing standards are substantially equivalent to those required in the North Carolina Social Worker Certification and Licensure Act, specifically including the appropriate examination.
Need More Information on North Carolina Requirements

Social Work Certification and Licensure Board

http://www.ncswboard.org/page/certification-licensure
TOLL-FREE 1-800-550-7009
Love what you do but don’t forget that credentials are important!