

“ACCREDITATION” AND THE PSYCHOLOGY LICENSE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants periodically have questions relative to the accreditation status of his or her respective institution at which the doctoral degree will be granted. The Board makes determinations about accreditation based on an administrative regulation that defines and lists the acceptable accrediting bodies. Any doctoral degree to be applied toward the Board’s requirements for admission to examination for the license must be accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency, as outlined in Ohio Administrative code (OAC) 4732-3-01 (F):

4732-3-01 Definitions.

(E) **"Accreditation"** shall be a procedure for recognizing or certifying that an educational institution meets prescribed standards that qualify its graduates for consideration for licensure pursuant to section 4732.15 of the Revised Code or for admission to a licensure examination pursuant to section 4732.10 of the Revised Code or for approval by the board pursuant to division (B) of section 4732.22 of the Revised Code.

(F) "National or regional accrediting agencies" means one of the following agencies:

- (1) "Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Higher Education"
- (2) "New England Association of Schools and Colleges"
- (3) "North Central Association of Colleges and Schools"
- (4) "Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges"
- (5) "Southern Association of Colleges and Schools"
- (6) "Western Association of Schools and Colleges – Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges"

If an institution is not or was not accredited by one of these six (6) organizations at the time of the award of the degree, then the Board will not find the education to be sufficient toward the requirements set forth in law and rules. Programs that offer online or other non-traditional instructional methods may or may not hold accreditation. Under current law and rule, the Board’s determinations about “distance learning” programs is rooted in the judgment as to whether the institution holds accreditation as defined herein.

Applicants should determine the accreditation status of respective institutions by contacting the institution.

November 2004