

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS REGARDING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF A LICENSE

Continuing education is a requirement in law for renewal of licensure. This applies to all licensees unless they currently have an inactive license.

EXCERPT FROM STATE LAW: 32 M.R.S. §7060. Expiration and renewals - Each renewal is contingent upon evidence of participation in a continuing professional education course or program as approved by the board.

Beginning January 1, 2020, an applicant for license renewal shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the board a one-time successful completion of a minimum of 12 hours of course work in family or intimate partner violence, including course work in spousal or partner abuse that addresses screening, referral and intervention strategies, including knowledge of community resources, cultural factors, evidence-based risk assessment and same-gender abuse dynamics.

A licensee who is no longer actively practicing social work may apply for an inactive status license pursuant to Title 10, section 8003, subsection 5-A, paragraph D, subparagraph (5). The holder of an inactive status license may not practice social work in the State.

Board Rules Chapter 13(9)(1); 9. Inactive Status A licensee may apply for an inactive status license pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §7060. **If a licensee applies for an inactive status license during the 3 months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's active license, the licensee shall demonstrate compliance with the continuing education requirements in Chapter 14 of the board's rules.**

Pursuant to Board Rules, Chapter 14, Section 1, the Board has established the following continuing educational requirements:

1. **25 Contact Hours Required for License Renewal** Except as set forth in 10 M.R.S. §8003(5-A)(D)(4), **no license will be renewed unless the licensee has completed 25 contact hours** of continuing professional education directly related to the practice of social work during the preceding biennial license term as set forth in this chapter and has completed the course work in family or intimate partner violence required by 32 M.R.S. §7060, if applicable.
2. **Licensed Social Worker-Conditional: Ethics and Assessment** For holders of a licensed social worker-conditional license, at least 6 of the 25 contact hours must be earned in social work ethics and at least 6 of the 25 contact hours must be earned in psychosocial assessment.
3. **All Other Licensees: Ethics** For all other licensees, at least 4 of the 25 contact hours must be earned in social work ethics.

The above information has been excerpted from the Maine Board of Social Worker Licensure laws and rules. It is not the board's complete laws and rules. To review the complete laws and rules, please go to the website for the board via the following link:

<https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/state-board-social-worker-licensure/home/laws-rules>

If you have any questions, please call board staff at (207) 624-8674 or email to socwkr.board@maine.gov