*Summary of Training Rules and Options Updated June 2015: Implementation of the New Licensing Law of the Ohio Board of Psychology**

NOTE: This document serves to summarize the new licensure law and rules effective January 8, 2010 and renumbered June 8, 2015. Please read the law and rules in their entirety and do not rely exclusively on this summary.

All candidates for licensure, except for those applying under the "senior psychologist" law, must continue to demonstrate a minimum of 3,600 hours of qualifying supervised training in professional psychology either via the old rule in OAC 4732-9-01 (A) or the new rule in (B).

The new law provides an optional pathway to psychologist license eligibility without requiring, under certain circumstances, that half of the 3,600 hours of supervised experience occur in a post-doctoral year. Briefly, the new law and rule requirements include:

a) A doctoral degree in psychology or school psychology from a program that holds accreditation, designation, or approval by the American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation (APA) or the Canadian Psychological Association Accreditation Office (CPA), designation by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards/National Register Joint Designation Committee (ASPPB/NR), or approval by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP; for school psychology doctoral degrees only).
b) A mandatory pre-doctoral internship—no less than 1,500 hours and no greater than 2000 hours accrued in a period of no more than 24 months. Internship supervision/training criteria must be met for non-accredited/non-APPIC member internships.
c) Certain pre-internship supervised experiences may be included as part of the required 3,600 hours, if they meet specific sequence of training criteria.
d) Post-internship, including post-doctoral supervised experiences, may be included as part of the required 3,600 hours if they meet specific criteria.

Doctoral Program Requirements

Applicants may apply under the new law after earning a doctoral degree in psychology or school psychology from a program accredited by APA or CPA, designated by the ASPPB/NR, or approved by NASP (for school psychology doctoral degrees only) and after completing a qualifying pre-doctoral internship.

Internship Requirements

The mandatory pre-doctoral internship requirement may be met by:

1) Completing an internship accredited by the APA or CPA, or an internship holding membership in APPIC; or,
2) Completing an internship that complies with the requirements listed in rules in OAC 4732-9-01 (B) (1) (b), available via the link above. Note that the rule allows for the internship to be a minimum of 1,500 hours and a maximum of 2,000 hours (the old rule caps a "year" at 1,800 hours).

Requirements to Satisfy the Remainder of the 3,600 Training Sequence

Because the pre-doctoral internship may be between 1,500 hours and 2,000 hours, the number of internship hours completed, when subtracted from 3,600, will determine the remainder of the hours required to complete a satisfactory sequence of training. These non-internship hours can be completed either before the internship, after the internship (including post-doc), or in combination. For example, a candidate completing a 2,000 hour internship will need to evidence 1,600 additional qualifying hours to complete the 3,600 hour sequence, while a candidate completing a 1,500 hour internship will need to evidence 2,100 additional qualifying hours to complete the sequence.

The 3,600 hour sequence of training may be satisfied by:

1) Completing a postdoctoral psychology training program accredited by APA or holding membership in APPIC; or,

2) Completing a training experience after the internship but before earning the doctoral degree as outlined in OAC 4732-9-01 (B) (2) (b).

3) Completing a sequence of doctoral program training placements which must comply with two prerequisites and a list of requirements found in OAC 4732-9-01 (B) (2) (c). Please note that qualifying doctoral program training placements must occur after the following prerequisites are satisfied:

    a. Graduate academic coursework of a minimum of forty eight semester hours or seventy two quarter hours; and
    b. Introductory practicum experience(s) in applied professional psychology of a minimum duration of 400 hours; and/or

4) Completing supervised training experience subsequent to the internship (which may be pre-doctoral or post-doctoral), meeting requirements found in OAC 4732-9-01 (B) (2) (d). These experiences may be combined with qualifying pre-internship training experiences.

Therefore, note that candidates seeking licensure under the new law but earning the doctoral degree with less than 3,600 qualifying hours will be required to complete post-doctoral training in compliance with the new rules until the minimum 3,600 hour sequence is completed.

License Mobility and Other States/Provinces Requiring Post-doctoral Training

Many states and Canadian provinces will continue to require post-doctoral training prior to granting a psychologist license, potentially leading to mobility problems for Ohio psychologists who apply for and receive the license without first completing a post-doctoral year of training. A possible unintended consequence when candidates accept the Psychology license without completing a post-doctoral year would be the risk of not *currently* meeting licensure requirements in approximately 85% of the states and provinces. While the various jurisdictions' laws and rules are being interpreted to better understand the limits of mobility and the requirements to complete a post-doc prior to being granted a different jurisdiction's license, the Board is urging any applicant for licensure to be well-aware of potential licensure mobility barriers.

Grandfather Provision

There is an important "grandfather" provision in the new law, which retains license eligibility for any person enrolled by June 6, 2009 in a regionally accredited academic institution and who is awarded a doctorate in psychology or school psychology from said institution before April 6, 2017, whether or not the doctoral program is accredited, designated, or approved by APA, CPA, ASPPB/NR, or NASP. Students currently anticipating graduating from a program that is not accredited, designated, or approved should pay careful attention to this provision and the deadline to graduate. **Said persons will be license eligible under the "old law" which will include the requirement of completing two years (3,600 hours) of satisfactory experience under OAC 4732-9-01 (H), at least 1,800 hours of which must be post-doctoral.** Note, too, that the new rules hold that graduates of doctoral programs accredited, designated, or approved by APA, CPA, ASPPB/NR, or NASP **during the student's tenure or within two years of when the applicant was awarded the doctoral degree** shall be considered graduates of an accredited or designated program. Under these circumstances, graduates may apply for admission to examination under the new law and rule OAC 4732-9-01 (B).

Senior Psychologist Provision

New rules are also in place serving to implement the new law's "senior psychologist" provision, which offers a new pathway to Ohio licensure for those psychologists licensed in another jurisdiction for a minimum of 10 consecutive years. These rules are in OAC 4732-9-01 (C) and contain all of the requirements for qualified psychologists who may not necessarily meet all of the educational, training, and examination requirements in the new law. Said candidates shall be required to pass the Board's oral examination prior to being issued a psychologist license.