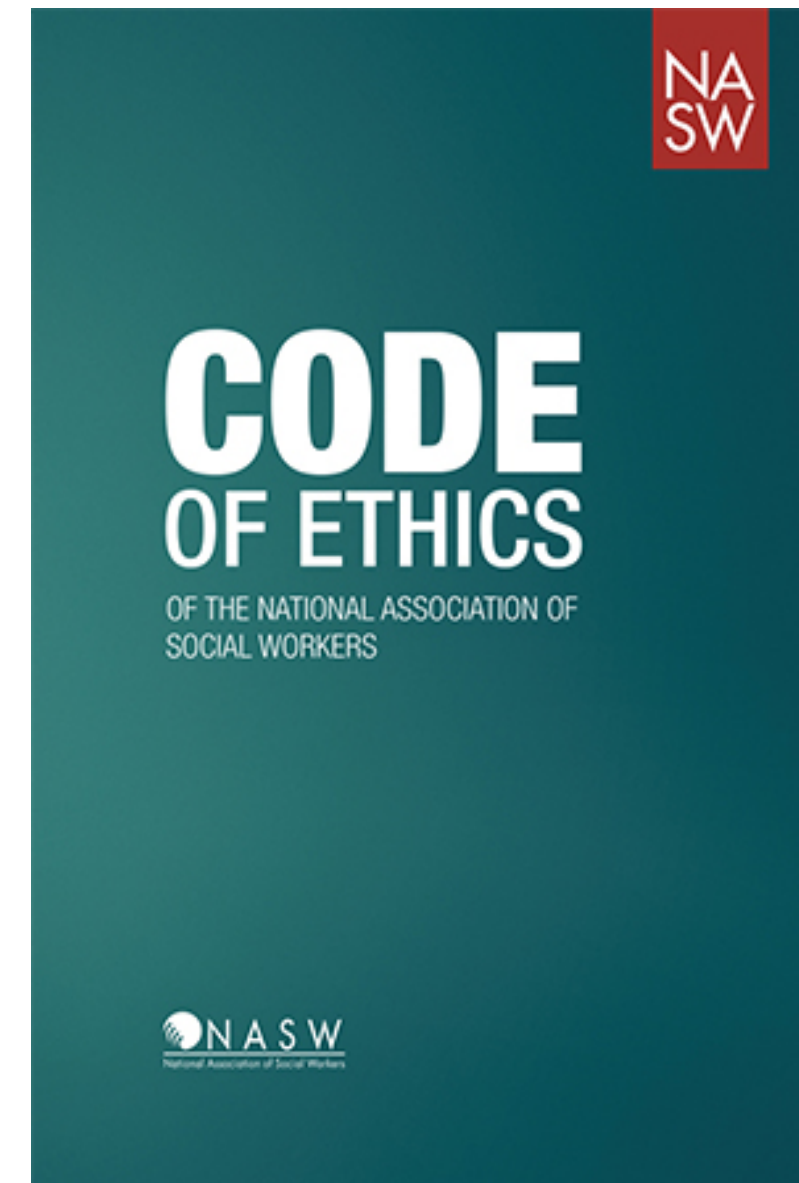




The Social Work Licensure Compact In Montana

Social Work: An Overview

- Follow a robust Code of Ethics
- Meet education, supervision, and examination standards
- Licensed social workers are regulated through the Montana Board of Behavioral Health (three social work licence types)
- Work in a variety of settings



- Hospitals and medical clinics
- Community mental health centers
- Crisis response systems
- Schools
- Veterans services
- Substance use treatment programs
- Long-term care, hospice, and aging services
- Child welfare and adult protective services
- Correctional, juvenile justice, and reentry programs
- Public health departments and government agencies

Licensing Report

Board of Behavioral Health

Total Active Licenses as of January 20, 2026

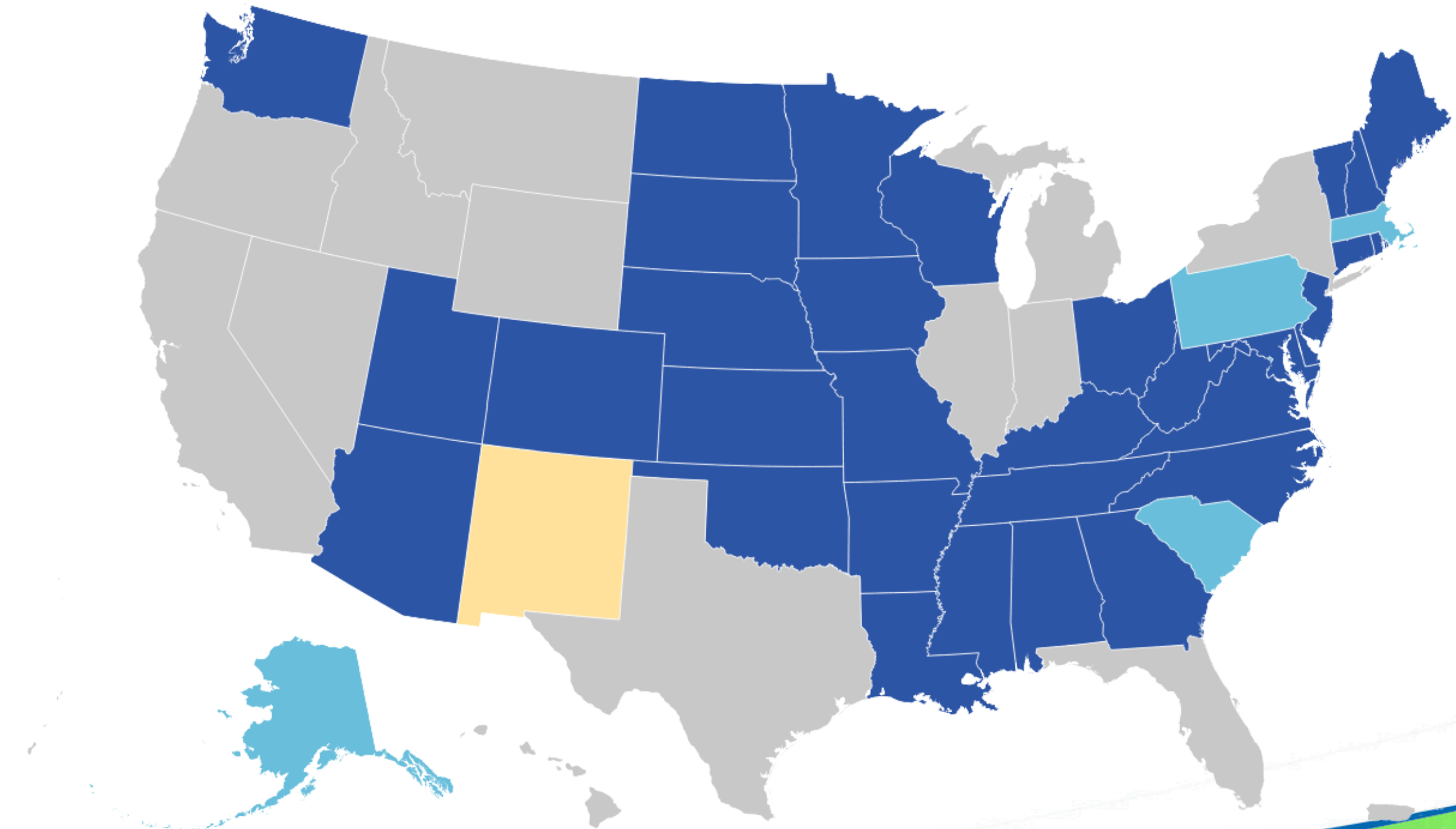
License Type	Quantity
LCPC	2,317
LCPC Candidate (PCLC)	380
LCSW	1,926
LCSW Candidate (SWLC)	386
LMSW	67
LMSW Candidate (SWLM)	17
LBSW	21
LBSW Candidate (SWLB)	0
LMFT	280
LMFT Candidate (MFLC)	15
LAC	866
LAC Candidate (ACLC)	205
CBPHSS	199
TOTAL	6,679

NASW Montana Compact Involvement

- 2023 Counseling Compact
- 2024 Hosted a Council of State Governments State-wide Webinar
- 2025 Social Work Licensure Compact Introduced (SB140)

Social Work Compact Legislation Map

■ Enacted ■ Enacted, with material changes* ■ No Active Legislation ■ Pending



Compact States and Montana Values

- Many participating states are rural or have large rural areas
- Many participating states share workforce and access challenges similar to Montana

Common Question #1

“Could an out-of-state social worker practice in Montana and ignore Montana law or rules?”

- Social workers practicing in Montana must follow Montana law and administrative rules
- Montana keeps authority over practice within Montana

Common Question #2

“Will the compact make it easier for unsafe social workers to practice in Montana?”

- The compact improves shared data across states
- States can see disciplinary information more clearly
- Montana can consider reports from other states

Common Question #3

“Will this compact create a financial burden for the state?”

- SB 140 fiscal note did not project any ongoing revenue loss, only an initial IT implementation expense
- Association of Social Work Boards is expected to cover most of the initial costs
- Montana can set compact-related fees

How This Compact Supports Montanans

- Increases access to high quality workforce
- Supports rural and underserved communities
- Expands behavioral health and telehealth options
- Improves continuity of care when people move or travel
- Helps military families and mobile families

Questions?

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