

Effective September 1st, 2017 HB 1508 amended the Texas Occupations Code Section 58.001. Because graduating with a degree in Social Work (both at the undergraduate and graduate level) in the state of Texas has the potential to lead to a state-issued license, this notice of the impact of a criminal history on becoming licensed is being provided to you. The title of “social worker” is a restricted title in the State of Texas; only those who hold a valid license and are in good standing may call themselves by the title “Social Worker.”

Individuals with a history of criminal behavior, including arrests, convictions, serving probation, being on or completing parole, or deferred adjudication (this list may not be exhaustive) may be unable to become licensed as a Social Worker in Texas.

The following website provides links to information about the licensing process and requirements.

http://dshs.texas.gov/socialwork/sw_links.shtm

Should you wish to request a review of the impact of criminal history on your potential for licensure as a Social Worker prior to or during your quest for a degree, you can visit this link and request a “Criminal History Evaluation.”

http://dshs.texas.gov/plc_cheval.shtm

The request has a fee of \$50.00 for each occupational license that you are interested in filing a request for. If you are only interested in Social Work, the cost would be \$50.00. If you were interested in several occupations, there is a \$50.00 charge for each occupation. These fees are assessed by the Texas Department of State Health Services and Tarleton State University does not benefit from nor receive a portion of these fees. The report must be requested by you, and TSU’s Social Work Program will not receive any results from the evaluation unless you provide them to us.

Effective July 1st, 2020, we are required to notify you about licensing/certification in other states. The TSU BSW and MSW curricula prepare students to sit for the appropriate level of licensure in the state of Texas. Although most states offer reciprocity in social work licensing, each state licensure board is responsible for establishing the requirements for and levels of licensure/certification for their state. Students who plan to pursue licensing in another state should consult the licensing board of that state. The receiving state makes the ultimate decision regarding eligibility to sit for social work licensing exams based on that state’s requirements and the rules and regulations in effect at the time of application.

This information is provided to you to guide your decision-making process regarding enrolling in the Social Work program (either undergraduate or graduate). Please visit with a faculty member if you have questions.