

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
Board of Social Work
(New Administrative Regulation)

201 KAR 23:072. Examination requirements.

RELATES TO: KRS 335.070, 335.080, 335.090, and 335.100

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 335.070

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 335.070 authorizes the board to

Section 1. Examination for Licensed Social Worker. The national examination shall be the Bachelors Examination developed and owned by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and administered by the ASWB or its designated examination contractor.

Section 2. Examination for Certified Social Worker. The national examination shall be the Masters Examination developed and owned by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and administered by the ASWB or its designated examination contractor.

Section 3. Examination for Licensed Clinical Social Worker. The national examination shall be the Clinical Examination developed and owned by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and administered by the ASWB or its designated examination contractor.

Section 4. Administration of examinations.

(1) The applicable examinations set forth in Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this administrative regulation shall be taken by computer administration.

(2) The board shall submit to the ASWB or its examination contractor a list of applicants eligible to sit for the applicable examination.

Section 5. Time of examinations.

(1) The applicant shall sit for the applicable examination set forth in Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this administrative regulation within one (1) year of the notice of the application being approved by the board. An applicant may sit for the referenced examinations at any approved ASWB examination contractor testing center in the United States, U.S. Territories, or Canada.

(2) If an applicant loses eligibility to sit for the applicable examination because of failure to reschedule, cancel, or appear to take the applicable examination as stated in subsection (1) of this section:

(a) The applicant shall forfeit all fees paid; and

(b) Any temporary license issued to the applicant shall be terminated.

Section 6. Examination for licensure as a social worker.

(1) The applicant shall pass the Bachelors Examination in accordance with section (1) of this administrative regulation.

(2) The applicant shall obtain a scaled score of seventy percent or greater or shall have obtained a previous national passing score as set by the ASWB which satisfied the licensure requirement at the time of that examination. The applicant shall be notified by the board of the score, as well as of passing or failing the examination.

Section 7. Examination for certification as a social worker.

(1) The applicant shall pass the Masters Examination in accordance with section (2) of this administrative regulation.

(2) The applicant shall obtain a scaled score of seventy percent or greater or shall have obtained a previous national passing score as set by the ASWB which satisfied the

certification requirement at the time of that examination. The applicant shall be notified by the board of the score, as well as of passing or failing the examination.

Section 8. Examination for licensure as a clinical social worker.

(1) The applicant shall pass the Clinical Examination in accordance with section (3) of this administrative regulation.

(2) The applicant shall obtain a scaled score of seventy percent or greater or shall have obtained a previous national passing score as set by the ASWB which satisfied the licensure requirement at the time of that examination. The applicant shall be notified by the board of the score, as well as of passing or failing the examination.

HANK CECIL, LCSW, Board Chair

APPROVED BY AGENCY: June 15, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on August 31, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at the Kentucky Board of Social Work, 125 Holmes St., Suite 310, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five (5) workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing was received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made prior to the end of the hearing. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through August 31, 2026. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Marc Kelly, Executive Director, Kentucky Board of Social Work, 125 Holmes St., Suite 310, Frankfort Kentucky 40601, phone (502) 564-2350, email marc.kelly@ky.gov.