

**Social workers shall display at the social worker's primary place of practice or make available for all clients the following professional disclosure statement:**

## **Professional Disclosure Statement**

**from the  
Rules, Standards and Procedures of the  
Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners**

A social worker shall display at the social worker's primary place of practice or make available for all clients a statement that the client has the right to:

1. Expect that the social worker has met the minimal qualifications of education, training, and experience required by state law;
2. Examine public records maintained by the Board which contain the social worker's qualifications and credentials;
3. Be given a copy of the Standards of Practice upon request;
4. Report a complaint about the social worker's practice to the Board;
5. Be informed of the range of fees for professional services before receiving the services;
6. Privacy as allowed by law, and to be informed of the limits of confidentiality;
7. Expect that the social worker will take reasonable measures consistent with the social worker's duty of confidentiality to limit access to client information and any expressed waivers or authorizations executed by the client. Reasonable measures include restricting access to client information to appropriate agency or office staff whose duties require such access.
8. Receive information that a social worker is receiving supervision and that the social worker may be reviewing the client's case with the social worker's supervisor or consultant. Upon request, the social worker shall provide the name of the supervisor and the supervisor's contact information.
9. Be free from being the object of discrimination while receiving social work services; and,
10. Have access to records as allowed by law.

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## Consumer Information Regarding Distance Therapy

Source: Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

Retrieved from <https://telementalhealthtraining.com/128-louisiana#social-workers> on July 28, 2021

**Cautious consumers seeking therapy over the telephone or the internet should consider the following:**

- Verify that the practitioner has a current and valid license in the State of Louisiana.
- A social worker who provides Distance Therapy using the Internet shall have a web site which must include information relative to the credential the social worker holds, their physical location, their contact information, contact information for the licensing Board(s) that have issued the social worker a credential, the Professional Disclosure Statement and this Consumer Information Regarding Distance Therapy.
- Distance Therapy may not be conducted through the exchange of typed or printed data, E-mails or instant messages and may not be used for group therapy or counseling.
- The LMSW or CSW must be an employee in an agency setting (or under contract with a governmental agency) and practice with supervision from a LCSW.
- Understand the fee that you will be charged for the services rendered.
- Fully comprehend how and to whom the fee is paid.
- Be satisfied with the methods used to ensure communication with and by the therapist will be confidential.
- Make yourself aware of the risks and benefits of doing therapy so you can make an informed choice about the therapy or counseling to be provided.

According to the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act, Rules, Standards and Procedures Rule 111 Section F, social workers should provide services to clients only in the context of a professional relationship with a valid informed consent. Social workers should use clear and understandable language to inform clients of the plan for services, relevant costs, reasonable alternatives, the client's right to refuse or withdraw consent, and the timeframe covered by the consent. Social workers shall provide clients with an opportunity to ask questions.

If the client does not have the capacity to provide consent, the social worker shall obtain consent for the services from the client's legal guardian or other authorized representative.

If the client, the legal guardian or authorized representative does not consent, the social worker shall, at the earliest opportunity, discuss with the client that a referral to other resources may be in the client's best interest.

## **You have the right to receive a “Good Faith Estimate” explaining how much your health care will cost**

Under the law, health care providers need to give **patients who don’t have certain types of health care coverage or who are not using certain types of health care coverage** an estimate of their bill for health care items and services before those items or services are provided.

- You have the right to receive a Good Faith Estimate for the total expected cost of any health care items or services upon request or when scheduling such items or services. This includes related costs like medical tests, prescription drugs, equipment, and hospital fees.
- If you schedule a health care item or service at least 3 business days in advance, make sure your health care provider or facility gives you a Good Faith Estimate in writing within 1 business day after scheduling. If you schedule a health care item or service at least 10 business days in advance, make sure your health care provider or facility gives you a Good Faith Estimate in writing within 3 business days after scheduling. You can also ask any health care provider or facility for a Good Faith Estimate before you schedule an item or service. If you do, make sure the health care provider or facility gives you a Good Faith Estimate in writing within 3 business days after you ask.
- If you receive a bill that is at least \$400 more for any provider or facility than your Good Faith Estimate from that provider or facility, you can dispute the bill.
- Make sure to save a copy or picture of your Good Faith Estimate and the bill.

For questions or more information about your right to a Good Faith Estimate, visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers), email [FederalPPDRQuestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:FederalPPDRQuestions@cms.hhs.gov), or call 1-800-985-3059.