

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **ASWB COMPLETES SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE ANALYSIS**

The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) has completed its most recent analysis of social work practice in North America, and will be using new Bachelors, Masters, and Clinical social work licensure examinations based on this study in early 2011. A new Advanced Generalist examination will be implemented in early 2012.

In addition to reorganized content for all five licensure examinations used across the United States and in two Canadian provinces, the association has published—for the first time—the knowledge statements that describe specific competencies that will be addressed in the examinations.

Beginning in January 2011 with the Associate, Bachelors, Masters, and Clinical examinations, social work licensing examination candidates will be taking tests that have fewer major content areas, and will be able to prepare for those tests by accessing the full range of literally hundreds of the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA) statements that can be the focus of individual test questions on the examinations. The availability of the entire set of KSAs will assist boards, educational programs and others in “demystifying” the entire examination process. Content outlines and KSA lists are contained in the practice analysis final report, which can be downloaded in its entirety at [www.aswb.org](http://www.aswb.org). The Advanced Generalist examination will not change over to the new content outlines and KSAs until January 1, 2012.

Practice analyses are a crucial component in the development of valid licensure examinations. The ASWB practice analysis encompassed all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and all ten Canadian provinces, and sought to identify knowledge necessary to safe social work entry-level practice. The results of the analysis serve as the basis for the development of licensure examinations that reflect current social work practice.

The Association of Social Work Boards is the association of state and provincial social work regulatory bodies. Its mission is to assist its members through the development of uniform assessments and other services that strengthen protection of the public. Membership includes 49 states, the US Virgin Islands, the District of Columbia, and ten Canadian provinces.