

Getting your LMSW in Texas: Licensing Step-by-Step

For University of Houston – Main Campus Social Work Graduate Students

1. **Download Application**
 - a. Go to http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/socialwork/sw_lbsw-lmsw.shtm.
 - b. Download the application, Examination Security Information Form, and Verification of Licensure in Other Jurisdiction (if necessary).
 - c. Print and fill out application.
2. **Take Jurisprudence Exam (\$40)**
 - a. Go to http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/socialwork/sw_Jurisprudence.shtm.
 - b. Sign up and pay for your Jurisprudence Exam
 - c. Take the exam.
 - d. Print out two copies of your certificate of completion. Put one with your application materials to send to the board and keep the other for your records.
3. **Send in application materials and fee (\$91)**
 - a. After double checking the application check list, mail in your forms, proof of completion of Jurisprudence Exam, and official transcript from the Graduate College of Social Work to the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners.
 - b. *Note for current students:* Exam approval will be given without a transcript if accompanied with a Dean's letter from your college or university during your final semester.
 - i. Get letter from Dean Colby by e-mailing Sonia Ewing, sewing@uh.edu
 1. This should include your name (official name you are applying for your license with) and that you are in your semester of graduation.
 2. Sonia will send the original letter to the state board and put a copy in your GCSW mail box within *one week*.
4. **Wait for approval to sit for the licensure exam**
 - a. Approval to sit for the licensure exam is communicated to the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and the applicant (you) in writing when all qualifying information has been received and approved by the board. This will take *3-4 weeks*.
5. **Register for the licensure exam and pay your exam fee (\$230)**
 - a. You can call ASWB or register online at <http://www.aswb.org/Main/registeronline.asp>.
6. **Schedule your testing appointment**
 - a. You must wait for your official ASWB Authorization Letter to come via mail before scheduling an appointment to test. This will take *at least seven days*.
 - b. Go to <http://www.act.org/actcenters/locate/index.html> to locate a testing center and set up an appointment.
7. **Study**
 - a. The GCSW is offering each social work student *in their final semester* a free 8 hour prep course for the LMSW exam. The course will be held in all 3 semesters (Fall/Spring/Summer). Contact Jamie Parker, jparker@uh.edu, Jan Leger, jeleger@uh.edu or Samantha Ary, sjolly@central.uh.edu with questions.
8. **Pass and Receive license from state board**
 - a. You will receive your score immediately upon completion of the exam. The state board will receive your score from ASWB *approximately 14 days* after your exam.
 - b. After graduation, submit an official copy of your UH transcript that indicates your MSW degree has been conferred to the state board. Upon receipt of verification of a passing score and your official transcript indicating your MSW degree (and as long as the applicant has met all other qualifications and paid all applicable fees), the board can issue the license.

Total length of time (*approximately*): 3 months

Total Cost: \$361.00 (\$40 for Jurisprudence, \$91 for Texas Application, \$230 for Licensing Exam)

Information compiled from www.dshs.tx.us, www.aswb.org, and www.sw.uh.edu.