



# **Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology**

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## **POLICY INVOLVING RESTRICTIONS ON INDEPENDENT PRACTICE UPDATED JANUARY 2012**

As of January 2008, applicants for placement on the Candidate Register were subject to a new condition specifying that they are not permitted to engage in their own independent practice until placement on the Register of Psychologists. The intention of this practice restriction is to ensure that candidates have access to registered psychologists for collegial support, consultation and supervision in the workplace.

The Board's Supervision Handbook includes a requirement for periodic contact between the candidate's NSBEP Supervisor and his/her workplace supervisor. It is intended that this process will be one of the assessment methods used for monitoring and evaluating the candidate's progress. Candidates need to ensure that they have signed the appropriate consent forms allowing their manager/supervisor to provide feedback to their Board Supervisor. Preferably this manager/supervisor would be a psychologist. If however a psychologist is not available then another manager/supervisor who can provide evaluative feedback to the Board Supervisor would be acceptable. In this instance the candidate must have another psychologist for collegial support and consultation, in addition to his/her NSBEP Supervisor.

As of January 2012, applicants for placement on the Candidate Register will be required to ensure that their Board Supervisor receives a copy of any performance evaluations that are conducted during their employment.

### *Policy statement:*

Candidates are not permitted to conduct an independent practice. A primary purpose of the candidacy period is to assess the candidate in the core competency areas. Until the candidate has been assessed as ready for independent practice and has passed the required examinations, all independent practice activities are viewed as inappropriate.

Candidates may have provided services under previously acquired credentials. Nonetheless, any related activities which fall within the scope of the practice of psychology are considered to be within NSBEP's jurisdiction and must be supervised.