

## **COVID-19 Public Health Restrictions**

Dear Registrant,

When the provincial government announced its intention to move to "Phase 5" in 2021, the NSBEP COVID guidance was updated and provided to registrants by way of an email update on September 29, 2021.

Guidance from NSBEP indicated that the NSBEP COVID-19 Private Practice Guidelines issued on June 4, 2020 would no longer be in force as of October 4, 2021 in order to correspond with the province's move to Phase 5.

The existing NSBEP COVID-19 FAQ was referenced in the September 2021 email update and registrants were advised to review the updated FAQ: <a href="https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/COVID">https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/COVID</a> Reopening Phase 5.pdf

NSBEP has continued to maintain the FAQ since that time. Though public health made a number of recommendations through the Omicron wave, the only remaining mandatory practices for psychologists were those mentioned in the FAQ document. In other words, the initial COVID-19 Private Practice Guidelines issued on June 4, 2020 were not brought back into force.

As the Government has removed the majority of public health restrictions on March 21, 2022, the Board is not requiring registrants to maintain additional practices beyond the provincial standard. However, individuals may choose to complete their own personal risk assessment and to take precautions that they deem appropriate.

Kind regards,

Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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