

Agenda
State Board for Social Work
Wednesday, June 17th, 2026
1:00pm -3:30pm

Sites:
Albany (In Person)
Education Building EB 201 2nd floor Albany, NY

To attend the **Social Work Board** meeting, let the board office know by emailing
Kayla.Apple@nysed.gov or kathleen.letzelter@nysed.gov

to add your name to the security list.

"Members of the public may attend and observe the meeting. Please note that due to security restrictions, you are asked to arrive 15 minutes earlier if possible than the start of the meeting."

Thank you!

Meeting of the Social Work Board

1:00PM -3:00 PM

Discussion

1. Welcome and review of Agenda.
2. Introduction
3. Review of March 4th, 2026, meeting minutes
4. Executive Secretary's Report
 - a. Staffing and Processing
 - b. Board member recruitment.
5. Legislation and Regulation concerning Social Work

S9123-A9566 An Act to extend the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work. Passed both houses

A9560A/S9124 Internship extension for MSW (Bridge Act) Referred to Higher Ed in Both Houses.

15318-01-6 ASWB Exam before Graduation Not yet introduced

S9303/A10555 Social Worker- 90-day post-graduation supervised practice

S988 - Proposal to repeal the requirement that applicants must pass an examination to qualify as a LMSW referred to higher education committee.

S8899-A9321 AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to supervision by certain marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors.

6. Discussion Topics

Diagnostic Privilege update
MHP supervision update

7. Other business:

8. Adjournment

Executive Session

3:00 PM- 3:30 PM

The University of the State of New York
State Education Department
Office of the Professions

**New York State Board of Social Work
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

This meeting was held in-person via WebEx at the following locations:

State Education Building, 89 Washington Avenue, EB 146, Albany, NY 12234
Office of the Professions, 1411 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018
Syracuse Regional Office, 333 East Washington Street, Suite 211, Syracuse, NY 13202
Buffalo ACCESS Office, 508 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

Board members present:

Tracyavon Ford LCSW
Austen LaBarge LCSW
Michelle Manley Belge LMSW
Robyn Wiktorski-Reynolds LMSW
Mohini Mishra LMSW
Susan Nayowith LCSW
Virginia Spielman LMSW

Staff present:

Evan Seiden, Executive Secretary (New York)
Kathleen Letzelter, Associate in Professional Education (Albany)
Michele Govertsen, Senior Administrative Analyst (Albany)
Annie Connors, Education Program Assistant Trainee 2 (Albany)

Welcome and Review of the Agenda

Executive Secretary called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM. The meeting was streamed live and recorded. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Members of the public and stakeholders attended to observe the meeting. Questions can be emailed to SWBD@nysed.gov. There were no changes in the agenda.

Introductions

No new board members introduced.

Review of the October, 29 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

A quorum of Board members were present. Motion to accept minutes was made. Firsted by Virginia Spielman; seconded by Susan Nayowith. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

Executive Secretary's Report

- a. Staffing and Processing: One evaluator was promoted to another position outside of the Board Office; interviewing for a new evaluator will take place this month. Volume of applications is still high and reviews for each of the six professions are currently managed by two evaluators. Experience reviews are currently at an 8-week timeframe for evaluation.
- b. Board Member Recruitment: Looking for LMSW Board members and public members. Reminder that Board member's responsibilities can also include availability for consultation during Office of Professional Discipline hearings. There is space for two additional Public Members (non-licensed individuals who have used SW services). Board members can refer those interested to Executive Secretary for further information. Board member applications can be found online.

Legislation and Regulation Affecting Social Work

Executive Secretary presented the following proposals for discussion:

→ S9123 - Proposed act to extend the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work and use the title licensed clinical social worker to twenty-four months with the ability to be renewed for up to two additional one-year periods. This would mirror the Mental Health Practitioner limited permit duration.

- Discussion on how this will allow SW to mirror the current limited permit model in the Mental Health Practitioners professions
- Question on the use of title ("licensed clinical social worker") if limited permit holders are not licensed
- Question on the supervision constraint - if professionals are on permits for a longer period of time and there are limited supervisory resources, this act does not address the 5-supervisee cap constraint
- Discussion on how this could be of benefit to help address the hiring need in the field

→ S9124 - Proposes the establishment of a limited work permit for students in a master of social work program to allow for interns to continue working at a setting while waiting for a limited permit to be issued. Intent is to bridge the gap and allow for continuity of retention of interns.

- Discussion on a need for clarification on if this implicates current students, if so which year, or if it is intended for upcoming/recent graduates of a program
- A bridge does make sense particularly for the O organizations (OASAS, OMH, etc.)

→ S9125 - a voucher program which intends to assist individuals with their licensing exam fees.

- Clarification needed on where the funding would come from.
- Some agencies have put aside funding to assist individuals with licensing fees; this would be helpful to such agencies as well as the applicants themselves

→ S988 - Proposal to repeal the requirement that applicants must pass an examination to qualify as a LMSW

- Concerns on this could be alleviated by ensuring educational requirements are maintained or standardized across programs
- Concerns this may set a dangerous precedent on the profession
- Some Board members would like to see the data collected on how many graduates from New York State social work programs, how many of those take the exam, and what the passing rate for those individuals is currently.
- Should not have a blanket graduation to licensure pathway; there must be some way to demonstrate prior experience and training and how that allows them to practice in the profession, even if the exam is not the strategy to do so

→ A780 - Proposal to allow an LMHC who has been granted the diagnostic privilege the ability to supervise an applicant towards licensure in clinical social work.

- Discussed the rationale for this bill, some board members speculate that it may be due to the need for more supervisors in the profession
- Discussed personal experiences working in areas where there was a need for more supervisors/not enough LCSWs to supervise
- Discussion on the differences of scope of practice between the professions; some members believe it could be appropriate in certain settings and others believe there is a need to be protective of the social work profession
- Discussion on the framework of clinical supervision and what qualifies someone to participate as a clinical supervisor

→ S1113 - An Act to provide loan forgiveness for social workers who commit to work in counties with less than two hundred thousand population or cities with a population of less than one hundred fifty persons per square mile.

- Discussion on applicability of this given recent changes to federal loan forgiveness and acknowledgment of the existence of individual agency policies on student loan forgiveness

Discussion Topics

Question: how do proposed legislative items move forward?

- SWB is sometimes weighed in on but not always; sometimes the legislature, sometimes the senate. Signed by both offices and governor into law. Public comment for regulation, unsure if for law.

Ethics Training Course

- No further questions or discussion

Other Business

Scheduling for future board meetings was discussed. The June board meeting will take place either in the beginning or middle of the month, depending upon when the legislative session ends.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Chair Tracyavon Ford firsted. Seconded by Mishra Mohini. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.

S9123 SUTTON Same as A 9566-A Berger

ON FILE: 02/05/26 Education Law

TITLE....Relates to extending the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work and licensed master social work

02/05/26 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

05/05/26 1ST REPORT CAL.924

05/06/26 2ND REPORT CAL.

05/07/26 ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

05/13/26 SUBSTITUTED BY A9566A

A09566 Berger AMEND=A

01/14/26 referred to higher education

01/30/26 amend and recommit to higher education

01/30/26 print number 9566a

02/05/26 reported referred to ways and means

05/05/26 reported

05/07/26 advanced to third reading cal.473

05/11/26 passed assembly

05/11/26 delivered to senate

05/11/26 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

05/13/26 SUBSTITUTED FOR S9123

05/13/26 3RD READING CAL.924

05/13/26 PASSED SENATE

05/13/26 RETURNED TO ASSEMBLY

SUTTON

Amd §7705, Ed L

Extends the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work and use the title licensed clinical social worker, or practice licensed master social work and use the title licensed master social worker from twelve to twenty-four months with the ability to be renewed for up to two additional one-year periods.

STATE OF NEW YORK

9123

IN SENATE

February 5, 2026

Introduced by Sen. SUTTON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to extending the duration of limited permits to practice licensed clinical social work and licensed master social work

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 7705 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 230 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as
3 follows:
- 4 1. On recommendation of the board, the department may issue a limited
5 permit to practice licensed clinical social work and use the title
6 licensed clinical social worker, or to practice licensed master social
7 work and use the title licensed master social worker to an applicant who
8 has met all requirements for licensure as a licensed master social work-
9 er or a licensed clinical social worker except those relating to the
10 examination and provided that the individual is under the general super-
11 vision of a licensed master social worker or a licensed clinical social
12 worker, as determined by the department. This limited permit shall be
13 valid for a period of not more than [~~twelve~~] twenty-four months, and
14 such limited permits may be renewed, at the discretion of the depart-
15 ment, for up to two additional one-year periods.
- 16 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
17 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
18 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
19 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
20 completed on or before such effective date.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14175-03-6

A9560-A Berger Same as S 9124 SUTTON

Education Law

TITLE....Enacts the "building retention and internship-to-degree graduate employment (BRIDGE) act"

01/14/26 referred to higher education

01/28/26 amend (t) and recommit to higher education

01/28/26 print number 9560a

BERGER

Amd §7705, Ed L

Enacts the "building retention and internship-to-degree graduate employment (BRIDGE) act"; provides limited work permits for students in a master of social work program; establishes policies and procedures for such work permit.

STATE OF NEW YORK

9560--A

IN ASSEMBLY

January 14, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. BERGER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to enacting the "building retention and internship-to-degree graduate employment (BRIDGE) act"

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "building retention and internship-to-degree graduate employment
3 (BRIDGE) act".

4 § 2. Subdivision 2 of section 7705 of the education law is renumbered
5 subdivision 3 and a new subdivision 2 is added to read as follows:

6 2. (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an appli-
7 cant who has completed at least four hundred fifty hours of the field
8 work component in a master of social work program registered by the
9 department may apply for a limited permit in accordance with the
10 provisions of this subdivision.

11 (b) Such limited permit shall:

12 (i) be issued upon submission of an application prescribed by the
13 department;

14 (ii) require certification, on such application, by a supervisor
15 licensed and qualified under this article, attesting that the supervisor
16 agrees to oversee the permittee and authorizes the permittee to continue
17 providing care within the supervisor's practice or agency upon issuance
18 of the limited permit;

19 (iii) become effective immediately upon the applicant's graduation
20 from the master of social work program; and

21 (iv) authorize the permittee to practice only under the supervision of
22 such supervisor and only in accordance with the commissioner's regu-
23 lations.

24 (c) Limited permits issued under this subdivision shall be valid for
25 the same period as a limited permit issued in subdivision one of this
26 section.

27 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
28 it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14302-03-6

S9303 MARTINEZ Same as A 10555 Stern
ON FILE: 02/27/26 Education Law
TITLE....Relates to graduates with a masters in social work
02/27/26 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION
04/21/26 1ST REPORT CAL.771
04/22/26 2ND REPORT CAL.
04/27/26 ADVANCED TO THIRD READING
06/04/26 COMMITTED TO RULES

MARTINEZ, COMRIE

Amd §7706, Ed L

Authorizes a graduate of an accredited master of social work program to engage in supervised social work.

STATE OF NEW YORK

9303

IN SENATE

February 27, 2026

Introduced by Sen. MARTINEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to certain persons with a masters in social work

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 7706 of the education law, as
2 added by chapter 420 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:
3 5. Prevent or prohibit the performance of activities and services
4 within the scope of practice of licensed master social work or licensed
5 clinical social work as defined in section seventy-seven hundred one of
6 this article by the following:

7 (a) any individual who is credentialed under any law, including attor-
8 neys, rape crisis counselors, credentialed alcoholism and substance
9 abuse counselors whose scope of practice includes the practices defined
10 in section seventy-seven hundred one of this article from performing or
11 claiming to perform work authorized by applicable provisions of this
12 chapter and the mental hygiene law;

13 (b) provision of pastoral counseling services by any member of the
14 clergy or christian science practitioner, from providing pastoral coun-
15 selling services within the context of [~~his or her~~] their ministerial
16 charge or obligation;

17 (c) students who are enrolled in a baccalaureate of social work or
18 professional graduate level social work program of study, and which are
19 required to perform as part of the field work component of that program,
20 services provided under the supervision of a field work supervisor
21 approved by the program;

22 (d) on the part of a student or trainee who is enrolled in an institu-
23 tion or program registered by the department or accredited by an accred-
24 iting organization acceptable to the department to provide training in a
25 discipline or profession, other than social work or clinical social
26 work, that is licensed pursuant to this title, where such activities and
27 services are authorized within the definition of the scope of practice
28 of the profession, or discipline in which [~~he or she is~~] they are being

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14981-02-6

S. 9303

2

1 trained as set forth in [~~the education law~~] this chapter or the commis-
2 sioner's regulations, provided that such services are performed under
3 the regular and ongoing supervision of a licensee in the profession or
4 discipline in which [~~he or she is~~] they are being trained who assumes
5 professional responsibility for the services performed under [~~his or~~
6 ~~her~~] their supervision and that such activities and the provision of
7 such services are a formal part of the professional training program in
8 which [~~he or she is~~] they are enrolled;

9 (e) a graduate of an accredited master of social work program from
10 engaging in supervised social work, provided the graduate has: (i)
11 applied and paid a fee for the licensing and examination; (ii) applied
12 and paid a fee for the limited permit pursuant to section seventy-seven
13 hundred five of this article. Such exemption shall not extend beyond
14 ninety days after graduation;

15 (f) any federal, state, county or municipal employee performing clin-
16 ical social work services upon the effective date of this section for
17 the period during which they maintain such employment with such govern-
18 mental unit within the context of such employment and shall be limited
19 to the services provided upon such effective date; and

20 [~~(f)~~] (g) any employee performing clinical social work services on the
21 effective date of this section for the period during which they maintain
22 such employment with such entity within the context of such employment,
23 and shall be limited to the services provided prior to such effective
24 date.

25 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-
26 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.

S988 BROUK Same as A 701 Gonzalez-Rojas

ON FILE: 01/08/25 Education Law

TITLE....Repeals the requirement that applicants must pass an examination in order to qualify as a licensed master social worker

01/08/25 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

01/07/26 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

BROUK, COMRIE, FERNANDEZ, GONZALEZ, HARCKHAM, JACKSON, LIU, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR, SEPULVEDA, SERRANO, WEBB

Rpld §7704 sub 1 ¶(d), Ed L

Repeals the requirement that applicants must pass an examination in order to qualify as a licensed master social worker.

STATE OF NEW YORK

988

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sens. BROUK, COMRIE, FERNANDEZ, JACKSON, LIU, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR, SEPULVEDA, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to repeal paragraph (d) of subdivision 1 of section 7704 of the education law requiring applicants to pass an examination in order to qualify as a licensed master social worker

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 1 of section 7704 of the
- 2 education law is REPEALED.
- 3 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD01956-01-5

S8899 STAVISKY Same as A 9321 Berger

ON FILE: 01/14/26 Education Law

TITLE....Relates to supervision by certain marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors

01/14/26 REFERRED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

05/05/26 1ST REPORT CAL.923

05/06/26 2ND REPORT CAL.

05/07/26 ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

05/13/26 PASSED SENATE

05/13/26 DELIVERED TO ASSEMBLY

05/13/26 referred to higher education

05/20/26 substituted for a9321

05/20/26 ordered to third reading rules cal.151

05/20/26 passed assembly

05/20/26 returned to senate

STAVISKY, SUTTON

Amd §§8402 & 8403, Ed L

Provides for supervision by certain marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors who meet certain experience requirements.

STATE OF NEW YORK

8899

IN SENATE

January 14, 2026

Introduced by Sen. STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to supervision by certain marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 3 of section 8402 of the
2 education law, as amended by chapter 130 of the laws of 2010, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 (c) Experience: An applicant shall complete a minimum of three thou-
5 sand hours of post-master's supervised experience relevant to the prac-
6 tice of mental health counseling satisfactory to the board and in
7 accordance with the commissioner's regulations, A licensed and regis-
8 tered marriage and family therapist may provide post-master's super-
9 vision if the licensed marriage and family therapist, at minimum, meets
10 the following requirements (i) is licensed and registered for at least
11 three years, (ii) has been awarded the diagnostic privilege set forth in
12 section eighty-four hundred one-a of this article, and (iii) has
13 completed a total of three semester hours or thirty-six hours of contin-
14 uing education in clinical counseling supervision and professional
15 orientation and ethics in mental health counseling as determined by the
16 department. Satisfactory experience obtained in an entity operating
17 under a waiver issued by the department pursuant to section sixty-five
18 hundred three-a of this title may be accepted by the department,
19 notwithstanding that such experience may have been obtained prior to the
20 effective date of such section sixty-five hundred three-a and/or prior
21 to the entity having obtained a waiver. The department may, for good
22 cause shown, accept satisfactory experience that was obtained in a
23 setting that would have been eligible for a waiver but which has not
24 obtained a waiver from the department or experience that was obtained in
25 good faith by the applicant under the belief that appropriate authori-
26 zation had been obtained for the experience, provided that such experi-
27 ence meets all other requirements for acceptable experience;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14150-01-5

S. 8899

2

1 § 2. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 3 of section 8403 of the education
2 law, as amended by chapter 130 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read
3 as follows:

4 (c) Experience: The completion of at least one thousand five hundred
5 client contact hours of supervised clinical experience, by persons hold-
6 ing a degree from a master's or doctoral program, or the substantial
7 equivalent, in accordance with the commissioner's regulations or the
8 completion of at least one thousand five hundred client hours of super-
9 vised post-master's clinical experience in marriage and family therapy
10 satisfactory to the department in accordance with the commissioner's
11 regulations. A licensed and registered mental health counselor may
12 provide supervision if the licensed mental health counselor, at minimum,
13 meets the following requirements (i) is licensed and registered for at
14 least three years, (ii) has been awarded the diagnostic privilege set
15 forth in section eighty-four hundred one-a of this article, and (iii)
16 has completed a total of three semester hours or thirty-six hours of
17 continuing education in clinical counseling supervision and professional
18 orientation and ethics in marriage and family therapy as determined by
19 the department. Satisfactory experience obtained in an entity operating
20 under a waiver issued by the department pursuant to section sixty-five
21 hundred three-a of this title may be accepted by the department,
22 notwithstanding that such experience may have been obtained prior to the
23 effective date of such section sixty-five hundred three-a and/or prior
24 to the entity having obtained a waiver. The department may, for good
25 cause shown, accept satisfactory experience that was obtained in a
26 setting that would have been eligible for a waiver but which has not
27 obtained a waiver from the department or experience that was obtained in
28 good faith by the applicant under the belief that appropriate authori-
29 zation had been obtained for the experience, provided that such experi-
30 ence meets all other requirements for acceptable experience;

31 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
32 it shall have become a law.