

Kentucky Board of Examiners of Psychology Newsletter

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Spring 2022 Edition

http://psy.ky.gov

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Joseph Dickhaus, M.S.

Jamie Hopkins, Ph.D.

August Pozgay, Board Counsel PPC Office of Legal Services Eva Markham, Ed.D. Emily Skaggs, Psy.D. Citizen-At-Large: Justin S. Gilfert

Chessica Nation Interim Board Administrator

The purpose of the State Board of Psychology is to administer and enforce statutory authority and to monitor the needs of the consuming public. The board examines and licenses all eligible candidates for entry into the profession of psychology. It also recommends appropriate changes in the law to assure fairness and equality. The board conducts formal hearings, when necessary, and prosecutes by due process any violators of <u>KRS 319</u>.

#### In this issue:

- Board Updates and Your Board
- Responding to the Board
- Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact
- Renewal and Continuing Education; State of Emergency Update
- Proper Communication with the Board
- > Updating your Contact Information
- Suicide AMT Training
- > Virtual Meetings and Virtual Testing
- Candidate License. & Supervisor 60 Day Grace Period Reminder
- > ASPPB PLUS Program Withdrawn
- Supervision Manual for Licensees
- > CAP Information for Members
- Examiner Volunteers
- Disciplinary Actions

#### **Board Updates**

The Board is continuing to meet and address the regulation of your profession during the COVID-19 phenomenon. Please keep current with any memorandums, announcements, or communications as they are communicated. In particular, make sure to track the COVID-<u>19 Memorandums that are published on our website.</u> The Board would like to offer its condolences to the family of former Board Attorney, David Trimble, who recently passed. David was a faithful servant to this Board and the Commonwealth. We will miss his quick wit and steadfast guidance.

## YOUR BOARD

**Brenda Nash, Board Chair**: A Member since 2020, Brenda is the Chair of the School of Professional Psychology at Spalding University.

**Jean Deters, Board Vice Chair:** A Member since 2019, Jean is a former Board Chair and maintains a private practice in Northern Kentucky.

**Elizabeth "Liz" McKune:** A member since 2016, Liz is a former Board Chair and the current Associate Vice President of Population Health and Behavioral Health for Passport Health Plan by Molina Healthcare.

**Emily Skaggs:** A Member since 2019, Emily maintains a private practice in Lexington.

**Joseph Dickhaus:** A member since 2016, Joe is a former Board Vice Chair and current Clinic Director for a Community Mental Health Center.

**Stacy Seale:** A member since 2019, Stacy is the Director of Therapies for Employment Solutions, Inc., in Lexington.

**Jamie Hopkins:** A member since 2014, Jamie is a former Board Chair and Vice Chair, and is a staff psychologist at UK's Counseling Center.

**Eva Markham:** A two-time member, from 2008 to 2016 and 2020 to present, Eva served at UofL's School of Medicine for 25 years.

**Justin S. Gilfert:** A Member since 2017, Justin is a healthcare executive in Louisville.

Chessica Nation: Interim Board Administrator.

### **RESPONDING TO BOARD NOTICES**

Please remember to timely respond to any and all notices or correspondences received by the Board. Failure to respond may result in disciplinary action.

#### Psych Interjurisdictional Compact Update

Your Board continues to track the hot topic of an interjurisdictional psychology compact. It is seen as a way to facilitate the practice of psychology using face-to-face services, telecommunication technologies and/or temporary in-person services. As you no doubt recall, the ASPPB created the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT), a cooperative agreement for participating states to address the increased demand for your services.

The PSYPACT is only available to those states and jurisdictions whose legislatures enact and implement the program. As of early 2019, there were seven state legislatures that had signed PSYPACT into law. As of December 2021, the number now stands at twenty five states, including Kentucky (who adopted earlier this year), and one jurisdiction (D.C.).

The Board is currently assessing how PSYPACT rules will impact practice in our state, and how to regulate incorporation of those rules as it relates to remaining/ withdrawing from the Pact. Please stay tuned for more information in the future.

#### Renewal and Continuing Education; State of Emergency Update

The legislature ended the state of emergency related to Covid-19 on March 21, 2022. (SJR150 RS 2022). Thus, if your license expiration date was extended because of the state of emergency, and you have not done so already, you have until June 19, 2022, to timely renew your license and complete all administrative obligations. including completing your continuing education (CE) hours. Full licensees will still have the normal 90-day grace period after their renewal date during which they can continue to practice; however, CE cannot be earned during this grace period and a late fee of \$75 will be charged to renewals submitted during the grace period. If your CE requirements are not completed prior to your renewal date, you will need to reinstate your license. Reinstatement incurs an additional \$175 fee. A renewal form must be submitted along with a check or money order and CE certificates, which will have to wait until the next board meeting to be reviewed.

Temporary licenses that were extended because of the state of emergency will expire on June 19, 2022, if the requirements for full licensure, including exams, are not completed or an extension is not requested and granted. If a temporary license has been active for more than two years, it cannot be extended and a new application for temporary licensure will need to be submitted. Extension request forms and applications can be found on the Board's website on the Forms & Documents page.

This 90-day period between March 21, 2022 and June 19, 2022 allows flexibility for such tasks as acquiring CEs and taking the EPPP. The Board urges all licensure applicants and license holders to plan ahead and not wait to take care of your licensure status. Please log into your eServices account (go to https://dpl.ky.gov/ and click "eServices") to find information about your renewal and expiration dates. Please note that automated emails from the Department of Professional Licensing may NOT reflect the 90-day period set by the Board.

As it relates to **continuing education (CE) requirements**, please note the Board previously voted to allow all CE requirements to be completed online during the licensee's three-year renewal period affected by COVID-19. (See Board memoranda March 25, 2020, and August 3, 2020, available at https://psy.ky.gov/New\_Default.aspx under "Latest News"). If you obtained CE hours through remote means from August 3, 2020, until June 19, 2022, the Board will count all of those remote hours toward the 39-hour requirement for any renewal application submitted by June 19, 2022. <u>For renewal</u> <u>applications submitted after June 19, 2022,</u> <u>applicants must meet the CE requirements</u> <u>set forth in 201 KAR 26:175.</u>

### COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR BOARD

Please remember to <u>always</u> use the official Board email address to communicate with the Board, as follows:

# <u>psy@ky.gov</u>

Remember to update your current contact information through your eServices account

**Planning to Move?** 

Your account is accessible through the "eServices" link on the Board's website

# **Reminder - Suicide Assessment, Management, and Treatment Training**

Six (6) hours of training in suicide assessment, management, and treatment, or proof of exemption, is **required within the first year of licensure and every six (6) years thereafter**. Please refer to **KRS 210.366** (<u>https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44306</u>)</u> and **201 KAR 26:175** (<u>https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/201/026/175.pdf</u>) for more information.

You should report completion of any suicide training to the Board as part of your renewal during that same renewal cycle. Once a training date or exemption is entered into the system, it will track this date and know that another one is not required until six years later. If you completed suicide training during a previous renewal cycle, the Board should already have that on file and you will not be able to submit that training during the current renewal. Note that because this is a continuing education (CE) requirement, the 90 day extension from the date the COVID emergency is lifted (discussed above) also applies to reporting of any suicide training. If your required CEs on suicide prevention were due during a renewal cycle that was extended due to the state of emergency, you have until June 19, 2022, to complete these CEs.

New Virtual Board Meetings and Virtual Testing

Since March 2020, your Board has worked around the clock to address the challenges presented by COVID-19. In response to COVID-19, the Board moved to virtual meetings beginning April 13, 2020.

All members of the public can access these Zoom meetings; however, we must mute them unless they are on the agenda to be heard, or if the Chair gives them permission for a public comment. The Board welcomes everyone to join our Zoom meetings. The Board also reserves a physical meeting room at the Public Protection Cabinet, 500 Mero St, Frankfort, KY, where members of the public can view these virtual meetings. Information about how to attend is included in the meeting notices posted to the Board website.

Please note that the Board has transitioned to virtual, online testing. The administration of the virtual tests is similar to the in-person testing (such as a proctor, written, and oral presentations). Applicants will now receive their instructions and applicable documentation, such as the acknowledgement, prior to their testing dates and times. Please contact the Board Administrator with any requests for testing accommodations.

## **REMINDER – Candidates for Licensure and Supervisors (60 Day Grace Period)**

The Board would like to remind supervisors and candidates for licensure of the sixty (60) day grace period <u>after which candidates shall not practice psychology until credentialed by the Board.</u> This grace period applies to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for licensure as a Licensed Psychologist as well as to candidates for license psychologist as well as to candidates psychologist as well as to candidates p

Specifically, "To allow for processing of the candidate's materials by the board, there shall be a grace period not to exceed sixty (60) days within which candidates who have completed their degree requirements may begin to practice psychology under supervision of a board-approved supervisor... The grace period shall not be extended beyond sixty (60) days and candidates who fail to achieve approval within this timeframe shall not practice psychology until credentialed by the board." 201 KAR 26:155 Section 4; see also 201 KAR 26:280 Section 3 (Licensed Psychological Associate).

Upon acceptance of employment, the candidate and supervisor must immediately submit a letter of notice to the Board indicating that he or she has begun to practice in Kentucky and that application materials are forthcoming. Failure to submit this notice shall be deemed as grounds for disciplinary action against the candidate and the supervisor. Candidates must forward all application materials to the Board within thirty (30) days of employment. 201 KAR 26:155 Section 4; 201 KAR 26:280 Section 3.

If you have any questions, please contact the board administrator at psy@ky.gov.

## ASPPB PLUS Program Withdrawn

As you may recall from past Newsletters, your Board voted to begin offering the ASPPB Plus Program for psychologist licensee's application processing. The program was set to begin in the Summer of 2021. Since that point in time, the Plus option was withdrawn and will not be available to our membership.

### **Supervision Manual**

There is now a Supervision Manual for licensees to guide you through submitting supervision documents online. The manual answers general questions on how to submit online through your eServices Account. It also covers, among other things, changing supervisors, requesting to decrease supervision, and completing regular supervision documents. The Supervision Manual is located at:

http://psy.ky.gov/new\_docs.aspx?cat=101&menuid=117

Navigate to that page, then scroll down and click the "Supervision Documents" link to reveal the actual documents.

## KPA-CAP "Colleague Assistance Program"

Many state psychology boards have CAPs to assist their memberships with professional distress and impairments. Although Kentucky is not one of those states, the KPA does maintain such a program for its members. The KPA-CAP's framework is designed to provide these services to psychologists practicing in Kentucky. The Board has no association with the KPA-CAP, but wants our membership to be aware of this important and valuable program. You can contact the KPA directly for more information. If you are a KPA Member, the following link provides you with access to all program information.

https://kpa.memberclicks.net/kpa-cap-program-overview#What%20is%20a%20CAP/KPA-CAP?

## Kentucky Volunteers for Oral Examinations

Oral examinations for licensure for both psychologists and for licensed psychological practitioners are generally held twice per month. <u>1</u> Trained licensed psychologists and licensed psychological practitioners with three or more years of requisite experience in Kentucky; or, <u>2</u> certified psychologists with autonomous functioning with three or more years of requisite experience in Kentucky, serve as examiners. Exams generally alternate between Mondays and Fridays every month; however, this schedule is subject to change as we continue to navigate our new online testing format. Examiners are reimbursed for their travel (if any) and receive per diem payment.

The Kentucky Board of Examiners of Psychology welcomes volunteer examiners <u>who have the</u> <u>three or more years of requisite experience in Kentucky as 1) or 2)</u>. If you are interested, please notify the Board Administrator.

Board Disciplinary Actions can be found at:

http://psy.ky.gov/newstatic\_Info.aspx?static\_ID=432&menuid=116

(under the "Quick Links" section on the right side of the page)

#### Upcoming Meetings

Board Meetings are open to the public, and generally held on the first or second Monday of each month, holidays excluded. Contact the Board Administrator at least one week prior to the meeting date if you have an item you would like to request that the Board include on its agenda. Meeting dates are listed under "Meeting Schedule" at:

http://psy.ky.gov/newstatic\_Info.aspx?static\_ID=413.