



# Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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**Subject:** Email update: April 2013

**Date:** April 24, 2013

Dear Registrant:

Welcome to the most recent update from NSBEP. In this format of communication with registrants, the Board strives to provide updates on subjects of interest to registrants of the Board.

## 1. Telepsychology Model Standards

The Model Standards for Telepsychology Service, developed by the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO), were adopted as an Advisory for Psychological Practice on April 5, 2013, by the NSBEP.

As an Advisory these are not incorporated into the Board's Standards of Practice, but are provided as advice to Registrants regarding important issues to be carefully considered in offering telepsychology services. Telepsychology relates to services provided both within Nova Scotia and across jurisdictional boundaries; however, some issues are specifically relevant when cross-jurisdictional services are contemplated.

[Click here](#) to access the Guidelines section of the website which houses the model standards.

## 2. Change of Contact Information / Online Portal

Registrants should notify NSBEP whenever there is a change of address where records are kept or change of directory address. Registrants can make changes to their contact information by calling or writing to the Board office. However you can also email this information to the Board or complete an update online. In order to update your contact information by using the Board's secure update feature, please [click here](#).

Once the resulting page loads, you simply need to enter your registration number and the password used when you renewed your registration. If you do not recall your password, or if you would like to set up a new password, please click the "Register for Online Access" link.

*You will also be able to access a Confirmation of Registration document that you can save to your computer and/or print off if you wish to share it with others, e.g. insurance*

*companies, agencies, etc.*

### **3. Personal Health Information Act**

On June 1, 2013, the Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) will come into force.

Following the Board's meeting on May 24th, NSBEP will be providing a document by email to provide information about the salient points of the Act to assist registrants with the legislative requirements of PHIA.

In the meantime, there are a number of ways to learn more about PHIA.

The Government of Nova Scotia has made a number of documents available online. The Act, Regulations and a comprehensive Toolkit and set of Templates can be found on the Government's website. The Toolkit is available as one document or individually by chapter.

[Click here](#) to access all of this information.

Additionally, the Privacy and Access Office of the Department of Health and Wellness can be contacted with questions:

Department of Health and Wellness  
Privacy and Access Office  
1894 Barrington Street  
PO Box 488  
Halifax, NS B3J 2R8

Phone: (902) 424-5419  
Toll-free: 1-855-640-4765  
e-mail: [phia@gov.ns.ca](mailto:phia@gov.ns.ca)

### **4. Supervision and Committee Work**

The NSBEP extends sincere appreciation to all Registrants who give their time, knowledge and experience in acting as a Board Supervisor or assisting with Oral Examinations and Transfer Interviews.

In keeping with Standard IV.4 of the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists, working with the Board in these capacities provides an excellent way to contribute to the continuing education and the professional and scientific growth of self and colleagues.

Here is some information about the various roles.

The purposes of supervision are to:

1. To monitor the performance of Candidates in the core competency areas to ensure standards are being met.
2. To provide opportunities for Candidates to further develop their skills, knowledge, professional attitudes, and sound professional judgment.

Psychologists can act as a Supervisor for the entire duration of the Candidacy period or for a limited period of time.

Those who have been on the Register of Psychologists for two years are eligible to volunteer as a NSBEP Supervisor.

Oral Examinations are conducted as Candidates take the final steps towards Registration. The Oral Examination provides an opportunity for face to face interaction between examiners and examinees to discuss areas of practice, professional behaviour and ethical dilemmas, and to assess the examinee's understanding of the core competencies required for psychological practice as well as the meaning of registration and the position of psychology as a profession.

Transfer Interviews are held for psychologists who are registered in another jurisdiction and are eligible to transfer based on their full registration in another jurisdiction and their meeting certain criteria. The interviews do not result in a pass or fail but do focus on ethical practice and local jurisprudence issues.

The NSBEP encourages psychologists to consider becoming involved with the work of the Board. To obtain more information, or to volunteer as a Supervisor or member of a Committee, please contact Matthew Wagner, Acting Registrar.

Sincerely,

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