

## Policy Regarding Exceeding Limitation of Four Supervisees

**AUTHORITY:**

OAC 4732-13-04 (B) (8) is: “A licensed psychologist or licensed school psychologist shall not concurrently supervise more than four unlicensed persons who are working under professional work and/or training supervision....without the written, express permission of the state board of psychology. This limitation on supervision does not apply to mental health worker supervision....”

OAC 4732-13-02 lists the purposes of supervision (in part) as:

- (A) to protect the welfare of clients receiving psychological services from a supervisee
- (B) to protect the welfare of persons who serve as training subjects for student learning psychological procedures,
- (C) to structure the activities of the supervisee so that competent services of a psychological nature by an unlicensed person can safely be made available to clients,
- (D) through (H)

*Psychological services are appropriately provided in a variety of settings and employ a range of service delivery models. Because the maximum number of clients and the maximum number of supervisees are directly related to work setting and service delivery model, the following policy provides for three different types of circumstances.*

**POLICY:**

<i>Setting</i>	<i>Service Delivery Model</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Clients/Client Hours</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Supervisees</i>
<i>Independent Individual or Group Practice</i>	<i>Individual or group outpatient services with client contact 1-3 hours per week</i>	<i>No more than <b>100 total client hours</b> (for licensee working full-time) for whom he/she is assuming responsibility for services delivered by supervisor and all supervisees combined.</i>	<i>In this setting and service delivery model, generally a total of <b>6 supervisees</b> is considered the maximum for which a licensee should assume responsibility for client welfare.</i>

<i>Setting</i>	<i>Service Delivery Model</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Clients/Client Hours</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Supervisees</i>
<i>Approved educational agency, habilitation center, residential treatment center, or independent individual or group practice providing services in varied settings.</i>	<i>Individual or group psychological interventions where supervisor or supervisee has intensive client contact (25-35 hours per week)</i>	<i>No more than <b>100 total clients</b> for whom he/she is assuming responsibility for services delivered by supervisor and all supervisees combined, regardless of the number of program or agency sites.</i>	<i>In this setting and service delivery model, generally a total of <b>10 supervisees</b> is considered the maximum for which a licensee should assume responsibility for client welfare</i>

<i>Setting</i>	<i>Service Delivery Model</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Clients/Client Hours</i>	<i>Guidelines for Maximum Number of Supervisees</i>
<i>Approved educational agency, habilitation center, residential treatment center, or independent individual or group practice providing services in varied settings.</i>	<i>Delegation of highly specific, limited interventions</i>	<i>No more than <b>10 total clients</b> for whom he/she is assuming responsibility for services delivered by all supervisees combined, regardless of the number of program or agency sites.</i>	<i>In this setting and service delivery model, generally a total number of <b>50 supervisees</b> is considered the maximum for which a licensee should assume responsibility for client welfare</i>

The above criteria may be enlarged by situations such as the following:

- a) All supervisees are working part-time so that the supervising psychologist is still within reasonable limits for the number of client hours,
- b) All supervisees are in TRAINING supervision during their post-doctoral year
- c) The clients served are not considered “high risk” since they do not present with serious and complex mental disorders.

By contrast, the above criteria may be diminished by situations such as the following:

1. All (or most) supervisees have an earned master’s degree or lower but not less than two years of college course work in psychology,
2. All (or most) supervisees have an earned master’s degree or lower but not less than two years of college course work in a related mental health field but not psychology,
3. All supervisees are in WORK supervision so that psychological diagnosis, psychological prescription, or psychological supervision CANNOT be delegated by the supervisor,
4. The clients served are extremely varied presenting serious and complex mental disorders
5. Clients change often so that new intakes exceed 25% each week.

“Umbrella supervision” is available to post-doctoral supervisees in TRAINING supervision (OAC 4732-13-03 (A) (3)) for a maximum of one year, [and the above criteria will also apply to approval for providing “umbrella supervision” to one or more supervisees]\*.