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August 19, 2019

Jennifer Zaelit, Bureau Manager
Utah Social Work Licensing Board
P.O. Box 146741
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741

RECEIVED

AUG 26 2019

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL
& PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

Dear Jennifer,

As you may recall, in April 2016 the ASWB Board of Directors approved new procedures to assure that member boards using the ASWB social work licensing exams are using them in compliance with ASWB Examinations Policy 2.1. The purpose of introducing these procedures is to protect the validity and reliability of the licensing examinations. A five-year compliance time frame was initiated July 1, 2016, to give member boards the opportunity to make plans for achieving compliance with the policy. We are now three years into this process. With a compliance deadline of June 30, 2021, approaching, ASWB continues to work with members who are out of compliance to determine the best option for meeting the requirements of the new procedures. Documents outlining the procedures and compliance options available to member boards are attached.

ASWB wants to ensure that all member boards are aware of language changes to Examinations Policy 2.1 approved in 2019 by the ASWB Board of Directors. The purpose of those changes was to make sure that the policy explicitly states the intended purpose of each exam and the eligibility requirements for candidates taking the exams. Please see the attached document for the new policy language.

According to ASWB records between 2013 and 2018, the Utah Social Work Licensing Board approved licensure candidates to sit for one of ASWB's exams in a manner inconsistent with exam policy. Our records indicate the following:

Clinical exams administered to candidates with less than two years' supervised experience:

- 2013-2017 – 1,612 or 82% of all exams administered
- 2018 – 380 or 79% of all exams administered

Bachelors exams administered to candidates without a BSW:

- 2013 - 2017 – 340 or 35% of all exams administered
- 2018 – 41 or 26% of all exams administered

Advanced Generalist exams administered to candidates with less than two years' supervised experience:

- 2013-2017 – 2 or 50% of all exams administered
- 2018 – 0

Regulation: The Clinical exam is allowed for the Master's license


Please review this information for accuracy. If accurate, please bear in mind that the ASWB Board of Directors expects all member boards that use the exams to be in compliance with exam policy by the deadline of June 30, 2021. Compliance includes having in place a waiver approved by the ASWB Board of Directors.

To make sure the implementation of this compliance initiative is consistent, ASWB requires that all communication about the exam use policy must be in writing. Please submit questions via email to examusepolicy@aswb.org.

Official responses from ASWB will be in writing. Any verbal communications will be followed by a written summary of the exchange. All parties involved in conversations will be copied to ensure the accuracy of the verbal exchange.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Jo Monahan, MSW, LCSW".

Mary Jo Monahan, MSW, LCSW
ASWB Chief Executive Officer