



## Group Review Practice Test User Guide

The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) created this practice test to assist social work programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) in providing students and others with a better understanding of the social work licensure examinations.

**This group review practice test is intended to be used in a group setting, led by an instructor.** It is not intended to function as a substitute for programs that assist potential test-takers in understanding how to best recognize and demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

### What is included

The ASWB Group Review Practice Test program includes the following:

- A six-month subscription to a single 50-item practice test, with rationales
- An “Orientation to the ASWB Examination Program” (pdf file)
- A complete ASWB Candidate Handbook (pdf file)

### Using this module

This practice test should be regarded as one ingredient of a test preparation/ orientation course. While students may be eager to review an entire exam’s worth of test questions, focusing on this test alone may not be particularly useful. The items presented in this practice test will not be repeated in the actual examination, and even the particular practice settings used (school social work, hospital social work, etc.) may not be employed relative to the same content areas in which they are employed in the practice test.

In short, this practice test should be used primarily as a springboard for more in-depth study and discussion, and as a learning tool to help students understand the structural framework and semantics of ASWB social work examination items. This test can serve as an aid to refresh students on taking a multiple choice test. This test cannot substitute for the more thorough and thoughtful work that must be done in preparing to take a licensure examination.

### Using a portion of the practice test

Instructors may not find it useful or necessary to review all 50 items on this practice test. Previewing the entire practice test and rationales may allow a session leader to highlight sample items that assist in highlighting social work knowledge components that he/she believes will be most useful for students to review. Other items may link to concepts that the instructor feels do not need to receive special (or any) attention. The software allows the instructor to move easily to specific questions.

## **Limits of use; use by individual students**

The Group Review Practice Test is accessed through a specific URL, and opened by way of an assigned password. This password may be shared with multiple instructors in a program, but should NOT be given to individual students. Individual student use, without sufficient guidance, can lead not only to misinterpretations of test content, but also to a broader misunderstanding of the practice test as an easy way to learn how to pass the actual exam. Finally, individual student use of the practice test may encourage students to focus on a single sample test rather than on a thoughtful review of social work content guided by a knowledgeable instructor.

Web traffic to this practice test is monitored, and any inappropriate use will result in denial of access.

## **Accompanying resources**

The documents that accompany the practice exam are helpful in providing context to the testing process. The Orientation touches on examination construction and scoring issues, as well as basic information about registration and test taking, so that instructors can help students put the exams in context. The Candidate Handbook is a detailed document provided to all social work licensing exam candidates. Students preparing to sit for the exam should download and read the Candidate Handbook closely.