

Ohio Board of Psychology
Meeting of October 15, 2015
Executive Director's Report
Ronald Ross, Ph.D.

1) Praxis-II School Psychology Examination Passing Score Update

We'll need a vote on school psychology examination Policy 4.4 changes. See proposed changes to POLICY 4.4: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS.

The Board has always aligned its examination score requirements for the school psychologist license with those set by the National Association of School Psychologists for their national certification. Due to the development of a new test in 2015 and the 2008 rescaling, there are now three passing scores depending on the date of the test administration. This is not a controversial issue, but a need to clarify the scores for applicants. The following is also recommended as a policy statement for the application:

“School psychologist license applicants shall demonstrate, for admission to the oral examination for the license, a passing score on the Praxis-II School Psychologist Exam (#5402) reported directly to the Board by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). Applicants taking the current Praxis-II must achieve a score of 147. Applicants who took the exam between 2008 and 2014 must have achieved a passing score of 165, and those who took the exam prior to September 2008 must have achieved a passing score of 660. Test scores remain valid for ten (10) years after the testing date. Applicants with scores more than ten (10) years old are required to retake the current Praxis-II and earn a score of 147.”

2) Enforcement Standard Operating Procedures

We'll need a vote on new draft policy and SOP's, which will replace the outdated “Enforcement Handbook,” which is a meandering narrative last updated around 2003. That narrative has not been relied upon historically, because standard procedures are in place in the office and passed on to Board members. The new policy is an effort to get our basic SOP's in writing so they are more useful and easier to access. In addition, there is good material on investigation processes in the Board Member Orientation Manual.

See new policy proposal POLICY 12.2: ENFORCEMENT POLICIES AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES.

3) Supervision rule client cap [OAC 4732-13-04 (B)(9)]

On July 30 we discussed the following rule and some unintended consequences for psychologists bumping up against the new weekly client cap of one hundred.

OAC 4732-13-04 (B)(9) A supervisor shall actively monitor the weekly number of clients and/or training subjects of supervisees...Although there is no limit on the number of supervisees registered with the board as required in paragraph (B)(25) of this rule, a supervisor shall not on a weekly basis, emergency situations excepted, delegate work to supervisees that affects more than one hundred total clients and/or training subjects.”

I received 18 replies from U.S. boards to my posting on the ASPPB administrator list serve in August. We are the only state known to have a cap on weekly clients/training subjects affected.

NV	Limit 2 interns and 3 post-docs
ME	Limit 3 interns and 4 post-docs
WV	Limit 4 license-track
IA	Limit 3 "full time" supervisees at a time
DE	Limit 7 supervisees
MT	Limit 3 supervisees
MD	Limit 5 supervisees
OK	Limit 3 supervisees
MO	No limits other than 4 post-docs at a time
LA	No limits other than 2 post-docs at a time
OR	No limits other than 3 post-docs at a time
NC	No limits
AR	No limits
NY	No limits
AZ	No limits
HI	No limits
WY	No limits
TN	No limits

The old rule allowed four supervisees without Board permission with no cap on weekly clients affected. For those who had been granted permission to exceed four supervisees, the policy was a limit of 150 total client hours weekly including clients of the supervisor.

Discussion and possible action will be sought to eliminate the cap or change the cap of 100 supervisee clients/training subjects affected weekly. This would require a rule change to OAC 4732-13-04 (B)(9), although published policy guidelines could work in the interim depending on what the Board decides to do.

4) Senate Bill 194 Unregulated alternative health care providers

See text of bill and template of letter sent to members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee by a coalition led by dietitians. I spoke to Dr. Drude and we agreed to sign on to the letter based on the Board's historical opposition these bills (similar bills have been introduced for at least 10-12 years) and because it authorizes any person to diagnose and treat mental health conditions without any education or training requirements. We will need a vote to take a formal position on the bill (as the Board deems appropriate).

5) Senate Bill 33 and "conversion therapy" stakeholder update

See letter to me from Equality Ohio dated September 16, 2015. An emphasis is not being put on SB33 but on efforts to support either rule writing or advisory statements from the mental health related boards. We will discuss possible processes and the Board's interest in role.

6) COBA workshop/exam update and scheduling

The COBA workshop/exam schedule should be aligned with the BACB testing windows to allow time for new BCBA's to apply and be admitted to the workshop. The BCBA exam is offered four times annually during the months of February, May, August, and November. It generally takes

around 4 weeks to get new BCBA certificates posted to the web, so it is proposed that we schedule workshops in advance for the middle or latter parts of: January, April, July, and October. Today we should schedule workshop/exam dates for January and April 2016.