

Board of Examiners for Social Workers

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 641B

Board members (NRS 641B.100)—The Board of Examiners for Social Workers consists of five members, appointed by the Governor, as follows:

- Four members must be licensed or eligible for licensure pursuant to Chapter 641B (“Social Workers”) of NRS; and
- One member must represent the general public.

If a member fails to attend meetings or attend to the business of the Board, the Governor shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

Assembly Bill 457 (Chapter 363, *Statutes of Nevada 2017*) requires each new member of the Board to complete an orientation within 60 days after appointment. It also prohibits a member of the Board from serving concurrently on the Commission on Behavioral Health.

Powers and duties of the Board—The Board:

- May license applicants as social workers, independent social workers, or clinical social workers;
- May issue a license by endorsement;
- Shall maintain a list of licensed social workers;
- Shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this chapter;
- Shall deposit all money received in financial institutions in Nevada;
- May delegate to a hearing officer or panel its authority to take disciplinary actions and deposit money from fines and penalties in financial institutions in Nevada;
- May charge fees pursuant to statute; and
- May discipline licensees.

Assembly Bill 457 (2017) requires the Board to adopt regulations establishing certain standards relating to locations that provide services to persons obtaining supervised experience required for licensing.

Operations of the Board—The Board:

- Shall annually elect a president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer;

- Shall meet at least once in each calendar quarter and may meet at other times at the call of the president or a majority of members; and
- May receive salary, per diem, and travel expenses.

Assembly Bill 457 (2017):

- Requires the Board to establish policies concerning compensation and reviewing the performance of the staff of the Board;
- Authorizes the Board to enter into agreements with the Department of Health and Human Services or a division thereof to carry out or improve the performance of the Board's duties; and
- Requires the Board to adopt online application forms for the issuance or renewal of a license or certificate.

Background

Legislation:

- 1987—Senate Bill 234 (Chapter 484, *Statutes of Nevada*)—Established the Board of Examiners for Social Workers consisting of five members appointed by the Governor; defined social work and clinical social work; provided for licensing, discipline, and fees;
- 1993—Assembly Bill 235 (Chapter 307, *Statutes of Nevada*)—Authorized the Board to delegate its authority to a hearing officer or panel to take disciplinary action;
- 2003—SB 310 (Chapter 213, *Statutes of Nevada*)—Provided that the public member of the Board must not be a social worker or related to a social worker; and
- 2005—SB 276 (Chapter 225, *Statutes of Nevada*)—Made the Board subject to the provisions of Chapter 622A (“Administrative Procedure Before Certain Regulatory Bodies”) of NRS as it applies to delegation of authority to a hearing officer or panel.

Legislative history—The following legislative histories have been compiled and are available on the website of the Research Library:

- [SB 234](#) (1987)—Sponsored by the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor; and
- [AB 235](#) (1993)—Sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Commerce.

In addition, the bill pages for the following legislation are available on the Legislature's website:

- [SB 310](#) (2003)—Sponsored by Senator Maggie Carlton; and
- [SB 276](#) (2005)—Sponsored by the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor on behalf of the Attorney General.

Reports to the Legislature—No reports to the Legislature are required pursuant to Chapter 641B of NRS. A report of activities, required pursuant to NRS 622.100 (SB 420, Chapter 193, *Statutes of Nevada 2001*), was repealed by SB 310 (Chapter 507, *Statutes of Nevada 2007*).

NRS 622.100 requires a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) including information relating to licensing and disciplinary actions. (Senate Bill 69 [Chapter 518, *Statutes of Nevada 2017*] revised the reporting provisions.)

Assembly Bill 457 (2017) requires the Board to submit to the Legislative Committee on Health Care:

- An annual report concerning investigations and review of applications for the issuance or renewal of a license or certificate; and
- On or before January 1, 2018, a report concerning the costs of the Board, its fees, and its efforts to recognize credentials from jurisdictions outside Nevada.

Records held by the LCB—The following are recent publications held by the Research Library:

- *Nevada State Board of Examiners For Social Workers: Biennial Report of Budget Summary, Issuance of Licenses and Disciplinary Actions*: Series holdings Fiscal Year (FY) 2000–2001 and FY 2001–2002; FY 2002–2003 and FY 2003–2004; FY 2004–2005 and FY 2005–2006.

Current contact—Sandy Lowery, Deputy Executive Director

Website—<http://socwork.nv.gov/>

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BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

NRS 641B.100 Appointment by Governor; qualifications.

1. The Board of Examiners for Social Workers consists of five members appointed by the Governor.
 2. Four members appointed to the Board must be licensed or eligible for licensure pursuant to this chapter, except the initial members who must be eligible for licensure.
 3. One member appointed to the Board must be a representative of the general public. This member must not be:
 - (a) Licensed or eligible for licensure pursuant to this chapter; or
 - (b) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of a person who is licensed or eligible for licensure pursuant to this chapter.
- (Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#); A [2003, 1198](#))

NRS CROSS REFERENCES.

Residency requirements, qualifications of representative of general public, [NRS 232A.020](#), [622.205](#)

NRS 641B.110 Expiration of term; replacement.

1. Upon expiration of his or her term of office, a member shall continue to serve until a person qualified pursuant to this chapter is appointed as a successor.
 2. If a member fails to attend meetings of the Board or a member fails to attend to the business of the Board, as determined necessary in the discretion of the Board, the Board shall so notify the Governor, and the Governor shall appoint a person qualified pursuant to this chapter to replace the member for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#))

NRS CROSS REFERENCES.

Terms of members, vacancies, [NRS 232A.020](#)

NRS 641B.120 Officers; elections; meetings; quorum.

1. The Board shall elect from its members a President, a Vice President and a Secretary-Treasurer, who hold their respective offices at its pleasure.
 2. An election of officers must be held annually.
 3. The Board shall meet at least once in each quarter of the year and may meet at other times at the call of the President or a majority of its members.
 4. A majority of the Board constitutes a quorum to transact all business.
- (Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#))

NRS CROSS REFERENCES.

Meetings, [NRS ch. 241](#), [622.320](#)

NRS 641B.130 List of licensed social workers to be maintained by Board. The Board shall maintain a list of the name and address of each person licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#))

NRS 641B.140 Salary of members; per diem allowance and travel expenses for members and employees.

1. Each member of the Board is entitled to receive:
 - (a) A salary of not more than \$150 per day, as fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board;
- and

(b) A per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

2. While engaged in the business of the Board, each employee of the Board is entitled to receive a per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

(Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#); A [1989, 1703](#); [2007, 2956](#))

NRS 641B.150 Payment of expenses; deposit of money; delegation of authority to hearing officer or panel; claim for attorney's fees or costs of investigation.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, all reasonable expenses incurred by the Board in carrying out the provisions of this chapter must be paid from the money which it receives. No part of the salaries or expenses of the Board may be paid out of the State General Fund.

2. All money received by the Board must be deposited in qualified banks, credit unions or savings and loan associations in this State and paid out on its order for its expenses.

3. In a manner consistent with the provisions of [chapter 622A](#) of NRS, the Board may delegate to a hearing officer or panel its authority to take any disciplinary action pursuant to this chapter, impose and collect fines and penalties therefor and deposit the money therefrom in banks, credit unions or savings and loan associations in this State.

4. If a hearing officer or panel is not authorized to take disciplinary action pursuant to subsection 3 and the Board deposits the money collected from the imposition of fines with the State Treasurer for credit to the State General Fund, it may present a claim to the State Board of Examiners for recommendation to the Interim Finance Committee if money is needed to pay attorney's fees or the costs of an investigation, or both.

(Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#); A [1993, 889](#); [1999, 1536](#); [2005, 791](#))

NRS CROSS REFERENCES.

Contested cases, administrative procedure, [NRS ch. 622A](#)

NRS 641B.160 Regulations. The Board shall adopt:

1. Such regulations as are necessary or desirable to enable it to carry out the provisions of this chapter; and
2. Regulations establishing reasonable standards for the psychiatric training and experience necessary for a clinical social worker to be authorized to make the certifications described in [NRS 433A.170](#), [433A.195](#) and [433A.200](#).

(Added to NRS by [1987, 1117](#); A [2015, 2995](#))

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS.

Social workers, [NAC ch. 641B](#)

NRS 641B.170 Confidentiality of certain records of Board; exceptions.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and [NRS 239.0115](#), any records or information received by the Board relating to a licensee or an applicant for a license is confidential.

2. Except as otherwise provided in this section and [NRS 239.0115](#), a complaint filed with the Board, all documents and other information filed with the complaint and all documents and other information compiled as a result of an investigation conducted to determine whether to initiate disciplinary action against a person are confidential, unless the person submits a written statement to the Board requesting that such documents and information be made public records.

3. The charging documents filed with the Board to initiate disciplinary action pursuant to [chapter 622A](#) of NRS and all documents and information considered by the Board when determining whether to impose discipline are

public records.

4. The provisions of this section do not prohibit the Board from communicating or cooperating with or providing any documents or other information to any other licensing board or any other agency that is investigating a person, including, without limitation, a law enforcement agency.

(Added to NRS by [1995, 448](#); A [2005, 791](#); [2007, 2145](#))

NRS CROSS REFERENCES.

Contested cases, administrative procedure, [NRS ch. 622A](#)

Records open to public inspection, exception, [NRS 239.001-239.030](#), [622.310](#)

Follow these instructions when filling out the form:

1. Download the form to your personal computer.
2. Complete the downloaded form using Adobe Reader.
3. Save the completed form to your personal computer.
4. Then send the saved form and any additional documents in PDF format to cbstonefield@lcb.state.nv.us

**Information Concerning Board or Commission
Subject to Review by the
Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

as required by *Nevada Revised Statutes 232B.230*



Board or commission name:

Board of Examiners for Social Workers

**Members' names with
expiration date of term, and
indicate the number of
vacancies:**

Victoria Erickson, LCSW - 06/30/2018
Monique Harris, LCSW - 06/30/2018
Joanne Ussher, LCSW - 06/30/2019
Stefaine Maplethorpe, LCSW - 06/30/2020
Susan Nielsen - 06/30/2020

There are no vacancies on this Board

Physical address:

4600 Kietzke Lane, C121, Reno, NV 89502

Mailing address:

4600 Kietzke Lane, C121, Reno, NV 89502

Web site address (if any):

<http://socwork.nv.gov/>

**Web site developer (if not EITS,
please indicate if EITS approved
the web site):**

EITS

**Executive director's name and
contact information:**

Karen Barsell, LISW, Executive Director
4600 Kietzke Lane, C121, Reno, NV 89502
p: 775-688-2555 / f: 775-688-2557
kbarsell@besw.nv.gov

**Staff members' names including
titles and status as full-time or
part-time (attach additional pages
as necessary):**

See Attachment "A"

Days and hours of operation:

Monday - Friday; office open to public 8:30a to 4:30p. Staff in office 8:00a to 5:00p

Created by what authority:

NRS 641B

**Authority to adopt regulations
(NRS) and citation to
regulations (NAC), if applicable:**

NRS 641B.160 - Regulations. The Board shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to desirable to enable it to carry out the provisions of this chapter. (Added to NRS 1987,1117).

**Information Concerning Board or Commission
Subject to Review by the
Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

List by LCB File No. and date of adoption the five regulations most recently adopted by the board or commission, with any applicable deadline for the adoption of any such regulation:

See Attachment "B"

List any required regulations that have not been adopted, with any applicable deadline for the adoption of any such regulation. Please identify each such regulation by LCB File No., if available, or by reference to the provision of NRS or Statutes of Nevada requiring adoption of the regulation:

None

Governing structure of the board or commission pursuant to statute:

NRS 641B.100 creates the Board of Examiners for Social Workers. The membership comprises four members appointed to the Board must be licensed or eligible for licensure and one member is a member of the general public.

Duties of the board or commission:

See Attachment "C"

Statement of the objectives and programs of the board or commission:

The Board of Examiners for Social Workers was established in 1987 under the provisions of NRS Chapter 641B to protect the public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that only competent persons practice social work in the State.

The Board is responsible for administration, enacting regulations and enforcement of laws and regulations relating to the practice of social work in Nevada. The Board licenses qualified social workers and regulates the professional practice of social work throughout the State.

**Information Concerning Board or Commission
Subject to Review by the
Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

**Itemized list of services offered
by the board or commission:**

See Attachment "D"

**Dates of the immediately
preceding six meetings and
the online location where the
minutes can be found:**

See Attachment "E"

**Statutory tax exemptions,
abatements, or money set aside
for the board or commission:**

There are no statutory tax exemptions or abatements.
Money set aside for the Board is comprised of fees in excess of expenses which are retained in a savings account for future needs of the Board such as unplanned expenses for legal actions and prosecution of disciplinary actions.

**Description of the manner in
which the board or commission
is funded, including all funding
sources:**

The Board is funded from licensing fees collected from social workers. The Board does not receive funds from the State's General Fund.

The Board receives miscellaneous income from interest on Board funds and fees received for a mailing list of all licensees.

**Please identify any forms
required by the board or
commission to be used by
members of the public which
are not available for
downloading from the web site
of the board or commission:**

All forms required by the Board are available for completion or downloading on the Board's website.

**Information Concerning Board or Commission
Subject to Review by the
Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

Does the board or commission have any recommendations for consolidation with another board or commission? If so, which one(s) could be revised to include the charge to the board or commission that is the subject of this review?

None

Does the board or commission believe that its objectives and programs have been effective in accomplishing the purposes for which the board or commission was created? Please explain the response with any information the board or commission believes is relevant:

See Attachment "F"

Any recommendations for statutory changes which are necessary for the board or commission to carry out its objectives and programs:

See Attachment "G"

If additional space is necessary, please attach additional pages and refer to the attachments on the form.

Please include with this form:

1. The operating budget of the board or commission. - **Attachment "H"**
2. A statement setting forth the income and expenses of the board or commission for at least 3 years immediately preceding the date on which the board or commission submits this form, including the balances of any fund or account maintained by or on behalf of the board or commission. - **Attachment "I"**
3. The most recent legislative audit or other audit of the board or commission, and any efficiency studies or constituent or staff surveys conducted in the past 3 years. - **Attachment "J"**
4. Any reports required to be filed with the Legislative or Executive Branch over the past 3 years. Please indicate if any reports were filed late or have not been filed. - **Attachment "K"**
5. A copy of the organizational chart showing the governing structure of the board or commission and its staff. - **Attachment "L"**
6. A copy of the most recent strategic plan of the board or commission. - **Attachment "M"**

For occupational and professional licensing boards and commissions, please provide the following additional information:

1. Statement of the fee charged for each license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization issued by the board or commission. - **Attachment "N"**
2. Statement of how frequently each license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization issued by the board or commission must be renewed and the fee charged for such renewal. - **Attachment "O"**
3. For each license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization issued by the board or commission, list the fee charged for an equivalent license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization in each of the following states: Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Utah. - **Attachment "P"**
4. For each license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization issued by the board or commission, provide a statement of how frequently an equivalent license, certificate, registration, permit, or other similar authorization must be renewed and the fee charged for such renewal in the following states: Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Utah. - **Attachment "P"**

Attachment "A"

STAFF MEMBERS' NAMES INCLUDING TITLES AND STATUS AS FULL TIME OR PART-TIME.

Karen Barsell, LISW, Executive Director (FT)
Sandra Lowery, LCSW, LCADC, Deputy Executive Director (PT)
Kim Frakes, LCSW, Director of Social Work Practice (FT) - *Retiring 05/30/2018*
Moinette LaBrie, Program Assistant IV (FT) - *Retiring 06/30/2018*
Lelani Weaver, Administrative Assistant II (FT)
Caroline Rhuys, Legal Secretary I (FT)
Investigator position (PT) currently open

Attachment "B"

LIST BY LCB FILE NO. AND DATE OF ADDOPTION, THE FIVE REGULATIONS MOST RECENTLY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION, WITH ANY APPLICABLE DEADLINES FOR SUCH REGULATION.

- LCB File No. R110-17 adopted 12/15/2017; submitted to Legislative Commission on 02/28/2017.
- LCB File No. T001-16 adopted 10/21/2016; submitted to Secretary of State on 01/30/2017.
- LCB File No. R025-14 adopted 06/20/2014; approved by Legislative Commission on 10/24/2014.
- LCB File No. R142-08 adopted 10/23/2008; approved by Legislative Commission on 02/11/2009.
- LCB File No. R122-06 adopted 06/07/2006; approved by Legislative Commission on 07/14/2006

Attachment "C"

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION

1. Enforce the provisions of NRS 641B and NAC 641B regulations;
2. Prepare and maintain a record of its proceedings, including administrative proceedings;
3. Evaluate the qualifications and determine the eligibility of an applicant for a license as a social worker and issue the appropriate license to a qualified applicant;
4. Adopt regulations establishing ethical conduct and standards of practice for persons licensed pursuant to NRS 641B and NAC 641B;
5. Monitor continuing competency through requirement for, and auditing of, continuing education units (CEUs) by individuals holding a social work license;
6. Authorize social workers to engage in certification and decertification of legal holds;
7. Investigate any complaint filed with the Board against a licensee; and
8. Hold hearings and make determinations for disciplinary action for violations of NRS 641B and NAC 641B.

Attachment "D"

ITEMIZED LIST OF SERVICES OFFERED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION.

The Board provides the following services to the public and licensees:

1. Responds to consumer inquiries regarding social work services;
2. Provides informational resources on requirements for licensing in this state;
3. Provides informational resources regarding scope of practice and ethical conduct;
4. Reviews and approves license applications and licenses qualified social workers;
5. Reviews and approves post-graduate clinical and independent internships;
6. Monitor licensees in post-graduate clinical and independent internships;
7. Provide training for internship supervisors;
8. Investigates complaints and when appropriate engages in a disciplinary process;
9. Provides referrals to appropriate agencies, and state and national organizations;
10. Provides information regarding Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements and resources to obtain CEUs;
11. Holds public workshops and hearings on laws and regulations; and proposed revisions to such;
12. Maintains an interactive website which provides access to forms for both applicants, licensees and general public, verification of individual license credentials and disciplinary actions, public meeting information, current news from the Board, and links to resources;
13. Maintains a listserv to communicate information to licensees and other stakeholders electronically;
14. Offer workshops to graduating social workers on applying for licensing and exam preparation twice a year at UNR and UNLV; and
15. Live in-person telephone responses and drop in office hours.

Attachment "E"

DATES OF THE PRECEDING SIX MEETINGS AND THE ONLINE LOCATION WHERE THE MINUTES CAN BE FOUND

- 04/20/2018 (Board Meeting)
- 03/09/2018 (Board Meeting)
- 02/15/2018 (Disciplinary Hearing and Board Meeting)
- 12/15/2017 (Public Hearing and Board Meeting)
- 11/03/2017 (Public Workshop)
- 10/20/2017 (Board Meeting)

Meeting information is available on our website.

<http://socwork.nv.gov/board/Meetings/2018/2018/>

Attachment "F"

DOES THE BOARD BELIEVE THAT ITS OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN ACCOMPLISHING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE BOARD WAS CREATED.

The Board believes that it's track record has been very good in certain areas and is improving in others.

1. **Initial licensing** - Applications are processed in an expedient manner and Board staff provides education at both UNR and UNLV for graduating students to assist them in preparing their applications and preparing for the national licensing test they will have to take.
2. **Licensure by endorsement** - These applications are also process in a much more expedient manner, in part due to legislative changes as well as improved processes in the office. In 2014 there were 24 endorsed licenses granted; in 2015 it was 47, in 2016 it was 57, and in 2017 it was 102. These licenses are typically approved within 30 days.
3. **Renewals** - In 2015 there were 2272 licenses renewed, in 2016 it was 2309, and in 2017 it was 2404. The Board has approved a new vendor for online licensing and the contract is being prepared for approval by the Board of Examiners.
4. **Monitoring continued competence (CEUs)** - The Board has streamlined the approval process for CEUs, automatically accepting CEUs provided by the National Association of Social Worker (NASW) and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). Additionally recent changes in our NACs now allows licensees to complete all of their CEUs electronically if so chosen.
5. **Authorizing certification / decertification of legal holds** - The Board has developed a process for approving LCSWs to certify / decertify legal holds. To date, 10 LCSW have requested this approval.
6. **Complaints and Disciplinary** - This is the major area in which the Board had failed to accomplish the purposes of the Board. To address this, in March 2017, the Board rearranged office staff and have designated one full-time staff and hired a part-time investigator to deal with the backlog of disciplinary cases that existed. These changes have allowed the Board to deal with both the backlog of complaints while processing the new complaints in a timely manner.

Attachment "G"

ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATUTORY CHANGES WICH ARE NECESSARY FOR THE BOARD TO CARRY OUT ITS OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMS.

The Board has not been granted any fee increases since 1995. Efforts were made to increase fee ceilings in 2013 and 2015. These efforts were unsuccessful. It has taken the Board 30 years to reach the maximum fees allowable by the legislature.

In 2019, the Board is hoping to increase the fees in two areas –

1. Raising the application fee from \$40.00 (established in 1995) to up to \$100.00. This will generate approximately \$21,000 annually
2. Change the initial license fee for the LCSW / LISW so that it matches the renewal fee. This will generate approximately \$7,500 annually.

Anticipated Use of Funds

1. Rebuild the depleted reserve funds.
2. Upgrade computer system and purchase next module for online initial applications.
3. Attorney's fees and disciplinary costs.

The table below shows the history of fee changes granted through NRS and where the Board is in terms of reaching the fee ceilings established in NRS 641B.

	Fee Ceilings – Legislature (NRS)			Fee Implementation – Board (NAC)				Current
	1987	1993	1995	Before 1994	1998	2002	2014	2017
LSW / LASW								
Application fee	25.00		40.00	25.00	40.00			At Ceiling
Initial issuance of license	100.00			50.00	60.00	75.00	100.00	At Ceiling
Renewal	150.00			50.00	60.00	75.00	100.00	
Restoration of revoked license	100.00		150.00	100.00	150.00			At Ceiling
Endorsement	100.00			100.00	100.00			At Ceiling
Initial issuance of provisional license		75.00		50.00	60.00			At Ceiling
Restoration of expired license			200.00		150.00		200.00	At Ceiling
Restoration of delinquent license			100.00		30.00	40.00	100.00	At Ceiling
LCSW / LISW								
Application fee	25.00			25.00	40.00			At Ceiling
Initial issuance of license	100.00			100.00				At Ceiling
Renewal	150.00			100.00	125.00	150.00		At Ceiling
Restoration of revoked license	100.00		150.00	100.00	150.00			At Ceiling
Endorsement	100.00			100.00				At Ceiling
Initial issuance of provisional license		75.00		75.00				At Ceiling
Restoration of expired license			200.00		150.00		200.00	At Ceiling
Restoration of delinquent license			100.00	50.00	60.00	75.00	100.00	At Ceiling

Attachment "N"

STATEMENT OF THE FEE CHARGED FOR EACH LICENSE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, PERMIT OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION.

The Board of Examiners for Social Workers is a self-funded occupational Board, receiving no money from the state's General Fund. Our budget is based on the fees that are collected annually. Fees limits for the Board are set through the legislature in **NRS 641B.300**.

NRS 641B.300 Fees. *[Effective until 2 years after the date of the repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 666, the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]*

1. The Board shall charge and collect fees not to exceed the following amounts for:

Initial application	\$40
Provisional license	75
Initial issuance of a license, including a license by endorsement	100
Annual renewal of a license	150
Restoration of a suspended license or reinstatement of a revoked license . .	150
Restoration of an expired license	200
Renewal of a delinquent license.	100
Reciprocal license without examination.	100

2. If an applicant submits an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to [NRS 641B.271](#), the Board shall charge and collect not more than the fees specified in subsection 1 for the initial application for and initial issuance of a license.
3. If an applicant submits an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to [NRS 641B.272](#), the Board shall collect not more than one-half of the fee set forth in subsection 1 for the initial issuance of the license.

(Added to NRS by [1987, 1120](#); A [1993, 132](#); [1995, 451](#); [1997, 2157](#); [2005, 792, 2807](#); [2015, 3035, 3915](#))

The specific fees for each category (within the ceilings granted by the NRS 641B.300) are determined by the Board through **NAC 641B.115**. As a reference, we have included **an additional column that shows whether the fee category is currently at the maximum allowable per NRS 641B.300**.

NAC 641B.115 Fees ([NRS 641B.160](#), [641B.300](#)) An applicant must pay the following fees for licensure:

	Fees as of January 1, 2015
LICENSED ASSOCIATE OF SOCIAL WORK (LASW) *	
Annual Renewal	100.00
Restoration of a Revoked License	150.00

	Fees as of January 1, 2015
Restoration of an Expired License	200.00
Renewal of a Delinquent License	100.00
LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER (LSW)	
Initial Application	40.00
Initial Issuance of a License	100.00
Annual Renewal	100.00
Restoration of a Revoked License	150.00
Restoration of an Expired License	200.00
Renewal of a Delinquent License	100.00
Endorsement License without Examination	100.00
Initial Issuance of a Provisional License	75.00
Annual Renewal of a Provisional License	75.00
LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER (LCSW) LICENSED INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKER (LISW)	
Initial Application	40.00
Initial Issuance of a License	100.00
Annual Renewal	150.00
Restoration of a Revoked License	150.00
Restoration of an Expired License	200.00
Renewal of a Delinquent License	100.00
Endorsement License without Examination	100.00
Initial Issuance of a Provisional License	75.00

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Exam'rs for Social Workers, eff. 9-20-88; A 11-28-89; 10-25-93; 11-8-95; R113-98, 1-13-99; R079-02, 1-9-2003; R142-08, 2-11-2009; R025-14, 10-24-2014, eff. 1-1-2015)

* The LASW license was closed as an available initial license in 1995. This license can only be renewed by those individuals still holding this level of license.

Attachment "O"

STATEMENT OF HOW FREQUENTLY EACH LICENSE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, PERMIT OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MUST BE RENEWED AND THE FEE CHARGED FOR SUCH RENEWAL.

Social Workers renew their licenses on an annual basis. Renewal is done by birthday month and the Board processes approximately 205 renewals per month. The method of renewal allows for a stable flow of income for the Board.

	Fees as of January 1, 2015
LICENSED ASSOCIATE OF SOCIAL WORK (LASW)	
Annual Renewal	100.00
LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER (LSW)	
Annual Renewal	100.00
Annual Renewal of a Provisional License	75.00
LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER (LCSW) LICENSED INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKER (LISW)	
Annual Renewal	150.00

Attachment "P"

FOR EACH LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, PERMIT, OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION, LIST THE FEE CHARGED FOR AN EQUIVALENT LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, PERMIT, OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING STATES: ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, OREGON, AND UTAH.

FOR EACH LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, PERMIT, OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OR COMMISSION, PROVIDE A STATEMENT OF HOW FREQUENTLY AN EQUIVALENT LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, PERMIT, OR OTHER SIMILAR AUTHORIZATION MUST BE RENEWED AND THE FEE CHARGED FOR SUCH RENEWAL IN THE FOLLOWING STATES: ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, OREGON, AND UTAH.

The Board has attached a table that details the license levels of Nevada and the five surrounding states. The table includes the fees for initial licensing, endorsement and renewal.

Comparison of Fees for Social Work Boards in States that Border Nevada

	Nevada	Arizona	California	Idaho	Oregon	Utah
Initial Licensure						
Application for Licensure	Initial (40.00) Endorsement (140.00)	250.00	Initial (100.00) Endorsement (200.00)	Initial (70.00) Endorsement (90.00)	See below 150.00 (application and license)	See below 85.00 (application and license)
BSW Level License	100.00	100.00	N / A	80.00	200.00 (application and license)	85.00 (application and license)
MSW Level License	100.00	100.00	N / A	80.00	460.00 (application and license)	120.00 (application and license)
Clinical Level License	100.00	250.00	100.00	90.00		
Renewals						
BSW	Annual (100.00)	Biennial (350.00)	N / A	Annual (80.00)	Biennial (110.00)	Annual (78.00)
MSW	Annual (100.00)	Biennial (350.00)	N / A	Annual (80.00)	Biennial (220.00)	Annual (78.00)
Clinical	Annual (150.00)	Biennial (350.00)	Biennial (120.00)	Annual (90.00)	Biennial (286.00)	Annual (93.00)
Funding Stream for Boards	Self funded with no monies from general fund	Self funded but under an umbrella agency that serves 4 other boards and commissions	Unknown Made more than a dozen calls to the California Board of Behavioral Sciences and could not reach a person nor get a return call	Self funded but under an umbrella agency that serves 31 other boards and commissions	Self funded with no monies from general fund	Under umbrella agency that serves 81 other boards and commissions. Boards are funded by legislative general fund and Boards return fee income to the state. Any deficit absorbed by state. Utah has contracted out the processing of applications to Association of Social Work Boards. Any problem applications are referred to the Board for resolution.

SUNSET SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

What is the practice of Social Work (LSW)?

"Social work" means the application of methods, principles and techniques of case work, group work, community organization, administration, planning, consultation and research to assist persons, groups or communities to enhance or restore their ability to function physically, socially and economically (NRS 641B.030). This individual may have either bachelor's or master's degree.

What is the practice of Clinical Social Work (LCSW)?

"Clinical social work" means the application of methods, principles and techniques of case work, group work, community organization, administration, planning, consultation, research and psychotherapeutic methods and techniques to persons, families and groups to help in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional conditions (NRS 641B.030). These individuals have completed a 3000-hour post-graduate internship in mental and behavioral health and addiction.

What is the practice of Independent Social Work (LISW)?

"Independent social work" means the ability to assist persons, groups, agencies, organizations or communities to enhance or restore their ability to function physically, socially and economically by the application of methods, principles and techniques of case work, group work, community organization, administration, planning, consultation, research. These individuals have also completed a 3000-hour post-graduate internship in macro level practice.

What is the practice of an Associate of Social Work (LASW)?

When the state gave authority to license social workers, there was an awareness that there were individuals in social work positions throughout the state that would not qualify for a LSW license since they did not have a degree in social work. The licensure category was open from 1988 to 1995. The LASW has the same scope of practice as a LSW.

Brief History of the Board of Examiners for Social Workers in NRS and NACs.

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS)

1987	SB 234 created Board of Examiners for Social Worker and declared that "The practice of social work is hereby declared a learned profession, affecting public safety and welfare and charged with the public interest, and is therefore subject to protection and regulation by the State."
1997	SB 356 established procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the social work licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with processes relating to paternity of child support proceedings.

1993	AB 355 allowed for the granting of provisional licenses.
1995	AB 477 specified that the Board would stop granting the associate in social work license (LASW) after June 19, 1995.
2003	AB 155 specified that applicants for licensure must submit a complete set of fingerprints which would be forwarded to the FBI for its report.
2009	SB 362 required that complaints be retained for 10 years and added additional areas as subject to disciplinary action.
2015	AB 89 provided authority for expedited licensing by endorsement for veterans, members of the military and families and established timelines for such applications. SB 68 provided authority for expedited licensing by endorsement for individuals not associated with the military.
2017	AB 19 revised veteran-related information reporting on licensees who have applied, been issued and renewed a license. SB 17 added additional questions that must be answered by a veteran applying for licensure. SB328 established parameters for Board Attorneys and Executive Directors, revised the disciplinary process for certain regulatory bodies which administer occupational licensing; and revised requirements for certain regulatory bodies of this State to prepare a balance sheet or hire a public accountant or accounting firm to conduct an audit of the body for a fiscal year. AB457 provided requiring the Board of Examiners for Social Workers to report certain information to the Legislative Committee on Health Care; required new members of those boards to complete an orientation; required our Board to adopt certain policies and regulations; and authorizing a person aggrieved by certain actions of those boards to appeal to the Commission; requiring the Commission to review all regulations adopted by those boards.

Nevada Administrative Code (NACs)

The first regulations of the Board were adopted effective on 09/20/1988 and set the foundation for the Board. Several more sets of regulations were approved in 1988 and 1999 to facilitate implementation of the NRS. The Board has typically considered regulation changes after legislative sessions and

R112-00	Approved by Legislative Commission on 01/17/2001: Addressed delinquent licenses and a process of restoration; clarified renewal of provisional licenses; clarified the duties of Board approved CEU providers; and detailed process for managing accusations and complaints.
R079-02	Approved by Legislative Commission on 01/09/2003: Clarified parameters associated with reciprocity; specified exams that would be required for licensure; provided some fee increases; allowed for "distance learning" for a portion of CEUs.
R142-08	Approved by Legislative Commission on 02/11/2009: Address substantially equivalent requirements for reciprocity of a license from

	another state; for the first time the Board stipulated CEU requirements, including requirements for ethics and education in a licensee's field of practice; increased CEU requirements for LISW/LCSW; stipulated the number of CEUs that could be earned through "distance learning;" and expanded self-reporting areas.
R025-14	Approved by Legislative Commission on 10/24/2014: Added requirements passed in the 2013 legislative session regarding restoration of a license for someone who owed a state agency money; clarified requirements for licensure via endorsement; added requirement for fingerprint for an individual seeking to restore a license; and increased selected fees. This regulation change allowed the Board to begin to set aside money to pursue online licensing.
R018-16	Approved by Legislative Commission on 06/28/2016: Added requirements passed in the 2015 legislative session regarding (1) endorsement of licensure for individuals coming to Nevada from another state and (2) enacted legislative mandate for suicide prevention CEUs; it distinguished the endorsement requirement for individuals that held licenses in another state for a period of 5 years or more and those with less than 5 years of practice; it amended supervision requirements for individuals in post-graduate clinical or independent internships;
R110-17	Approved by Legislative Commission on 02/27/2018: Further streamlined the endorsement process by removing the 5 year marker; make substantial changes in CEUs allowing for all CEUs to be earned electronically; reduced the time an application will be considered open; changed the configurations of hours counted in post-graduate clinical internships; and required LISW/LCSW to establish a professional will.

2017 Legislative Session

At the beginning of the 2017 legislative session, there was a focus on eliminating the four behavioral licensing Boards and move them collectively under the Board of Health. During negotiations before and during the legislative sessions, the Social Work Board individually decided to make significant changes to retain its independence. Some of those changes were the following –

- The Board moved an existing employee into the Director of Social Work Practice to address the backlog of disciplinary cases (employee was formerly the Executive Director);
- The Board hired an Interim Executive Director for coverage of Executive Director functions;
- The Board began a search for a new Executive Director and filled this position on April 2, 2018.
- Increased BESW staff salaries commensurate to market trends as recommended in a State of Nevada Behavioral Health Study;
- Updating the website itself, including changing language on the site, reorganizing the information being presented, making the links more effective, etc.
- Updating the licensure applications so that they are all PDF fillable and including a checklist of items that must be submitted with each application;

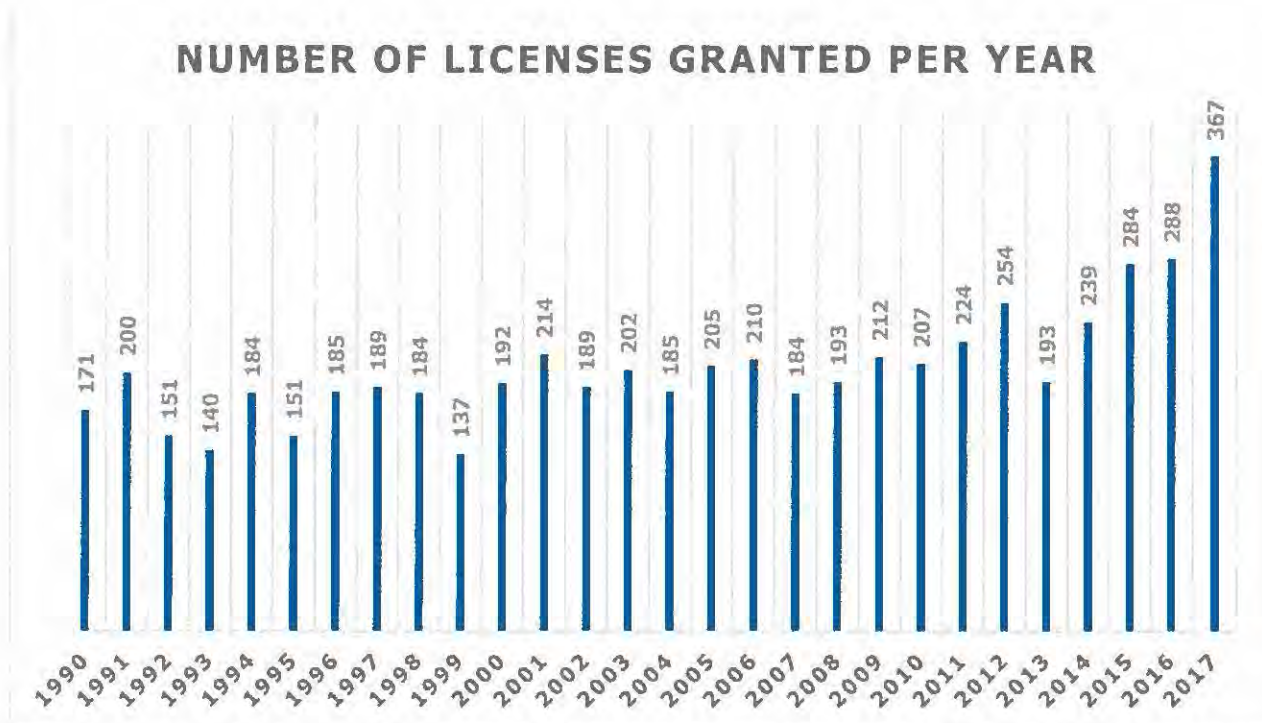
- Development of the listserv for licenses and have updated our applications and renewals to require an email address. This will be the mechanism for communicating with licensees in the future, this will remove the use of postcards;
- Made Continuing Education Unit (CEU) approval easier for licensees by automatically approving any trainings that were approved by Association of Social Work Boards or the National Association of Social Workers;
- Moved Interim Executive Director to Deputy Director position to cover general functions, post-graduate internship program; staff transition – April 2018;
- Contracting to procure a customized off-the-shelf licensing / regulatory software system that converts the BESW existing database to an online web-based program for licensing renewals.
- Payout of two retirement packages for Director of Social Work Practice – May 2018 and Program Assistant IV – June 2018.

Licensing Numbers

The Board was created by Legislative action, effective June 15, 1987 and licensing activities began in 1988. We were initially give four licensure types –

- Associate in Social Work (LASW)
- Social Worker (LSW)
- Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Independent Social Worker (LISW)

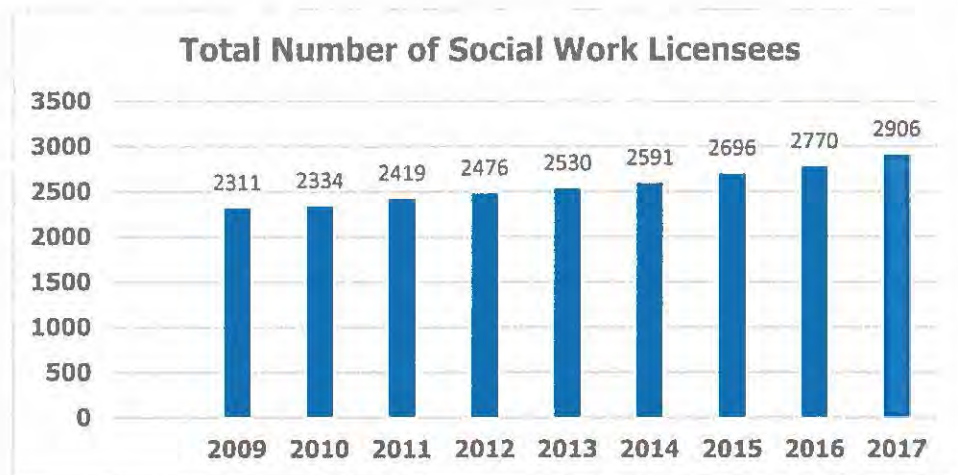
In 1995 the LASW license was removed as an available license type.



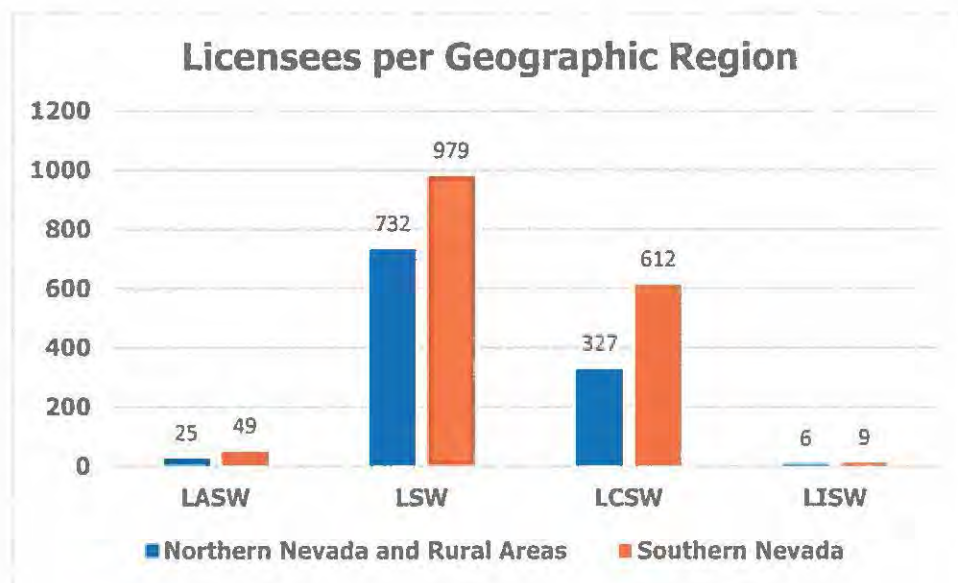
As the numbers show, there has been a steady increase in the number of licenses granted each year, especially after the Legislative session in 2015 where the process of endorsement was streamlined for us.

LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT				
Year	Number Granted	LSW	LCSW	LISW
2014	24	7	16	1
2015	49	16	33	0
2016	57	12	45	0
2017	102	22	80	0
1 st quarter 2018	25	6	19	0

When we look at the total number of licensees in the state, these numbers have also steadily increased.



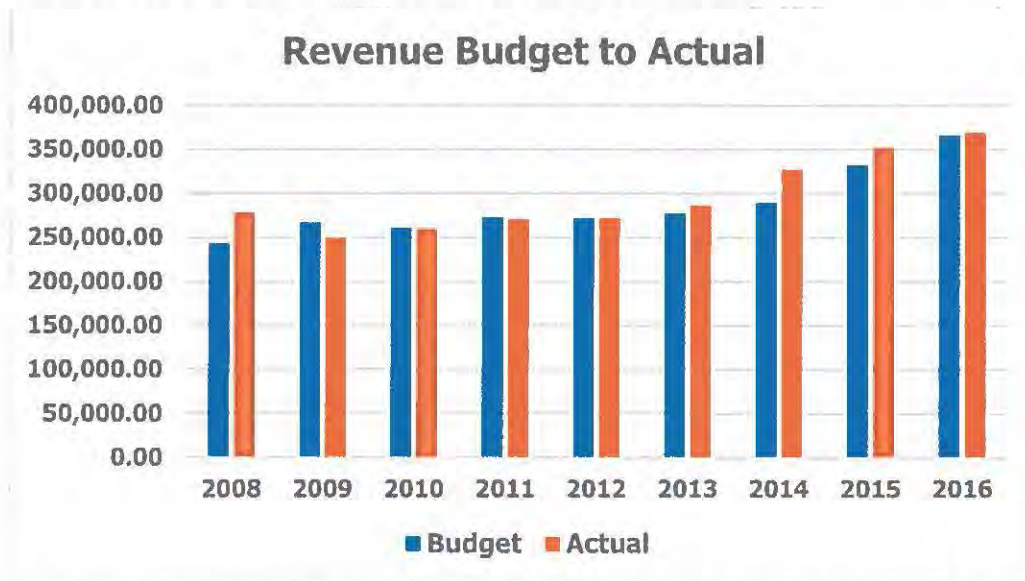
Breaking down the numbers of licensees, per license type, regionally, we see the following information.



Fiscal Information

The Social Work Board is self-funded and receives no money from the State of Nevada General Fund. Attached, you have the balance sheets for the last three fiscal years (FY).

Below you will see how the increase in number of licenses and renewals has been reflected in the revenue stream for the Board. Over the years, the Board has been conservative in projections about revenue so that it doesn't risk not being able to pay its bills.



The Board has historically been conservative with its spending and large outlays of money have tended to fall into two categories, (1) retirement payouts; (2) legal fees. The Board has sought to maintain a reserve amount enough to pay for legal fees on cases that went to hearing and operating expenses.

The table below shows the reserve amounts the Board has maintained in the last nine years.

