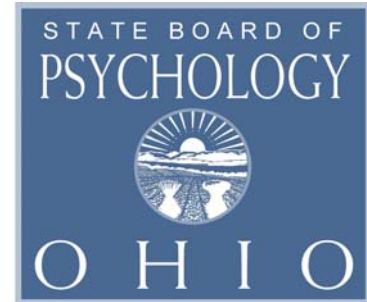


**Summary Statement on Am HB503:  
*The New Licensing Law  
of the State Board of Psychology of Ohio***



This serves to summarize the recent amendment to the State Board of Psychology's licensing law, and to clarify the processes that will ultimately lead the Board to be able to implement the law and begin to review applications from those seeking licensure without a post-doctoral year of supervised experience. Am. HB503 unanimously passed the Ohio House in April 2008, unanimously passed the Ohio Senate in December 2008, and was signed by Governor Strickland on January 6, 2009. Please find the statute at:

[http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=127\\_HB\\_503](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=127_HB_503)

The new law will become effective on April 6, 2009. However, before the law can be implemented and administered, the statute states that the "board shall adopt guidelines for the kind of supervised professional experience which fulfill the requirement" of the two years required by statute. The rule-writing process is a high priority for the Board and numerous stakeholders, and is in process. In accord with legal, regulatory, and practical considerations, the final rules are unlikely to be in effect until late 2009. Therefore, candidates for licensure in Ohio are advised that the Board is unable to review pre-doctoral training and experience hours before the rules are effective. **Until the Board has published its rules governing the requirements for internship and pre-internship experiences, there is no information available regarding which pre-doctoral hours may or may not be counted toward licensure requirements in said rules.**

The new law will require that all applicants for the Ohio psychologist license have an earned doctoral degree in psychology or school psychology from a program that holds accreditation, designation, or approval by APA, ASPPB/NR, NASP, or CPA. There is an important "**grandfather**" provision in the law, which will retain license eligibility for any person enrolled by June 6, 2009 in an academic institution regionally accredited as defined in OAC 4732-3-01 (F) and who earns a doctoral degree in psychology or school psychology from that institution before June 6, 2017 (the degree-granting program does not have to be "accredited" or "designated" by APA, ASPPB/NR, NASP, or CPA). **Said persons will be license eligible under the "old law" which will include the requirement of completing two years of acceptable supervised experience, at least one of which shall be post-doctoral.**

Thank you for your understanding and patience while the Board undertakes the critical processes of promulgating rules in support of these important amendments to our licensing statute.