MARYLAND Licensure Levels & Requirements
(Referenced in Health Occupations Article § 19-302 and COMAR 10.42.01)

**All degrees must be from CSWE accredited social work programs**

TO QUALIFY FOR LCSW OR LCSW-C LICENSE:

- No specific MSW courses are required to take or pass the LGSW/LCSW exam
- Two years performing social work activities professionally and for compensation after receipt of LGSW
- Must work under the supervision of a qualified, registered, board-approved supervisor with a contractual agreement initiated prior to beginning supervision

For other state’s licensing requirements, visit: www.socialworklicensure.org/articles/social-work-license-requirements.html

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**LBSW**
Licensed Bachelor Social Worker

(The LBSW is not required to obtain any other license(s) and is only available to BSW program graduates)

**LGSW**
Licensed Graduate Social Worker

All MSW graduates are eligible to take the LGWS licensure exam regardless of Concentration/Specialization.

**LCSW**
Licensed Certified Social Worker

LCSW may engage in independent practice, except when rendering a diagnosis or performing psychotherapy

- **SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE:**
  2 years of at least 3000 hours of supervised social work experience (received in no less than 2 or no more than 6 consecutive years)

- **SUPERVISION:** 100 hours of periodic, face-to-face supervision by LCSW or LCSW-C

Social work experience MAY include one or more of the following:
Case Management, Information and Referral, Advocacy, Research, Community Organizing, Administrative activities and Supervision

**LCSW-C**
Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical

LCSW-C may engage in independent practice including rendering a diagnosis or performing psychotherapy

- **SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE:**
  2 years of at least 3000 hours of supervised social work experience; 1500 hours of face-to-face contact (received in no less than 2 or no more than 6 consecutive years)

- **SUPERVISION:** 144 hours of periodic, face-to-face supervision by LCSW-C

- 12 Clinical SW credits (6 of 12 must be from an MSW program; SOWK 630 counts as 3 of the 6 required masters credits)

Social work experience MUST be face-to-face client contact and may NOT consist solely of:
Telephone Clinical Assessment, Triage, Continued Stay Reviews and Discharge Planning

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Created by Macro Committee 5/13/2015