



NORTH CAROLINA SOCIAL WORK CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE BOARD

Post Office Box 1043
Asheboro, North Carolina 27204

Phone (336) 625-1679
Fax (336) 625-4246

Website: www.ncswboard.org

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

The NCSWCLB Administrative office is located at 1207 S. Cox Street, Suite F in Asheboro, NC. The Board met 8 times in regular business session over the course of the year to complete the duties and functions as assigned by Chapter 90B, Social Worker Certification and Licensure Act, North Carolina General Statutes. In addition to the regular business meetings, the Board also held 2 emergency meetings and a public hearing to address emergency rule adoption.

1. **Board Members:**

Garlande Powell, MSW, LCSW, LCAS, CCS, Chair, Professional Member – Private Sector

Veronica Hardy, PhD, MSW, LCSW, Vice-Chair, Professional Member – Educator

John L. Blevins, MPA, Secretary-Treasurer, Public Member

Laurie C. Ray, MSW, CMSW, Professional Member – Private Sector

G. Mathias Bishop, BS, Public Member

Yvette Gosline, MSW, CMSW, Professional Member – Public Sector [Appointed 8/19/19]

Anthony Harris, MSW, LCSW, Professional Member - Private Sector [Appointed 8/19/19]

1a.	Number of licensees supervised by the board:	12,224
2.	Applicants for examination:	1,579
3.	Applicants denied examination (ineligible):	02
4.	Applicants sitting for examination (any level):	1,272
5.	Applicants issued initial certification/licensure:	1,890
5a.	Number who failed the exam:	
	• Applicants failed Bachelors level exam:	04
	• Applicants failed Masters level exam:	06
	• Applicants failed Advanced Generalist level exam:	00
	• Applicants failed Clinical level exam:	603
6.	Number of applicants applying for comity (substantial equivalency).....	116

7. Applicants issued certification/licensure by substantial equivalency..... 256

The number of applicants issued licensure by substantial equivalency is greater than the number of applicants applying for licensure by substantial equivalency because licenses/certificates granted to military applicants and military spouses are reflected in the Board's records as certified/licensed by substantial equivalency, although such applicants are not required to submit an application for comity, pursuant to GS 93B-15.1.

Military applicants for this Fiscal Year: 75

Military spouse applicants for this Fiscal Year: 96

7a. Number of official complaints received involving licensed and unlicensed activities:..... 50

7b. Number of disciplinary/adverse actions taken against certificants/licensees, or other actions taken against non-licensees, including injunctive relief: 07

8. Certificates/licenses suspended or revoked through disciplinary action: 02

9. Number of certificates/licenses terminated for any reason other than failure to renew (Voluntary Surrender): 02

9a. Number of applicants for a license and, of that number, the number granted a license:..... 2262 / 2402

This number reflects the number of applications received during this Fiscal year; however, there may have been applicants pending from the previous year that were issued a license after 07/01/2019.

9b. The number of applicants with a conviction record and, of that number, the number granted a license, denied a license for any reason, and denied a license because of a conviction: 32 / 32 / 2 / 0

There were 32 applications received with conviction records, and 32 licenses granted; however, there were 2 licenses denied due to reasons not related to convictions, rather due to the individuals not meeting eligibility requirements and/or noncompliance with Board requirements. There were no applications denied to conviction.

9c. The number of applicants with military training, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial 75 / 75 / 0

9d. The number of applicants who are military spouses, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial 96 / 96 / 0

10. On November 6, 2019, SL 2019-240 was ratified, which amends the Social Worker Certification and Licensure Act, and which has an effective date of January 1, 2021. Over the next year, this Board does not anticipate making requests to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the practice of clinical social work
11. The Board initiated emergency/temporary rule-making to address the State of National Emergency as a result of COVID-19 to address the following:
 - (1) The Board shall waive the requirement for licensure set forth in 21 NCAC 63 .0211(a)(4) that requires preapproval by the Board to engage in more than 20 hours of supervision provided through the use of technology. This waiver will allow for up to half of the required supervision hours to be provided through the use of technology.
 - (2) The Board shall waive the requirement for licensure set forth in 21 NCAC 63 .0301 that requires applicants for licensure to pass the qualifying examination within two years of the initial application. An applicant who is unable to take the licensing examination prior to the expiration of the associate license due to the testing service locations being closed shall make a written request to the Board for an extension of time to take the licensing examination. The Board shall provide a limited extension of the licensee's associate license and grant each associate licensee an extension to take the licensing examination until December 31, 2020.
 - (3) The Board shall waive the requirement for licensure set forth in 21 NCAC 63 .0401(c)(4) that allows for half of the required continuing education accepted as distance learning and shall permit all hours for renewal to be accepted through distance learning that meet the requirements of 21 NCAC 63 .0401. A minimum of four contact hours of distance learning continuing education shall be focused on ethics related to social work practice and ethical decision making.

The Board will consider further rulemaking initiatives in 2021 to update its existing rules, including implementation of SL 2019-240 as needed, and to address any emergent matters arising from COVID-19.