

Columbia University School of Social Work's MSSW is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Earning the MSSW is sufficient to apply to become an LMSW in most states. This document focuses on the first license application for which many students aim: the LMSW.

This document is updated regularly. This document is dated March 2026.

For any and all levels of licensure, please note that state agencies may require additional training, post-graduation examinations, experience, application and licensing fees, criminal background checks, and reference checks, along with other requirements for license eligibility. LCSW licensure requirements include, but are not limited, to significant hours of direct clinical work post-MSSW and supervision.

Master of Science in Social Work				
State/Jurisdiction	Degree meets CSWE Accreditation Standards		Meets full educational requirements for entry level ASWB license (e.g., LMSW)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	X		X	
Alaska	X		X	
Arizona	X		X	
Arkansas	X		X	
California	X			X
Colorado	X		X	
Connecticut	X		X	
Delaware	X		X	
District of Columbia	X		X	
Florida	X		X	
Georgia	X		X	
Hawaii	X		X	
Idaho	X		X	
Illinois	X		X	
Indiana	X		X	
Iowa	X		X	
Kansas	X		X	
Kentucky	X		X	
Louisiana	X		X	
Maine	X		X	

Maryland	X		X	
Massachusetts	X		X	
Michigan	X		X	
Minnesota	X		X	
Mississippi	X		X	
Missouri	X		X	
Montana	X		X	
Nebraska	X		X	
Nevada	X		X	
New Hampshire	X		X	
New Jersey	X		X	
New Mexico	X			X
New York	X		X	
North Carolina	X		X	
North Dakota	X		X	
Ohio	X		X	
Oklahoma	X		X	
Oregon	X		X	
Pennsylvania	X		X	
Rhode Island	X		X	
South Carolina	X		X	
South Dakota	X		X	
Tennessee	X		X	
Texas	X		X	
Utah	X		X	
Vermont	X		X	
Virginia	X		X	
Washington	X		X	
West Virginia	X		X	
Wisconsin	X		X	
Wyoming	X		X	