

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK  
BRIEFS  
May 2017**

Questions regarding this information may be directed to [socialwork@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:socialwork@dhp.virginia.gov)

<p><b>BOARD MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>Yvonne Haynes, LCSW</b> <i>Chair</i></p> <p><b>John Salay, LCSW</b> <i>Vice-Chair</i></p> <p><b>Angelia Allen</b> Citizen Member</p> <p><b>Joseph Walsh, LCSW</b> Board Member</p> <p><b>Jamie M.D. Clancey, LCSW</b> Board Member</p> <p><b>Gloria Manns, LCSW</b> Board Member</p> <p><b>Maria Eugenia del Villar, LCSW</b> Board Member</p> <p><b>Canek Aguirre</b> Citizen Member</p> <p><b>Dolores Paulson, LCSW</b> Board Member</p> <p><b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b> Jaime Hoyle</p> <p><b>DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b> Jennifer Lang</p> <p><b>LICENSING MANAGER</b> Sarah Georgen</p>	<p><b>RECENT BOARD MEETING</b></p> <p>The Board of Social Work recently held a full board meeting on March 11, 2017. Please visit the <a href="#">Calendar of Events</a> to view the meeting minutes and stay up-to-date with the Board.</p> <p>The next full Board meeting will be held on August 11, 2017 and is open to the public.</p> <p><b>VIRGINIA REGULATORY TOWN HALL</b></p> <p>We encourage you to sign up and register as a Town Hall public user. <a href="#">Virginia's Regulatory Town Hall</a> is your source for information regarding proposed changes to Virginia's regulations including a meetings calendar and board minutes. You may also participate in online forums or sign up to receive email alerts.</p> <p><b>VIRGINIA'S OPIOID CRISIS DECLARED A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY</b></p> <p>On November 21, 2016 Governor McAuliffe issued a <a href="#">News Release</a> stating that State Health Commissioner Marissa Levine has declared Virginia's opioid abuse crisis a Public Health Emergency in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Visit the <a href="#">Virginia Department of Health</a> for more information. <a href="#">Download Commissioner Levine's message</a> to healthcare practitioners on dispensing Naloxone.</p> <p><b>REGISTRATION FOR VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ADDICTION DISEASE MANAGEMENT TRAININGS</b></p> <p>Expanding Care with the Virginia ARTS Benefit: Addressing The Disease of Addiction In Your Outpatient Clinic Removing the Frustration with Opiate Use. Read more about <a href="#">no cost statewide trainings for Clinicians and Behavioral Health Professionals</a>.</p> <p><b>2017 RENEWAL REMINDER</b></p> <p>All social work licenses must be renewed by June 30, 2017. Renewal notices were sent by mail and by e-mail to the address on file with the Board. For assistance with online transactions, please contact the Department of Health Professions' Data Call Center at (804) 367-4444. <b>Renewal applications</b> require your attestation of the required continuing education activities since the last renewal.</p> <p>As a reminder, in 2010, the Board introduced changes to the Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work to require licensees to renew their license on an <b>annual basis</b>, rather than a biennial basis. The amended Regulations became effective on December 30, 2015. The Regulations now require that CE hours be completed prior to licensure renewal in even years beginning with the 2017 renewals.</p> <p>For the <b>2017 renewal period</b>, Licensed Clinical Social Workers are required to have completed a minimum of 30 contact hours of continuing education and</p>
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Licensed Social Workers are required to have completed a minimum of 15 contact hours of continuing education from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017. A minimum of two of those hours must pertain to ethics or the standards of practice for the behavioral health professions or to laws governing the practice of social work in Virginia.

For the **upcoming 2018 renewal period**, Licensed Clinical Social Workers are required to have completed a minimum of 15 contact hours of continuing education and Licensed Social Workers are required to have completed a minimum of 7.5 contact hours of continuing education from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. A minimum of two of those hours must pertain to ethics or the standards of practice for the behavioral health professions or to laws governing the practice of social work in Virginia.

As a reminder, beginning with the June 30, 2018 renewal, the Virginia Board of Social Work is implementing an initiative to **“Go Green”** to reduce the number of paper renewal notices mailed by the Board. **PAPER RENEWAL NOTICES WILL NO LONGER BE MAILED BY THE BOARD.** Email renewal notices will be sent to all licensees at least 45 days prior to the renewal deadline. Please ensure that your email and mailing address remains up-to-date through [Online Licensing](#) or the [Name/Address Change form](#).

**VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION**

In response to a legislative mandate, the Board has adopted regulations **effective March 9, 2017** to allow up to two continuing education hours for renewal to be satisfied through delivery of social work services, without compensation, to low-income individuals receiving health services through a local health department or a free clinic organized in whole or primarily for the delivery of those services, as verified by the department or clinic. Three hours of volunteer service is required for one hour of continuing education credit.

**UPDATED REGULATIONS – EFFECTIVE JUNE 28, 2017**

The Virginia Board of Social Work Regulations Governing the Practice of Social Work will be amended **effective June 28, 2017**. The Regulations are amended to: 1) require submission of an application for licensure within two years of completion of supervised experience; 2) requires registration of supervision whenever there is a change in the supervisor, the supervised practice, or clinical services or location; and 3) add romantic relationships to the unprofessional conduct section.

**ASWB EXAM UPDATE – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 2018**

The Association of Social Work Boards (“ASWB”) licensing exams are changing **effective January 2, 2018**. Please visit [www.aswb.org/2018exams](http://www.aswb.org/2018exams) to learn more about the changes, read the 2017 Analysis of the Practice of Social Work and review the timeline for implementation.

**PROPOSED LEGISLATION – MID-LEVEL LICENSURE**

At the full Board meeting on May 11, 2017, the Board approved the [draft legislative proposal](#) for mid-level licensure for the 2018 Session of the General Assembly. This bill is to amend the *Code of Virginia* by amending sections §§ 54.1-3700 and 54.1-3705, by adding authority for the Board of Social Work to license baccalaureate social workers and master’s social workers, and to register persons obtaining supervised experience for licensure as a clinical social worker.