



Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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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. Revised Position Statement

A recent case before the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia addressed the issue of psychologists being required to submit raw test data to the Court. Individual psychologists and legal counsel for NSBEP submitted briefs arguing the importance of protecting this information. The Court ruled against the Board, indicating that the raw test data must be submitted to the Court in cases involving active litigation. The Court concluded that there was adequate protection for psychological documents already included in the Nova Scotia Civil Procedures Rules. Consequently, the Board has worked with its legal counsel and published a revised position statement on the release of raw test data, test materials and file materials. This revised statement is intended to provide guidance when requests are made for disclosure of file information, while considering applicable professional and legal requirements. The statement is permanently housed on the section of Board's website entitled "Standards and Guidelines."

However you may [click here](#) and directly access this publication.

2. Continuing Competence Program

As previously announced, the Board is continuing to review the feedback from its survey of registered psychologists about the Continuing Competence Program as well as reviewing feedback from the Continuing Competence Committee. The Board has not yet made decisions about whether there should be changes to the program. It is expected that any changes would be announced prior to the end of the year. Consequently the Board has decided not to proceed with the audit of program compliance for 2013 at this time. In the meantime, registrants are expected to maintain their compliance with the program as it currently exists.

3. Board's Website

Registrants are always encouraged to make use of the website to keep track of any developments and to perform various tasks. For instance, the website provides access to various legislation, standards and additional guidelines NSBEP has established to direct practice along with news releases. We also have different versions of "Frequently Asked Questions" to serve the various requirements of visitors to our site.

Additionally, the NSBEP Directory of Psychologists is available from the website. Such information can be helpful for the public and other professionals. Please ensure that your information is accurate.

The Board site offers a Registrant Portal, which allows registrants to perform a variety of self-serve functions. In addition to renewing your registration, you can update your contact information or Psychological Practice Profile at any time.

You can also 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 to verify your registration, e.g., an employer, insurance companies, agencies, etc.

You can return to this portal at any time in future, if you wish to obtain another Confirmation of Registration, update your information, or even pay a miscellaneous fee (e.g., paying an oral exam fee, reinstatement fee, etc.).

To get started with any of the self-serve functions, visit nsbep.org and click on "Registrant Login" in the upper right hand screen.

If you have any suggestions about how we can improve the website or provide additional information, please feel free to contact Matthew Wagner, Assistant Registrar.

4. Supervision, Oral Examinations and Transfer Interviews

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 Interview Committees.

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.

Oral Examinations & Transfer Interviews

Oral Examinations are conducted as candidates take the final steps towards Registration. The Oral Examination provides an opportunity for a 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. These interviews do not result in a pass or fail but do focus on ethical practice and local jurisprudence issues. At times, the

Transfer Interview Committee might recommend that a condition be added to a psychologist's registration. An example of a condition would be completing supervision for a period of time.

Supervision

The purposes of candidate register 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 they may choose to do so for a limited period of time.

As mentioned, there are times when supervision might be required for a registered psychologist. For instance, if a candidate has passed an oral exam with conditions, they may be registered with a condition requiring him/her to undergo an additional period of supervision to remediate concerns identified by the oral exam committee. In some instances, supervision may also be recommended to a psychologist who has transferred from another jurisdiction.

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

The NSBEP encourages psychologists to consider becoming involved with the work of the Board. To obtain more information or to volunteer for one of these roles, please contact Matthew Wagner, Assistant Registrar.

5. Registration Renewals

This is the time of year when registration renewals are underway. We appreciate that so many registrants have already used the online system to renew their registration for 2015. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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