

# KENTUCKY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Kentucky Board of Social Work, 125 Holmes Street, Suite 310, Frankfort, KY 40601  
Web site address: <https://bsw.ky.gov> General Email: [KBSWinfo@ky.gov](mailto:KBSWinfo@ky.gov)  
Phone number: 502.564.2350

## **\*\*ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\***

## Social Work Board Members and Board Staff

Whitney Cassity-Caywood, Ph.D, LCSW,  
Vice-Chair  
Paducah, KY

Sydney Whitaker, LCSW  
Whitesburg, KY

Cowann Owens, LCSW  
Louisville, KY

Hank Cecil, LCSW, Chair  
Mayfield, KY

Laura Guffey, LSW, Secretary  
Edgewood, KY

Vacant, Citizen at Large  
KY

Genesia Kilgore-Bowling, Ph.D, CSW  
Pikeville, KY

Marc Kelly, LCSW  
Executive Director

Vanessa Jones, B.S.  
Executive Assistant

Brooke Jones  
Administrative Assistant

**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME  
TO 2026!! WE HOPE YOU HAVE AN  
AMAZING YEAR .**

PLEASE NOTE FOR 2026 OUR BOARD  
MEETINGS HAVE CHANGED TO THE 3<sup>RD</sup>  
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH WITH A FEW  
EXCEPTIONS.

## 2026 Board Meeting Dates

January 12

July 20

February 9 (IN LOUISVILLE)

August 17

March 16

September 21

April 20

October 19

May 18

November 17

June 15

December 16

All board meetings are held at 125 Holmes Street,  
Suite 310, Frankfort KY and are open to the public.  
Please join us when you can. You can also watch via  
our Utube channel KBSW when it works properly. The  
link is on our website.

Board dates above are subject to change.

Have you moved, changed employers, or had a name change?

Just login to your account and you can update your  
information there.

You may also email Board staff or call the office

**\*\*If I am having issues with creating my account or the new login process, what do I do?**

If you are having issues you can request the activation link be resent to you and then once it is you can create your account and add your password. You can also reset our username and password from the home page. If that doesn't work; just click on the help button or [RLP Support](#) or contact the office for more assistance.

**\*\*What do I do if my license has expired?**

With the new system in place, you will not request reinstatement of that license, instead you will go to the website and apply as if you were a brand new applicant.

**\*\*How do I submit my CSW in supervision contract?**

With the new system you will not submit your CSW in supervision contact online. If you have any issues please contact Marc Kelly.

**\*\*If I have already submitted an application, do I submit one again once I pass the exam?\***

NO, you do not apply again. Once you pass your exam follow the directions in your approval email notice or contact the office for further directions.

**\*\*I am a graduate student when can I apply to take my ASWB Exam?**

You can apply 6 weeks prior to your graduation date



*"We cannot teach people anything; we can only help them discover it within themselves."*

**\*\*Things To Know\*\***

1. The new system will email you a wallet card and a wall certificate once your license is issued there. We will no longer mail out "official" wall certificates; however, if you want one, you can go to the website, submit a request for a wall certificate and pay the \$25 fee there or you can contact the office.
2. There is no longer a self service portal. You will need to keep track of all your CEUS in a way that works for you until it is time to submit your renewal. They are all online as well.
3. We will be having our February board meeting in Louisville so if you are in the area we hope you can join us in person. More details to be posted on our website and facebook page prior to the meeting.
4. If you are a CSW who has completed their 2 year CSW in supervision contract and obtained 150 hours, you will submit your LCSW application online 1 day after your contract is completed and add all your supervision documents at that time.
5. ALWAYS keep your mind active and take time of yourself!!

**\*\*Reminders\*\***

- All license numbers in the new system will start with letters now. At this time, we are having some issues with the license verification section. If an employer needs to verify your license they can contact Brooke Jones at the board office for assistance.
- All renewals are now submitted online so once you are 60 days from your expiration date you will login to your account and submit it there and add all your CEUS at that time.
- If you would like updates on the COMPACT; you can find information on the ASWB website; as well as, resources for your exams. The compact will not be available for at least one year.

**\*\*NEW SYSTEM UPDATES\*\***

We are aware of the following and we are working as quickly as we can to get things resolved. Please be patient during this time.

With the data migration from the old system to the new one we have seen some incorrect information come through and that is being worked on;

We are aware that some license expired so if yours has you can email us and we will get it corrected;

The start/issue date is the date the data migration was completed but we are working with our IT persons to get your original issue date put in; at this time, it is updated on our side of the system so it should be completed to show in your account and online now;

Some persons license was issued from the old system and did not migrate for some reason to the new one. We have a list and we are working to get them added;

The license verification section should be working; however, if for some reason it is not and your employer or insurance agency needs to verify your license, including verifying your initial issue date; they can call the office or email the request to [Brooke.Jones@ky.gov](mailto:Brooke.Jones@ky.gov)

The application section is working but if you have any issues you can call the office or email [VanessaG.Jones@ky.gov](mailto:VanessaG.Jones@ky.gov)

Remember, if you are a graduate student and you are 6 weeks from your graduation date be sure to add your unofficial transcript to the application for now and if you are a CSW who has completed their 2 year supervision contract and obtained your 150 supervision hours and you are ready to apply for the LCSW exam/license be sure to add your supervision documents at that time. However, you do not have to request your official transcript again.

If you submitted an application and/or was approved for the exam in the old system (prior to June 2025) you will have to submit a new application in the new system because we cannot issue any license or reapprove anyone for the exams in the prior system. You will create or login to your board account and submit it there.

The renewal section is working but if you have any issues you can call the office or email [Marc.Kelly@ky.gov](mailto:Marc.Kelly@ky.gov) He is also reviewing all CSW in supervision contracts online so if you have questions about your contract you can contact him.

We hope this update helps. We are receiving a lot of calls so if you cannot reach us, please be sure to leave a voicemail or email us so we can get back to you as soon as we can. We are doing all we can as quickly as we can, so again please be patient with us during this time; we are learning this process as well.



## Upcoming Changes to the Social Work Licensing Exams

The social work licensing exams determine whether an aspiring social worker is ready to practice as a member of a profession that serves vulnerable client populations. Because the stakes are high — for licensure candidates and for the communities they hope to serve — ASWB adheres to rigorous exam development standards.

ASWB works regularly with a team of psychometricians and hundreds of volunteer social workers serving as subject matter experts to ensure the exams incorporate best practices and reflect current professional practice. In August 2026, ASWB will launch updated exams as part of its ongoing commitment to meeting and exceeding industry standards.

Developing the content and designing the structure of the 2026 social work licensing exams began in 2024 with an analysis of the practice of social work. A rigorous research process that gathers data through a survey of thousands of social workers, the practice analysis is required to ensure the exam remains current and relevant.

The 2026 exams will feature a new structure centering candidates' experiences and a renewed focus on applied knowledge rather than simple recall of information.

[Read more about the new exam](#)

