



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

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### **Information about Transfer Interviews for International Applicants**

This is not an open book interview. No books or papers are permitted in the room. Electronic devices must be turned off and taping is not permitted. The content is confidential.

The typical panel contains two Board members, one of whom is chair, and one psychologist, who is a registered psychologist but not a sitting member of the Board of Examiners in Psychology. The interview must take place in-person with the committee members and the applicant.

Fee: The fee is Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and payable one week in advance of the interview. The Board accepts payment online by cheque, Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. All fees (i.e. Transfer Interview and Registration) can be paid online using credit card. To pay your fees online, visit the Applicants section of the website ([www.nsbep.org](http://www.nsbep.org)) and select the Online Payments for Applicants tab. Alternatively, you may call or fax your credit card information into the office or send payment by mail.

Preparation: This is not specifically a jurisprudence exam; however it would be helpful to consult the Board document “Standards of Practice”. This document contains the standards, and listing of relevant legislation and guidelines. The URL is:  
[http://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Binder\\_Standards\\_Legislation\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Binder_Standards_Legislation_Guidelines.pdf)

The Interview: The chair asks the applicant to describe his or her past work settings, to indicate some ethical dilemmas that have arisen, and to describe how they were resolved. Additionally applicants may be asked to discuss their intended work setting in Nova Scotia. Each member of the panel is free to ask questions and pose problems for the applicant’s consideration. Because our registration is generic, the questions tend to focus on the actual work situation of the applicant rather than following a pre-arranged agenda. Nevertheless the panel is not limited to the applicant’s own examples, but is free to develop hypothetical scenarios, to ask about issues that the applicant may not have introduced, and so on. The questioning should continue until panel members are satisfied that they can make a recommendation to the Board, with confidence. The applicant is asked to leave and to wait nearby until the panel has deliberated and is in a position to offer feedback.

Post Interview feedback: When the applicant returns the panel offers feedback and indicates what recommendations it will make to the Board.

After the Interview: The chair of the panel completes a standard form indicating the panel's recommendation. All International Applicants who are approved for registration, will be required to complete at least a six month period of supervised practice in Nova Scotia under the supervision of a psychologist registered in Nova Scotia. The purpose of this supervision is to help connect newly arrived psychologists from another jurisdiction with a mentor and other psychologists in Nova Scotia and to assist them with practice and ethical issues and develop an understanding of local practice and conditions in the province.

Options of the Board after a Transfer Interview: The Board may impose conditions on the registration of the applicant if any concerns arise during the interview process. For example, the Committee can identify issues and recommend further conditions be placed on the applicant's registration, in addition to the minimum six month period of supervised practice noted above. For example, additional supervision or coursework could be recommended to:

- improve one's knowledge of the Canadian Code of Ethics and professional standards in Nova Scotia
- Complete focused work on dealing with actual & potential ethical dilemmas, including working through the ethical decision-making process and developing a systematic approach to analyzing and resolving ethical dilemmas
- Identify areas of competence and define limits of competence
- Gain more clinical experience

Any supervision or coursework would not prevent one from placement on the Register of Psychologists. In other words, the activities would be completed after the psychologist is registered in Nova Scotia.