



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

PLEASE SHARE THIS NOTICE WITH COLLEAGUES, EMPLOYERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

***** New CE requirements- LGBTQ and Public Health CEs are now mandatory. *****

Read below for:

COVID-19 Update

Licensing and Renewal Information

CE Changes

Invitation for DC residents to join the board and help make a difference!

***Licensees should monitor the Board's webpage for the most up to date information:
<https://dchealth.dc.gov/node/161602> . Those with additional questions should contact the
Board, at dcbosw@dc.gov***

COVID-19

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, DC Health remains operational. We continue to provide essential services; however, there are changes to how some services are provided. For the latest information please continue to review and monitor coronavirus.dc.gov or the Board's webpage: [Board of Social Work](#).

The Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) Processing Center will be open to the public by appointment only on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The online appointment scheduler is appts.dcvsim.com.

DC COVID Alert Notice (DC CAN) is an alert notification system that allows iPhone and Android mobile device users to receive an alert when they may have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. For more information about DC CAN, visit coronavirus.dc.gov/dccan.

For questions related to the District of Columbia's COVID-19 vaccination plan, please see coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine or send inquiries to covid-19.vaccine@dc.gov

LICENSURE/REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- The Board of Social Work regulates the following **four (4) professional groups**
 - Licensed Social Work Associate (LSWA)
 - Licensed Graduate Social Worker (LGSW)
 - Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW)
 - Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)
- As graduates (an individual no longer in a student/intern/practicum status) are preparing to enter the workforce, remember **a social work license is required before becoming employed, providing services, and accumulating post-graduate supervision hours**. Before engaging in any social work practice, you should hold a bachelor-level (SWA) or master-level (LGSW) license. If you have any question, please contact the Board's Health Licensing Specialist at 202-442-4782.
- **A filed application is not a license and does not authorize the provision of services.**
- Verify a license by visiting doh.force.com/ver/s.
- Supervision of an unlicensed individual subjects a licensed LISW and/or LICSW to disciplinary action. Supervisors, please be advised that **supervisees must have the appropriate license prior to receiving supervision hours and providing services**. If you are providing supervision to another professional group such as Professional Counselor, please ensure that you have reviewed their regulations and they have the required license prior to providing supervision.

- If your information (name, mailing address, email address, phone number, etc.) has changed since your last renewal, please send your new contact information to dcbosw@dc.gov. For name changes, please include copy of name change documents (marriage certificate, divorce decree, etc.).

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

- **Guidance on Tele-Supervision:** In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has issued a policy statement regarding Tele-supervision. For additional information, please visit [Board of Social Work](#) and view under the “Policy Guides and Statements” section.
- **Guidance on Scope of Social Work Practice for LGSWs in Private Practice:** In response to a number of questions from licensees, the Board issued a policy statement regarding Scope of Social Work Practice for Licensed Graduate Social Workers (LGSWs) in Private Practice. For additional information, please visit [Board of Social Work](#) and view under the “Policy Guides and Statements” section.
 - The Board defines private practice as one that operates from a business/organizational structure such as a solo practice/business, group practice (which maybe a LLC, PLLC, or a partnership); or a corporation.
- **Guidance on Suspension of In-Person CE Requirement:** In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has suspended the in-person continuing education (CE) requirement. For additional information, please visit dchealth.dc.gov/node/161602 and view under the “Policy Guides and Statements” section.

UPDATED CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION:

- An application for renewal of a license expiring on July 31, 2021 shall complete, forty (40) continuing education units (CEUs).
- Six (6) of the forty (40) CEUs must be in ethics.
- Two (2) hours of CEUs of the 40 CEUs are required in cultural competence and appropriate clinical treatment specifically for individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender non-conforming, queer, or questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. Please note that these CEUs are separate from the Health Priorities requirement.
- All licensed health care providers in the District of Columbia are now required to complete 10% or four (4) CEUs of the required total of continuing education in the public health priorities of the District as determined by the Director and published every five (5) years or less frequently as deemed appropriate. Please follow the link and refer to the identified subject areas for the public health considerations:

dchealth.dc.gov/page/policy-statement-identifying-public-health-issues-continuing-education

- Proof of successful completion shall be submitted within thirty (30) days after it is requested by the Board.

BOARD INFORMATION:

- The Board has **two (2) vacancies** for a **District of Columbia resident** to serve as a board member. If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments: motaboardstheresumator.com/apply. There is currently **one (1) vacancy** for a **District of Columbia resident** to serve as a board member.
- The public is invited to attend the Open Session of Board meetings, which are held the fourth Monday of every month (except August) at 10:00 a.m. virtually due to the public health emergency. View the web page at [Board of Social Work](#) for agendas and the meeting schedule.

Licensees with additional questions should contact the Board, at dcbosw@dc.gov