

Implementation of SB 44

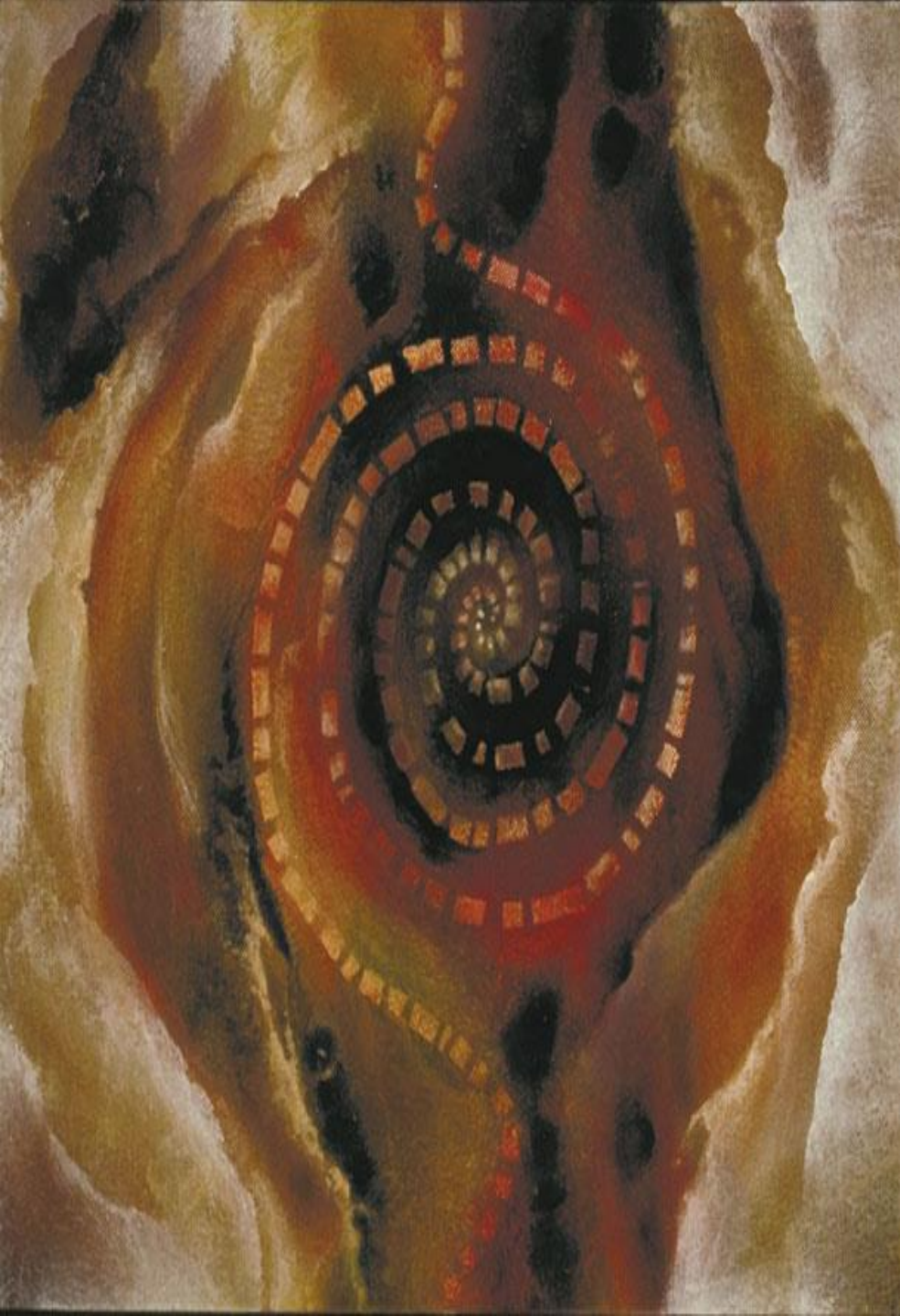


Board of Examiners for Social Workers (BESW)

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Presentation to: Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board

**Presented by: Karen Oppenlander, Executive Director, BESW
and Sandra Lowery, Deputy Director, BESW**



Goals for Today:

- BESW Rolled Up LSWs to LMSW Category after Passage of SB44
- Answer RRPBHP Questions
 - How long is the current process for licensure by endorsement?
 - Are interns able to have all supervision done remotely, specifically if they are working in a rural setting?
 - Are interns able to provide tele-behavioral health services?
 - What remains as the largest challenge for persons seeking licensure?
- Discussion/Q&A

LSWs Roll Up to LMSWs

03/31/2021

- LSW – 2038
- LMSW - 0

12/31/2021

- LSW – 1314
- LMSW - 854

SB 44 to Keep “Best” of Governor’s Directive 011 (April 2020)

Allows for out-of-state professionals of all medical and behavioral health disciplines to skip majority of licensing processes to gain licensure and begin practicing.

Licensure by endorsement (Nevada licensure for professionals currently licensed and practicing out of state) processes have gone from weeks/months to less than two weeks.

~~As of January 26, 2021, no known consumer complaints related to behavioral health professionals practicing under this directive.~~

**How Long is the Current
Process for Licensure by
Endorsement?**

Applying Online is Supposed to be Faster . . .

- Biggest Endorsement Problem is Waiting for Fingerprint Packets
- Biggest Endorsement Win: 75% Transcripts Come Electronically

2019

76 Applications
Average – 50 days
Median – 15 days

Shortest – 13 days
Longest – 355 days

2020

109 Applications
Average – 26 days
Median – 15 days

Shortest – 1 days
Longest – 127 days

2021

166 Applications
Average – 25 days
Median – 16 days

Shortest – 1 days
Longest – 186 days

What We've Learned About Endorsements

What's Working Out Better

- Changed the Order that We Tell People to Do Things When They Apply
- We Can Issue a License with Application, Fingerprint Packet and Transcripts
- Online License Verifications Instead of Waiting for Paper Verification

What Has Slowed Us Down

- Waiting For Fingerprint Packet (consists of Two Fingerprint Cards, Waiver and Payment)
- Paper Transcripts Vs Electronic Transcripts
- If Applicant has a Legal History or Sanctions Against Their Current or Past Licenses

Steady Increase in LCSW Numbers



- 405 post-graduate clinical interns
- 260 LCSW practitioners working under Waivers

**Are Interns Able to Have
All Supervision Done
Remotely; Specifically, if
They are Working in a
Rural Setting?**

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YES

**Are Interns Able to Have
All Supervision Done
Remotely; Specifically, if
They are Working in a
Rural Setting?**

YES

- **100% Remote Supervision Per Directive 011**
- **Current NACs will be Updated to Match**

**Are interns able to provide
Tele-behavioral health
services?**

**Are interns able to provide
Tele-behavioral health
services?**

YES – In Nevada

**What Remains as the
Largest Challenge for
Persons Seeking Licensure?**

What Remains as the Largest Challenge for Persons Seeking Licensure?

- **General Licensure Has No Barriers**
- **Re: Post-Graduate Clinical Internships, A Barrier Can be Finding Sites that Qualify**

Contact

Board of Examiners for Social Workers

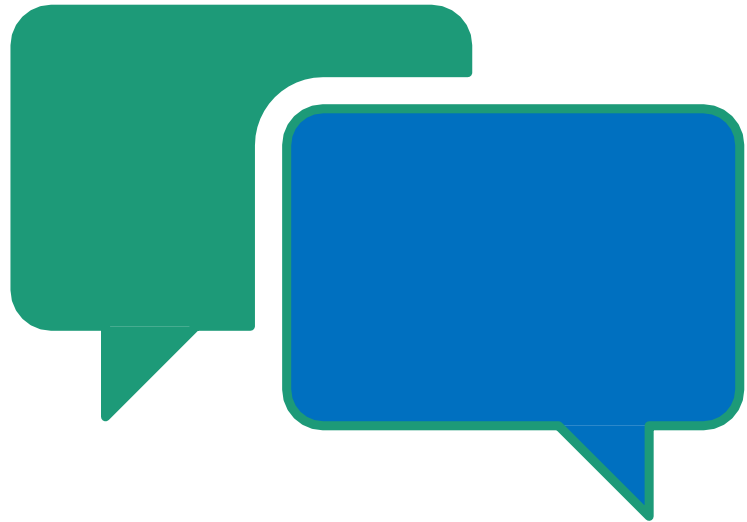
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Questions and Discussion