

**TITLE 575. STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS
CHAPTER 10. LICENSURE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

575:10-1-2. Requirements to become licensed as a psychologist

(a) **Application.** Persons desiring licensure as a psychologist may obtain official application information from either the Board office or the Official Board Website. Applicants are required to submit a non-refundable four hundred dollar (\$400.00) application fee in the form of a personal or certified check or acceptable money order. A minimum of three references from licensed psychologists shall be required for each applicant. Board members shall not serve as references for applicants except to verify portions of completed training or experience.

(b) **Consideration of application.** The Board may appoint a committee to consider and approve, the request of each applicant to take the examination for licensure as a psychologist under 59 O.S., Section 1362(1). In instances where the applicant fails to complete the requirements for licensure within five years of the date of approval, the Board may destroy the application and all related documents.

(c) **Doctoral programs.** Applicants for licensure shall have completed a doctoral program in psychology that is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA), unless the doctoral program meets any of the following exceptions:

(1) Areas where no accreditation exists. This exception applies to doctoral programs, within the United States, that are in specialty areas of professional psychology that are not accredited by the APA.

(2) New specialty areas of professional psychology. When a new specialty of professional psychology is recognized as being within the accreditation scope of the APA, doctoral programs within that specialty will be afforded a maximum transition period of eight (8) years from the first class of students to the time of accreditation. To be eligible for this exception the program must have a pending application for accreditation with the APA at the time of the applicant's application for licensure.

(3) New doctoral programs in specialty areas currently within the scope of APA accreditation. This exception is available to new doctoral programs developed in APA accredited specialty areas of professional psychology. A doctoral program is only eligible for this exception during a maximum transition period of eight (8) years from the first class of students to the time of accreditation. To be eligible for this exception the program must have a pending application for accreditation with the APA at the time of the applicant's application for licensure.

(4) Applicants trained in institutions outside the United States shall have completed a doctoral program in psychology that is accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association or that is deemed the equivalent of a program accredited by the APA by the Board in its sole discretion. The Board shall consider, but is not limited to, determinations made by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services or from a recognized foreign credential evaluation service approved by the Board.

(d) All doctoral programs in 575:10-1-2(c) shall meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The doctoral program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogs and brochures its intent to educate and train psychologists.

(2) The psychology program must stand as a recognizable coherent organizational entity within the institution.

(3) There must be clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines.

(4) The program must be an integrated, organized sequence of study.

(5) The program must have an identifiable psychology faculty and a psychologist responsible for the program.

(6) The program must have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a degree.

(e) **Practica and internship required.** The assessment of mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders and/or the treatment of individuals, couples, families, or groups with such disorders, by psychologists, requires a doctoral degree from an academic program designed to train psychologists to provide these services which integrates coursework and other experiences toward the goal of training psychologist practitioners. Practica and an internship experience are required.

(f) **Evaluating doctoral programs.** The doctoral program shall be documented in writing to the Board. The institution is to document the name of the department granting the degree, the date of completion of the degree requirements, and the major program of study such as, but not limited to, clinical, counseling, developmental, educational, experimental, industrial-personnel, psychometrics, school, or social-personality, unless this information is indicated on the applicant's official transcript. A certified letter from the Registrar may be submitted as documentation of the date of completion of the degree requirements. Applicants trained in institutions outside the United States, besides those accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association, shall submit an evaluation of their doctoral program as described in 575:10-1-2(c)(4). All doctoral programs submitted for review under this subsection will be evaluated by the following criteria:

(1) Except in school psychology, the three academic years leading to the doctoral degree must include a minimum of two years of full-time, on campus, graduate study (excluding internship). In school psychology, the three academic years leading to the doctoral degree must include a minimum of one year of full-time postmaster's graduate study as defined by the institution (excluding internship).

(2) At least forty-two (42) hours of the specified course work must be primarily psychological in content. The applicant must have a minimum of three (3) or more graduate semester hours in each of the following substantive content areas, for a total of twenty-one (21) hours:

(A) scientific and professional ethics and standards,

(B) research design and methodology,

(C) statistics and psychometrics,

(D) biological bases of behavior [e.g. physiological psychology, comparative psychology, neuropsychology, sensation, psychopharmacology].

(E) cognitive-affective bases of behavior [e.g. learning, memory, perception, cognition, thinking, motivation, emotion].

(F) social bases of behavior [e.g. social psychology, cultural, ethnic, and group processes, sex roles, organization and systems theory], and

(G) individual behavior [e.g. personality theory, human development, individual differences, abnormal psychology].

(3) The remaining twenty-one (21) hours of specified course work may be in the foregoing basic areas or in courses pertaining to the specific program of study.

(g) **Doctoral degree in area related to psychology not sufficient.** The possession of a doctoral degree from an area related to psychology does not qualify one for licensure as a psychologist. This includes, but is not limited to, applicants with degrees in special education, pastoral psychology (or counseling), counseling and guidance, speech and hearing, and counselor education.

(h) **Supervised experience.** An applicant for licensure as a psychologist must have two years of supervised experience satisfactory to the Board. Supervisors may not be members of the psychologist's immediate family or other individuals with whom the necessary level of objectivity cannot be maintained. This will include, but is not limited to, spouses, children, siblings, and parents or anyone with whom the psychologist has an emotionally or sexually intimate relationship. Any experience gained under such supervision will be disallowed. This two years of experience must be as a psychologist and in line with the applicant's major program of study for the doctoral degree as determined according to the procedure stated in 575:10-1-2(e). Applicants in the areas of clinical, counseling, and school psychology must have an internship experience. Applicants from psychology programs other than clinical, counseling, or school psychology, who assert the program's purpose to be the training of individuals to provide professional psychological services to the public, must have an internship experience. Internships of applicants from psychology programs with titles other than clinical, counseling, or school psychology programs will be evaluated using the same rules as those used to evaluate applicants with degrees from either clinical, counseling, or school psychology programs, depending upon which the Board deems is the most appropriate corollary based upon the program's training goals and objectives. A predoctoral internship may be used to partially fulfill the two-year experience requirement for licensure. Under no circumstances may more than one year of predoctoral experience as an intern be accepted. The internship must be consistent with the major program of study in the doctoral program which was documented in writing to the Board by the accredited institution [see 575:10-1-2(e)]. Internships in clinical psychology require a full-time experience (40 hours per week) either for one calendar year, or for two years of half-time experience. Counseling and school psychology internships require either a full-time experience (40 hours per week) for one calendar year or one academic contract year or a half-time experience for two calendar years or two academic contract years. An academic contract year means the school year of the elementary or secondary school setting in which an intern is fulfilling the internship requirement. If the counseling or school psychology internship is completed in other than an elementary or secondary school setting, the one calendar year requirement shall apply.

(i) **General requirements for internships.** Internships must be designed to provide a planned, programmed sequence of training experience. The primary focus and purpose of the internship must assure breadth and quality of training. An internship is an organized program of planned experiences in contrast to simply supervised experience or on-the-job training. The internship must provide training in a range of assessment and treatment activities conducted directly with patients or clients seeking psychological services. At least 25 percent of the trainee's time must be in direct patient or client contact. Internship training is at the post-coursework, post candidacy, post-clerkship, post-practicum, post-externship level. A written statement or brochure must be

available which describes the goals and content of the internship, states clear expectations for the quantity and quality of trainee's work, and is furnished to prospective interns.

(j) **Supervision in internships.** A clinical or counseling psychology internship agency must have a clearly designated staff psychologist, who is responsible for the integrity and quality of the training program and who is licensed. In a counseling or clinical psychology internship, the basic supervision must be conducted by a staff psychologist who is trained in the applicant's major program of doctoral study, or a closely related program, and who is licensed. While additional experience with professionals in other disciplines is highly desirable, it is required that clinical and counseling psychology interns have experience with multiple (three or more) supervisors who are licensed as psychologists. Supervision of counseling and clinical psychology interns shall consist of an average of at least 10 percent of the full-time or half-time intern's week. At least half of the supervision of clinical and counseling psychology interns must be regularly scheduled, formal, face-to-face, individual supervision by one or more licensed psychologists with the intent of dealing with psychological services rendered directly by the intern. The remaining half of the supervision may be conducted individually or in a group by licensed psychologists or by other licensed professionals as appropriate to the internship experience. The counseling or clinical psychology internship agency should ordinarily have a minimum of two interns at the internship level of training during the applicant's training period.

(k) **School psychology internships.** School psychology internships must have a clearly designated psychologist who is responsible for the integrity and quality of the training program and who is licensed. In a school psychology internship, the basic supervision must be conducted by a psychologist who is trained in the applicant's major program of doctoral study, or a closely related program, who is licensed, and who may be employed in a setting other than the school district in which the internship is situated. While additional experience with professionals in other disciplines is highly desirable, it is required that school psychology interns have experience with multiple (two or more) supervisors who are licensed as psychologists. Supervision of school psychology interns shall consist of an average of at least 10 percent of the full-time or half-time intern's week. At least half of the supervision of school psychology interns must be regularly scheduled, formal, face-to-face, individual supervision by one or more licensed psychologists with the intent of dealing with psychological services rendered directly by the intern. The remaining half of the supervision may be conducted individually or in a group by licensed psychologists or by other licensed professionals as appropriate to the internship experience.

(l) **Postdoctoral experience.** At least one year of the two-year experience requirement must be postdoctoral experience as a psychologist and in line with the applicant's major program of doctoral study as determined according to the procedure stated in 575:10-1-2(e).

(1) Except in school psychology, The the postdoctoral experience must be a total of 2000 hours of appropriate experience. The postdoctoral experience must either be a full time (40 hours per week) for at least one calendar year (50 weeks), or a total of 2000 hours of appropriate experience, or equivalent, or part-time for a period not to exceed three years, except in school psychology.

(2) The postdoctoral experience in school psychology must be full time (40 hours per week) for at least one calendar year (50 weeks) or one academic contract year, or a total of 2000 hours (or the number of hours in an academic contract year) of appropriate experience, or equivalent, for a period not to exceed three years.

(3) The postdoctoral experience must be under the supervision of a licensed psychologist(s) who was trained in the applicant's major program of doctoral study, or a closely related program, and who is currently engaged in rendering psychological services relevant to that training.

(4) ~~The applicant~~ Applicants must have received and accumulated 75 hours of regularly scheduled, formal, face-to-face, individual supervision from his/her supervisor(s) reasonably distributed throughout each 12 months of the postdoctoral experience.

(5) The postdoctoral experience does not have to be in a private setting.

(6) The postdoctoral experience of applicants who desire a Health Service Psychologist designation must also meet the requirements of 575:10-1-6(b)(5)(B).

(m) **Examination process.** The full examination for licensure shall consist of two component examinations:

(1) **Objective examination.** An objective examination in basic psychology, known as the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology ("EPPP").

(2) **Jurisprudence examination.** A jurisprudence examination based on the Rules of the Board, Psychologists Licensing Act, Code of Ethics and applicable Oklahoma Mental Health Law.

(n) **Passing scores on examinations.** An applicant is deemed to have passed the objective examination if he/she has obtained at least the minimum pass point designated by the developer of the examination. An applicant is deemed to have passed the jurisprudence examination if he/she has 70 percent of the total items correct.

(o) **Notification of results.** All applicants will be notified by mail of the results of each component examination within 30 days of the examination date. At the request of the applicant, specific information about his/her performance on any component examination will be provided to the extent the integrity of the exam is not violated.

(p) **Re-examination.** If either of the two component examinations is failed a total of four times, the application process shall cease. The former applicant may reapply for licensure by submitting a new application for consideration by the Board in accordance with the requirements to become licensed as a psychologist.

(q) **Waiver of portion of examination or re-examination.** Failure on either portion of the licensing examination will be considered failure of the entire examination for purposes of licensing; however, satisfactory performance on the objective examination or jurisprudence examination will be grounds for waiver of that portion of the examination for future re-examination.

(r) **Licensing by reciprocity.** Applicants for licensure under the reciprocity provisions of this act may only be licensed if they meet the requirements in 59 O.S. Section 1366(2).

(s) **Post-Military Service Applicants.**

(1) The Board shall consider the equivalent education, training and experience completed by an applicant while the applicant was a member of the United States Armed Forces or Reserves, National Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval militias of any state, and apply it in the manner most favorable toward satisfying the qualifications for licensure.

(2) While examining the education, training and experience completed by an applicant while the applicant was a member of the military as described in the preceding paragraph, the Board may consider, but is not limited to, determinations made by institutions of higher education based on the Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services, published by the American Council on Education.

575:10-1-4. Fees for applicants

- (a) **Application fee.** The application fee for licensure as a psychologist shall be four hundred dollars (\$400.00), and shall be submitted with the application for licensure.
- (b) **Re-examination fee.** The fee for each written **Jurisprudence** re-examination for licensure as a psychologist shall be ~~two~~ **one** hundred dollars (~~\$200.00~~ **\$100.00**).
- (c) **Fee required to engage in private practice under supervision.** The fee for applicants for licensure as psychologists authorized to conduct private practice under supervision shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year. Such fee shall be submitted with the application for approval to conduct such practice. The fee for each additional year of practice, if continued practice under supervision is authorized, shall ~~also be~~ **not exceed** two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and shall be due on the anniversary date of approval for Private Practice Under Supervision. These fees may not be used to reduce or eliminate the fee for licensing.
- (d) **Fee required to engage in institutional practice under supervision.** The fee for applicants for licensure as psychologists authorized to conduct Institutional practice under supervision shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year. Such fee shall be submitted with the application for approval to conduct such practice. The fee for each additional year of practice, if continued practice under supervision is authorized, shall ~~also be~~ **not exceed** two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and shall be due on the anniversary date of approval for Institutional Practice Under Supervision. These fees may not be used to reduce or eliminate the fee for licensing.

575:10-1-8. Continuing professional education for psychologists

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of continuing professional education requirements for psychologists is to assure that licensees update and advance their skills such that the public shall benefit from the most current and effective standards of professional practice. To further the goal of public benefit, all psychologists are encouraged to fulfill a portion of their continuing professional education requirements in the areas of ethics, professional conduct, and related legal issues. A minimum of three (3) of the twenty (20) continuing professional education credits required for yearly licensure renewal shall be earned by licensees with HSP certification in activities that are specific to ethics, relevant laws and legal issues, and/or applicable professional practice guidelines and standards.
- (b) **Credits required for annual license renewal.** The minimum of twenty (20) credits of acceptable continuing professional education will be required for renewal of a license to practice psychology for the following year (one clock hour equals one credit). The continuing professional education year is a calendar year and all continuing professional education hours must be submitted online on the Board's official website by the close of business on December 31. For licenses issued after January 1 of a given year, the required credits of continuing professional education will be adjusted for the initial continuing professional education year only, to require 1.5 credits of continuing professional education per full month of licensure for the initial renewal of the license. Continuing professional education hours attained in a calendar year in excess of the minimum annual requirements may be carried forward for credit in the succeeding year up to twelve (12) hours of credit.
- (c) **Preapproval of continuing professional education activities required.**

(1) Continuing professional education credits may be granted for acceptable educational activities at the graduate level which are preapproved by the Board, or by a committee appointed by the Board. No credits will be granted for any activities or categories of activities that have not been preapproved.

(2) A provider of educational activities may apply to the Board for preapproval of an activity. The provider shall be responsible for compliance with the standards for approval of the activity, verification of participation, and for the provision of the necessary verification of attendance forms to all participants. This verification of attendance form shall include:

- (A) The participant's name.
- (B) The presenter's name, academic degree, profession, and whether licensed.
- (C) The presentation topic.
- (D) The program sponsor agency.
- (E) The location of the presentation.
- (F) The dates of presentation.
- (G) The total number of clock hours presented.

(d) **Exceptions to the requirements.** Exceptions to the requirements of (c) of this section may be granted at the discretion of the Board for programs presented by recognized sponsors whose programs have been preapproved by the Board. The university academic hour is equal to fifteen (15) credits, and shall be verified by the presentation of an official graduate transcript showing course or audit credits. The licensee is ultimately responsible for providing all information necessary for the Board to make final determination concerning the acceptability of any requested continuing professional education credits.

(e) **Fee for preapproval.** Providers of educational activities may be charged a fee for the review and preapproval of their program. This fee shall be set by the Board.

(f) **Kinds of educational activities for which credit may be received.** Continuing professional education credits may be earned through formal organized learning experiences, scientific publications, attendance at regularly scheduled meetings of international, national, regional, or state professional associations, or through presentations to appropriate groups not related to the psychologist's regular employment. The same kinds of educational activities, when the subject matter is so designated, may be used to fulfill the mandatory three (3) hours of credit in the areas of ethics, relevant laws and legal issues and/or applicable professional practice guidelines and standards. Other acceptable activities include attendance at Board meetings and serving the Board as an appointed investigator, tutor, practice monitor or supervisor.

(g) **Credits allowed.** Continuing professional education activities, whether received or presented by the psychologist, must be targeted toward a professional audience. In those instances when the psychologist is teaching ~~in programs such as institutes, seminars, workshops, and conferences~~ a continuing professional education activity which ~~have~~ has been granted preapproval by the Board, three (3) credits will be given for each one (1) hour that is taught, provided that such teaching is not a part of the psychologist's regular employment. Publication of a scientific book or chapter in a book, or publication of a scientific article in a refereed journal, shall be equal to ten (10) credits. Examination by the American Board of Professional Psychology shall be equal to twenty (20) credits.

(h) **List of approved Continuing Professional Education Recognized Sponsors.** This list shall be reviewed and approved by the Board.

(i) **Verification of continuing professional education.** Continuing professional education records shall be maintained in the Board files for two years. Individual psychologists are to keep verification of all continuing professional education credits claimed for a period of two years. In February of each year, the Board will randomly select from two (2) to twenty-five (25) percent of the number of psychologists on active status the previous year for an audit of their claimed continuing professional education credits. These selected psychologists must then provide the Board with verification of all credits claimed on their continuing professional education form within thirty (30) days following receipt of the audit notice.

(j) **Board audit.** The Board may, at its discretion, audit and require verification of any continuing professional education credits claimed which it may consider questionable or fraudulent. In either condition, selected psychologists who do not furnish verification of claimed continuing professional education credits to the Board within thirty (30) days following receipt of the audit notice shall as of December 31 have their licenses invalidated for the practice of psychology, with possible suspension or revocation of the license to practice psychology.

(k) **Late fee for late filing.** A psychologist who has not completed and reported the required twenty (20) credits of continuing professional education by December 31, shall pay a late fee which will be set by the Board.

(l) **Petition for relief for previous years.** Under the extraordinary circumstances of incapacitation or serious illness of the licensed psychologist, or of an immediate family member, and upon the presentation of acceptable evidence thereof, a psychologist who is otherwise in full compliance with all renewal requirements, may petition the Board for partial or complete relief of the previous year's continuing professional education requirement. ~~A petition requested under these circumstances must be filed by November 1.~~ There shall be no fee for a psychologist who petitions the Board for compassionate relief of continuing professional education requirements under this subsection.

(m) **License rendered invalid for failure to comply.** A licensed psychologist who is not in compliance with the required twenty (20) credits (hours) of continuing professional education by December 31 and/or who has not completed and reported his/her continuing professional education hours by December 31, and who has not petitioned the Board for compassionate relief under (l) of this section, shall as of December 31 have his or her license invalidated for the practice of psychology, with possible suspension of the license to practice psychology.