

## Bureau of Professional Licensing

### Social Work FAQ

**1. How long are initial licenses/registrations valid? Can I renew my license/registration early? How will I know when I need to renew?**

Limited licenses applied for in MIPLUS are valid for one year from the date of issuance. Full licenses applied for in MIPLUS are valid for three years from the date of issuance. Licenses are eligible for renewal 90 days prior to the expiration date. Renewal notifications are sent by email and by postal mail to the address on record. Failure to receive the renewal notification, or to notify the Department of an address change within 30 days of the date of change, does not exempt a licensee from renewing their license/registration on time. Licensees can update their contact information at anytime through their MIPLUS account.

**2. How many times can I renew my Limited license?**

Limited licenses are issued for 1 year and may be renewed not more than 6 times.

***You should only apply for or renew the limited license to gain experience towards the full license.***

There are no provisions that allow for an extension of the 6 renewals/relicensures allowable under [R 338.2939](#) and [R 338.2947](#).

**3. How much time do I have to meet all the requirements for licensure/relicensure?**

[MCL 333.16307\(3\)](#) states in-relevant part:

All requirements for licensure or registration shall be completed within 2 years after receipt of the application by the department. If the requirements are not completed within the 2-year period, the fees paid shall be forfeited to the department and the application shall be void. An individual whose application has been determined void under this subsection shall submit a new application and fees and shall meet the standards in effect on the date of receipt of the new application.

Documents received with a previous application will not be included as part of a new application.

**4. I am a Social Service Technician. Am I required to complete Continuing Education?**

No, Social Service Technician's are not required to complete Continuing Education.

**5. I am a Limited Licensee. Am I required to complete Continuing Education?**

No, Limited licensees are not required to complete Continuing Education

**6. How will the State know how many Continuing Education credits I have earned?**

An applicant for renewal is not required to submit proof of completion of their CE hours. However, an applicant for renewal shall retain documentation of meeting the requirements for a period of 4 years from the date of applying for license renewal. If selected for audit, a licensee is required to submit copies of their documentation confirming the completion of the CE requirements.

**7. What are the requirements for Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking?**

[MCL 333.16148](#) requires all health care professionals to complete a training to identify victims of human trafficking. This is a one-time training that is separate from continuing education. The training does not need to be a certain number of hours, but must cover the required content areas listed in [Administrative Rule 338.2929](#).

- Understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in the United States.
- Identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings.
- Identifying the warning signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors.
- Resources for reporting the suspected victims of human trafficking.

The one-time training is required for initial licensure issued on or after December 22, 2021 and for all renewal applicants.

**8. Is Human Trafficking a one-time training or required every year?**

Effective December 22, 2021, [Administrative Rule 338.2929](#) requires a one-time training in human trafficking for initial licensure. The one-time training must also be completed for all renewals. This training is separate from continuing education requirements.

Effective March 31, 2021, [Administrative Rule 338.2961\(4\)](#) requires at least 2 of the 45 continuing education contact hours in each renewal cycle, be in human trafficking.

**9. How do I earn work experience for a full Bachelor's or Master's Social Worker license?**

Work experience must have been earned while holding a Michigan limited master's or Michigan limited bachelor's social worker license.

**If your Limited license was issued on or after March 31, 2021, your work experience must be completed under the supervision of a Michigan-licensed master's social worker.**

**10. What exams are accepted in the State of Michigan?**

There are no exams accepted in the State of Michigan for the Social Worker License.

**11. How do I file a complaint against a health care professional?**

Complaints against health care professionals should be filed with the Michigan Board of Professional Licensure. For more information, visit [www.lara.state.mi.us](#).

**12. Where can I find a copy of the administrative rules and public health code pertaining to social workers?**

Administrative rules and public health code can be found on the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services website at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](#).

**13. When does the Implicit Bias training go into effect?**

The new requirement takes effect June 1, 2022 and will be required for any renewal or new application that is completed on or after that date.

**14. How many hours of Implicit Bias training do I need?**

New applicants for licensure or registration are required to have completed 2 hours of Implicit Bias training within the 5 years immediately preceding issuance of their license or registration.

Renewing applicants and registrants are required to complete 1 hour of implicit bias training for each year of their license or registration cycle. Example: If your license is issued for 3 years, then you must complete 3 hours of implicit bias training during each renewal cycle.

**15. Can I count Implicit Bias training towards my continuing education requirements?**

No, the implicit bias training is separate from any continuing education requirements.

**16. Can I complete the Implicit Bias Training online?**

Training should provide opportunities for interaction among participants and with the instructor.

More information regarding the Implicit Bias Training can be found on the [Implicit Bias FAQ](#) document.