

TITLE 16 OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
CHAPTER 63 SOCIAL WORKERS
PART 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

16.63.1.1 ISSUING AGENCY: Regulation and Licensing Department – Board of Social Work Examiners,
P.O Box 25101, Santa Fe, NM 87504
[16.63.1.1 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.1 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.2 SCOPE: All baccalaureate social workers, masters social workers, clinical social workers, and
independent social workers.
[16.63.1.2 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.2 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: These parts are promulgated to the Social Work Practice Act,
Sections 61-31-1 to 25 NMSA 1978.
[16.63.1.3 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.3 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.4 DURATION: Permanent.
[16.63.1.4 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.4 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: October 7, 2025, unless a different date cited at the end of this section.
[16.63.1.5 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.5 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.6 OBJECTIVE: To define terms relevant to social work licensing, public versus non-public
records, license display, and board governance.
[16.63.1.6 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.6 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.7 DEFINITIONS:

- A.** Appropriate supervision:
- (1)** Supervision shall be provided by an individual qualified by the board of social work
examiners. Applicants and supervisors will engage in the process of supervision in accordance with the guidelines
established by the board.
 - (2)** Subject to subparagraph 3, below supervision for an LMSW seeking licensure as an
LCSW or LISW shall be provided by an LISW or LCSW or by a licensed psychiatrist psychologist or a license
professional clinical counselor who has been approved by the Board.
 - (3)** Any clinical work done by a LMSW must be completed under supervision.
 - (4)** The relationship between the supervisor and supervisee must be designed to promote the
development of professional social work skills for the delivery of social work services. These skills include the
integration of theory and practice, the development and application of intervention techniques, the development and
constant improvement of social work standards and ethics, and the continued acquisition of professional knowledge.
Within the limits set forth by the board, teleconferencing and group supervision will be accepted.
 - (5)** Supervisors shall evaluate and oversee the manner in which the above skills development
is reflected in the supervisee's practice. The supervisor's responsibility insures that the supervisee acquires the
necessary skills required for advanced and professional social work practice. Supervisors shall immediately notify
the board if there is a problem in the supervisory process or the supervisor sees the applicant as unsuitable for this
highest level of licensure.
 - (6)** Supervisors who are overseeing supervision of individuals as masters social workers
(LMSW) after aspiring to achieve licensure at the independent clinical level must comply with the board's
supervisory requirements as follows:
 - (a)** Complete a minimum six hour board approved supervision course for initial
approval. This course for initial approval may not be included as part of continuing education required for license
renewal;
 - (b)** Submit an application to become a board approved supervisor, prior to
commencing supervision of the applicant; and

(c) Execute a contract with a supervisee that includes the frequency of supervision, type of supervision, education goals, and a schedule for evaluation. The contract shall be maintained by the supervisor for four years following the completion of supervision. The contract may be requested by the board or the regulation and licensing department for review during the period of supervision or for a period of four years following the completion of supervision.

(7) Direct supervision: means face to face supervision between two licensees, which may include supervision through video-teleconferencing platforms that comply with ethical and confidentiality rules. At least 70 of the 100 required hours must be obtained through direct supervision.

(8) Group Supervision: means supervision other than direct supervision, rendered to no more than eight individual per group at a time. No more than 50 hours of the 100 required hours may be obtained through group supervision.

(9) Interdisciplinary Supervision: The board may accept supervision by other licensed clinical professionals to include, clinical psychologist, psychiatrists and professional clinical counselors. The supervising individual must be in good standing with their own professional licensing board. Board approval must be received prior to the commencement of supervision and no more than 30 hours of the required 100 hours may be obtained through non LISW/LCSW supervision. When the board approved supervisor is outside of the employing agency or organization, final decisions regarding clinical rest with the employment agency or organization.

B. Qualified applicants:

(1) means graduates from those programs having received accreditation by CSWE and those programs having candidacy status, conditional status, or under review status with CSWE.

(2) For those applicants who graduated from an institution of higher education before CSWE began to accredit programs (prior to 1974), the New Mexico board of social work examiners will require:

(a) a letter from university's registrar's office stating that the applicant's course of study culminated in a degree which was the equivalent of an emphasis or major in social work;

(b) demonstrated social work experience;

(c) documentation of social work licensure in a previous state; and

(d) concurrence among the majority professional members of the board that the transcripts reflect sufficient coursework in social work.

C. CSWE (council on social work education) accreditation: means those programs having received accreditation by CSWE and those programs having candidacy status or under review status with CSWE.

D. ASWB (association of social work board) refers to the organization composed of state and other jurisdictional boards and is responsible for administering licensing examinations and certifying continuing education course.

E. LBSW: a licensed baccalaureate social worker.

F. LMSW: a licensed masters social worker.

G. LISW: a licensed independent social worker.

H. LCSW: a licensed clinical social worker.

I. Cultural Awareness: Knowledge and sensitivity regarding cultural and impact of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification or expression, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, oppression immigration status, political beliefs, physical or mental disability, class, economic status and marital status while treating issues that clients present.

J. NASW: National Association of Social Workers.

[16.63.1.7 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.7 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.8 SCOPE OF PRACTICE: The scope of practice of any licensed social workers is set forth at 61-31-6 of the Act. The scope of practice for the clinical and independent social worker is further defined as set forth in 16.63.11. The scope of practice for masters social worker is further defined as set forth in 16.63.10 NMAC. The scope of practice for the baccalaureate social worker is further defined as set in 16.63.9.NMAC.

[16.63.1.8 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.8 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.9 AREA OF SPECIALIZATION: The board does not license by specialization. Licensee may request that the board's website reflect a licensee's area or areas of specialization based upon proof of accreditation by ASWB or NASW.

[16.63.1.9 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.9 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.10 COOPERATION WITH THE BOARD:

A. A social worker shall give full cooperation and assistance to the board of social work examiners and its committees, functions and duties with respect to licensing and disciplinary matters. Applicants and licensees shall respond promptly to any matters or inquiry by the board.

B. Failure to cooperate with the board in an investigation as required by 16.63.1.13 NMAC herein will constitute unprofessional behavior and may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension, revocation or denial of license, as provided by the Social Work Practice Act, Sections 61-31-1 through 61-31-25 NMSA 1978, as amended.

[16.63.1.10 NMAC - Rp, 16.63.1.1 NMAC, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.11 [RESERVED]

[16.63.1.11 NMAC - Repealed, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.12 [RESERVED]

[16.63.1.12 NMAC - Repealed, 10/07/2025]

16.63.1.13 [RESERVED]

[16.63.1.13 NMAC - Repealed, 10/07/2025]

HISTORY OF 16.63.1 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC History: The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the Commission of Public Records- States Records Center and Archives:

Rule 1, General Provisions, 12/1/89.

Rule 1, General Provisions, 8/13/90.

Rule 1, General Provisions, 4/15/91.

Rule 1, General Provisions, 5/22/92.

Rule 1, General Provisions, 12/5/94.

Rule 2, Definitions, 12/1/89.

Rule 2, Definitions, 4/15/91.

Rule 2, Definitions, 5/22/92.

Rule 2, Definitions, 12/5/94.

History of Repealed Material:

16.63.1 NMAC, General Provisions, filed 01/05/1995, was repealed and replaced with 16.63.1 NMAC, General Provisions, effective 10/07/2025.