

Most states offer licensure or certification for social work practice at the bachelor level, though requirements vary by state. Below is information about each state's BSW licensure/certification, any additional requirements beyond a BSW degree, and a link to the state's website for additional information. In addition to what is listed below, most states require some form of background check and proof of citizenship, so applicants are strongly encouraged to review these requirements for licensure/certification prior to applying. If students are completing a double major, they are strongly encouraged to list BSW as their primary degree to ensure compatibility with future licensure/certification.

KEY:

LSW / LBSW = Licensed [Bachelor] Social Worker

CSW = Certified Social Worker

CSWM = Certified Social Work Manager

RSW / RBSW = Registered [Bachelor] Social Worker

SSW = Social Service Worker

LSWA = Licensed Social Work Associate

State/Territory	BSW-Level certification/licensure offered	Does Creighton's curriculum meet educational requirements?	Additional requirements/details	State Website
Alabama	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 24 months (96 hours) of supervision upon receiving licensure	AL Board of Social Work Examiners
Alaska	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 3 professional references (see application for reference requirements)	AK Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners
Arizona	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	AZ Board of Behavioral Health Examiners
Arkansas	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	AR Social Work Licensing Board
California	none	N/A		CA Board of Behavioral Sciences
Colorado	none	N/A		CO Board of Social Work Examiners
Connecticut	none	N/A		CT Dept. of Public Health
Delaware	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	DE Board of Social Work Examiners
District of Columbia	LSWA	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 3 reference forms (2 must be social workers)	DC Health
Florida	none	N/A		FL Board
Georgia	none	N/A		GA Secretary of State
Guam	LBSW	Yes	3 letters of reference (1 required from field instructor if graduated within 6 months); ASWB exam is waived with BSW degree from CSWE accredited program	Guam Board of Social Work

State/Territory	BSW-Level certification/licensure offered	Does Creighton's curriculum meet educational requirements?	Additional requirements/details	State Website
Hawaii	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	HI Dept. of Commerce & Consumer Affairs
Idaho	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	ID Board of Social Work Examiners
Illinois	LSW	Yes	3 years supervised professional experience before applying (min. 4 hours per month)	IL Dept. of Financial & Professional Regulation
Indiana	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	IN Professional Licensing Agency
Iowa	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	IA Board of Social Work
Kansas	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 3 references (1 must be supervisor from field experience; other 2 must be licensed social workers)	KS Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board
Kentucky	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	KY Board of Social Work
Louisiana	RSW	Yes	fee & application	LA Board of Social Work Examiners
Maine	LS	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 2-4 years of supervision upon receiving licensure (3200 hours, 96 hours of supervision)	ME Professional & Financial Regulation
Maryland	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	MD Dept. of Health
Massachusetts	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 3 references (1 must be supervisor from field experience)	MA Board of Registration of Social Workers
Michigan	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, human trafficking and implicit bias training, 4000 hours of post-degree supervised experience for at least 2 years (must apply for a limited license while accruing these hours)	MI Board of Social Work
Minnesota	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	MN Board of Social Work
Mississippi	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam (may sit prior to graduation), must be 21 years old	MS State Board of Examiners
Missouri	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam (may sit prior to graduation), 2-hour suicide prevention training	MO Division of Professional Registration

This data was compiled by Cathy Fox, MSW on June 1, 2024, in compliance with federal regulations.

State/Territory	BSW-Level certification/licensure offered	Does Creighton's curriculum meet educational requirements?	Additional requirements/details	State Website
Montana	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 2000 hours of post-degree supervised experience for at least 18 months (must apply for LBSW Candidate while accruing these hours)	MT Board of Behavioral Health
Nebraska	CSW	Yes	fee & application (fee waived for individuals younger than 26, low-income, or military family)	NE Dept. of Health & Human Services
Nevada	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, must be 21 years old	NV Board of Examiners
New Hampshire	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 4000 hours of post-degree supervised experience within 2-4 years (100 supervision hours)	NH Board of Mental Health Practice
New Jersey	CSW	Yes	fee & application	NJ Division of Consumer Affairs
New Mexico	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 2 character references; jurisprudence exam; completion of NM cultural course, workshop, or exam	NM Regulation & Licensing Dept.
New York	none	N/A		NY Office of the Professions
North Carolina	CSW, CSWM	Yes, Yes	CSW: ASWB Bachelors exam, 3 professional references CSWM: ASWB Advanced Generalist exam, 3000 hours post-degree paid employment, 100 hours supervision, 3 professional references, 5 years administration experience	NC Certification & Licensure Board
North Dakota	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 3 references (must be from social work faculty, field social work supervisor, and one licensed social worker)	ND Board of Social Work Examiners
Ohio	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	OH CSWMFT Board
Oklahoma	LSWA	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	OK State Board of Licensed Social Workers
Oregon	RBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, jurisprudence exam	OR Board of Licensed Social Workers
Pennsylvania	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam, 3-hour child abuse training	PA Dept. of State

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State/Territory	BSW-Level certification/licensure offered	Does Creighton's curriculum meet educational requirements?	Additional requirements/details	State Website
Puerto Rico	LSW	unable to determine	Legal resident of Puerto Rico; 3 references from licensed social workers in PR; 3 years post-degree full time practice as social worker (apply for provisional license during this time)	PR State Department
Rhode Island	none	N/A		RI Dept. of Health
South Carolina	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	SC Board of Social Work Examiners
South Dakota	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 3 professional references	SD Board of Social Work Examiners
Tennessee	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	TN Health Professional Boards
Texas	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; jurisprudence exam (Note: you must graduate and pass both of these exams prior to applying for licensure)	TX Board of Social Worker Examiners
Utah	SSW	Yes	fee & application	UT Dept. of Commerce
Vermont	none	N/A		VT Secretary of State
Virgin Islands	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 3 letters of reference (2 professional & 1 character)	VI Dept. of Licensing & Consumer Affairs
Virginia	LBSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	VA Dept. of Health Professions
Washington	none	N/A		WA Dept. of Health
West Virginia	LSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; 3 professional references	WV Board of Social Work
Wisconsin	CSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam; jurisprudence exam	WI Dept. of Safety & Professional Services
Wyoming	CSW	Yes	ASWB Bachelors exam	WY Mental Health Professions Licensing Board

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