



Our Mission

The legislature declares that, in order to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified and improper practice of social work, it is necessary that a proper regulatory authority be established and adequately provided for.

SPRING 2018

News | Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

John Shalett, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson
New Orleans, LA

Brent Villemarette,
LCSW-BACS
Vice Chairperson
Opelousas, LA

Carla Moore, LMSW
Secretary-Treasurer
Grambling, LA

Jennifer Burch,
LCSW-BACS
Board Member
Baton Rouge, LA

Robert Showers, RSW
Board Member
Independence, LA

Ruth Weinzettle,
LCSW-BACS
Board Member
Alexandria, LA

Evan J. Bergeron,
Public Member
New Orleans, LA

18550 Highland Road, Suite B | Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Phone: (225) 756.3470 | 800.521.1941 (LA Only)
Email: socialwork@labswe.org | www.labswe.org

From The Chair

John S. Shalett, LCSW-BACS

It is my pleasure to serve as the Chair of the Board. Please be assured that each board member and staff is committed to the work of the Board. The Board serves at the pleasure of the Governor and takes our responsibilities very seriously. As I am sure each of you are aware, our primary mission is to protect the public.

The Board is continually reviewing its rules and regulations as they impact each of our 8,000+ licensees. I am confident that all of our license holders are aware of the critical nature of our role as board members and staff. As a board, we are indebted to our full-time staff. We are blessed to have four (4) staff that effectively manage the day-to-day flow of the office and, as well, work with and are responsive to the needs of the Board on a daily basis. I am personally in contact with our Administrator on a weekly basis, and on occasion, more often than once per

week. Our work together insures the smooth operation of the Board office as well as providing daily support for license holders. Our Administrator spends a great deal of her time dealing with State Government issues and regulations as well as interacting with our consultants and executives of other professional associations in Louisiana.

A brief update of interest follows. I hope each of you understands the enormity of our work. Our meetings involve dealing with consumer concerns as well as concerns and questions of each of you. As a result, the Board held a Strategic Planning Retreat after the regular February meeting. We met late Friday afternoon and most of the following Saturday. This meeting was also open to the public. We conducted a SWOT Analysis and identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that impact the Board. Our deliberations identified the need to once again to appoint a Supervision Committee. *Continued on page 3...*

IN THIS ISSUE: • From The Chair • Welcome New Board Members • FAQ Continuing Education • Board Vacancy • ASWB Examinations Pass Rates for 2017

BOARD MEMBERS

Welcome New Board Members



Jennifer Burch was appointed to the Board on February 2, 2018. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor. She participated in the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program while obtaining her Bachelor of Social Work degree and has substantial training in foster care, adoption services, child welfare laws, and family preservation. Jennifer received a Master of Social Work degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge where she interned at the Baton Rouge Crisis Intervention Center. She has over sixteen years of experience and has worked in practice areas including administration, advocacy, consultation, and direct practice. She served as a board member for the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the National Association of Social Workers.

Jennifer's primary areas of interest include advocacy, diversity, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and evidence-based practice in integrated primary care. She is employed by Baton Rouge General Medical Center as Director of Graduate Medical Education.



Evan J. Bergeron was appointed as Public Member on March 2, 2018. Evan is a Partner in the New Orleans office of Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, and works in the Civil Litigation department. He assists clients with insurance defense and coverage litigation, general civil litigation, and general casualty litigation. He also works and maintains professional interests in First Amendment, media, and privacy law. He received his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2011, where he served as Chief Justice of the College of Law Honor Board and a member of the Moot Court Board. Evan received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Louisiana State University in 2007, where he served as Speaker of the Student Senate. Evan is originally from Pierre Part, Louisiana, and attended Assumption High School.

Evan also remains active in the Community. He serves as statewide Co-Director for the Louisiana Chapter of New Leaders Council and as a Delegate representing Orleans Parish in the Louisiana State Bar Association House of Delegates. He also volunteers his time with various arts organizations.



Continuing Education

1. Where do we get continuing education?

While LABSWE does not offer continuing education courses, there are many organizations that do. LABSWE does approve pre-approval organizations for social work continuing education. Any offering pre-approved or sponsored by one of the entities listed here: <https://www.labswe.org/page/approval-organizations-for-social-work-continuing-education> are accepted by LABSWE. Rule 317(M) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures details other approved sponsors.

2. What is the collection period?

July 1st – June 30th, only the month of June can be used for the current or subsequent collection period, but cannot be split to be counted in two collection periods.

3. How do I know if it has been pre-approved?

You will need to check with the sponsoring organization to ask if they submitted the workshop to be approved for Louisiana Social Workers. We have a list of preapproval organizations on our website that can approve continuing education offerings (see link in #1). Rule 317(M) of the Rules, Standards and Procedures also lists additional approved entities.

Continued from cover...

From The Chair

This committee is chaired by one of our Board members and includes a number of non-board members. It is a diverse committee which represents the face of the social work supervision. The committee will present its findings to the Board later this year. The Board recognizes the need for it to be more visible to its constituents. Our plan is to be more proactive in updating our FAQ site; we also hope to be more visible via presentations throughout the social work community in the State. We have already reached out to our constituency and have both made presentations and have future presentations scheduled throughout the year. My commitment to you is to regularly share our progress as it relates to the strategic planning process and resulting work as generated from this process.

In closing, please be assured that the Board is critically aware of its responsibilities. Please feel free to be in touch with the Board through its website or personal correspondence. We will respond to your concern, suggestions or questions.

4. Can I send you the information and you let me know if it is approved?

No. If the CE offering has not been preapproved, use the “Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education” form to determine acceptability. You do not need to submit this to the Board unless you are selected for audit.

5. Can I obtain all of my CEU’s via distance learning?

Rule 317(M)(4) limits distance learning to 10 clock hours.

6. Do you know of any free continuing education offerings?

LABSWE’s preapproval organizations are able to post their continuing education courses to our website. It is at the discretion of the organization to list the workshops on our site. Other than that, we do not have information regarding continuing education opportunities.

7. Does the organization that offers the continuing education send the Board the certificates?

No. You will need to document your continuing education hours in “your dashboard”.

Continued on page 6....

BOARD VACANCY

Effective **August 13, 2018**, a Licensed Clinical Social Work position is available.

La. R.S. 37:2704 mandates the following qualifications for this position:

- Citizen of the United States
- Resident of the State of Louisiana
- Hold a current and valid license
- Must have five (5) years of CLINICAL social work experience

If you are interested in serving on the Board, you should submit a letter stating your interest, along with a current resume to one of the following organizations by **June 30, 2018**:

Myra Hidalgo, LCSW-BACS
President, Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers
1407 Louisiana Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70115
lacs2@hotmail.com

Louisiana Chapter of National Association of Social Workers
700 North 10th Street, Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Fax (225) 346-5035
astehr.naswla@socialworkers.org

Louisiana Council on Social Work Education
Attn: Traci Lilley, LCSW
LSU School of Social Work
311 Huey P. Long Fieldhouse, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
tlilley@lsu.edu

FAQs about serving on the Board:

What is the time commitment for serving?

An appointment to the Board is made by the governor for three consecutive years. Meetings are held approximately every 5 weeks on a Friday at the board office in Baton Rouge. Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. and carry-over to Saturday, if necessary. Other examples of board activities include, presenting at the NASW-LA Annual Conference and serving on committees.

Are board members paid?

Board members are reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred on board business. For example, mileage driven to and from a meeting is reimbursed at the state rate, which is currently .53 per mile. We also reserve a hotel room for board members that are required to travel a significant distance to meetings. We provide breakfast and lunch at the meeting. If you need to stay overnight, dinner can be reimbursed up to the amount allowed by the state's travel guidelines.

If you have any questions concerning the board's activities and the time commitment required of board members, please email the Board's Administrator, Emily DeAngelo at edeangelo@labswe.org.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS



ASWB Examinations Pass Rates for 2017

North American Pass Rates

Exam Category and Group Type	Total Number of Examinations	Pass Rate	
		Number	Percentage
Associate			
First-Time	518	363	70.1
Repeat Group	347	129	37.2
Total Group	865	492	56.9
Bachelors			
First-Time	4,437	3,448	77.7
Repeat Group	1,062	466	43.9
Total Group	5,499	3,914	71.2
Masters			
First-Time	16,839	13,679	81.2
Repeat Group	5,269	1,875	35.6
Total Group	22,108	15,554	70.4
Advanced Generalist			
First-Time	163	96	58.9
Repeat Group	49	13	26.5
Total Group	212	109	51.4
Clinical			
First-Time	16,045	12,578	78.4
Repeat Group	5,809	2,314	39.8
Total Group	21,854	14,892	68.1
Total	50,538	34,961	69.2

Pass Rates of Louisiana

Exam Category and Group Type	Total Number of Examinations	Pass Rate	
		Number	Percentage
Masters			
First-Time	355	214	60.3
Repeat Group	378	85	22.5
Total Group	733	299	40.8
Clinical			
First-Time	162	111	68.5
Repeat Group	140	54	38.6
Total Group	302	165	54.6
Total	1,035	464	44.8

Explanation from the Association of Social Work Boards:

The best indication of a true pass rate for both Louisiana and overall is the first-time rate rather than the total group. Percentages of pass and fail are most representative for groups of candidates numbering more than 200. These percentages are not representative of groups with fewer than 100 candidates, and generalizations should not be made from rates for these groups.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Continued from page 3....

FAQs Continuing Education

8. Can I go to an offering that was not pre-approved for CEU's?

If the offering was not preapproved, you will need to use the "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education" form. This form will determine if this offering is acceptable for social work continuing education.

10. Am I required to upload the certificates into my dashboard?

You are only required to upload the certificates if you are chosen for a continuing education audit. However, uploading your certificates is a great way to store your certificates!

11. When are ethics due?

Three (3) hours of ethics are due every two years with the due date being in the even numbered years. For example, the current collection period began July 1, 2016 and ends June 30, 2018. The following collection period is July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2020...and so on.

12. How do I get an offering approved for social workers to get CEU's?

You will need to submit the "Application for Preapproval" https://www.labswe.org/assets/Docs/Forms/App_Requesting_CE_PreApp7-13.pdf to the preapproval organization of your choice. An approval fee may be charged at the discretion of the preapproval organization.

13. Can an offering be considered as "in-person" if it's a live, interactive webinar?

No. This is considered distance learning.

14. Can I count supervision as my continuing education?

No.



SPRING 2018

Louisiana State Board Of Social Work Examiners

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B • Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Phone: (225) 756.3470 / 800.521.1941 (LA Only)

Email: socialwork@labswe.org

www.labswe.org