

**OHIO BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
BOARD BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY JANUARY 14, 2016
CONSENT AGENDA UPDATES AND NOTICES**

“Conversion therapy” stakeholder update and advisory statement

At the October 2015 meeting the Board directed Dr. Ross to work with stakeholders in an effort to identify possible ways of raising consciousness about the risks and dangers of efforts to change sexual orientation. There was also discussion about existing rules that would appear to be at issue in prohibiting conversion therapy, including “stereotypes.” Dr. Cole agreed to be the point person from the Board to work with Dr. Ross on the issue, and discussions are ongoing about drafting an advisory statement.

MCE contract preparation 2016-18

Following up on the July 2015 meeting, the process of entering into contracts with OPA-MCE and OSPA-MCE will begin when OPA and OSPA near the finalization of their budgets this spring. The procedures for license holders to record, report, and maintain evidence of CE course completion are well established. Proposals by OPA and/or OSPA to increase registration fees are not anticipated, although their biennial budgets have not been finalized for the biennium.

Ohio Ethics Commission Financial Disclosure Statement Requirement

All members of the State Board have been emailed about the annual process of filing a public notice of financial interests. The General Assembly has included financial disclosure as a central requirement in the Ohio Ethics Law since it was enacted in 1974. The annual financial disclosure requirement serves two related goals: it reminds public officials and employees of their financial interests to help them avoid conflicts of interest; and, it promotes public confidence in the integrity of government by providing citizens with information about those who serve them. A financial disclosure statement is a statement of personal financial interests. Public officials who are required to file disclosure statements must include information such as sources of income, sources of gifts, debtors, creditors, and investments. Filers are required to file each year and provide information for the complete preceding calendar year. About 11,000 public officials and employees are required to file disclosure statements each year

The filing deadline for 2015 statements is **MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016**.

Member board meeting attendance requirement

By email forwarded to members, the governor's office sent a reminder about the statutory meeting attendance requirement:

"For reference, the attendance requirement for members is in ORC 3.17 and states the following.

[a]ny member of a board, commission, council . . . who fails to attend at least three-fifths of the regular and special meetings held by that board, commission, [or] council . . . during any two-year period forfeits the member's position on that board, commission, [or] council"

Potential legislation re: NC Dental Board/Sup Ct. Decision

In the North Carolina State Dental Board case, the U. S. Supreme Court determined in February 2015 that certain professional regulatory agencies that are controlled by "active participants" in the market may not be entitled to state immunity. There is preliminary talk about the possible introduction of legislation in 2016 related to the Ohio boards. There are no details yet, and the issue is being followed with professional association stakeholders, who have an interest in maintaining public safety and the integrity of the current structure of the boards. Updates will be provided as more is learned.

ASPPB PLUS Application Utilization

In January 2015 the universal application system at ASPPB became operational for the Ohio Board. Of the 155 psychologist applications received in 2015, 35 applicants (22%) have applied through the PLUS system. Use of the system is expected to increase as awareness of the mobility and data security benefits of the PLUS grows.