

Supporting member jurisdictions in fulfilling their responsibility of public protection.

November 3, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

To deal with uncertainties, and to determine if there are any unintended consequences from the COVID-19 crisis which might impact students, applicants for licensure, and licensed or registered psychologists, the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), in June 2020, created a workgroup to gather information on how the crisis and the post crisis, 'new normal' might affect the practice of psychology. ASPPB is concerned that, due to no fault of their own, students, applicants for licensure, and licensed or registered psychologists might experience increased difficulties getting the requisite education, training, and supervised experiences needed for licensure or meeting the requirements to maintain their license or registration.

The ASPPB COVID-19 Workgroup consists of members from ASPPB along with a representative from the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO), the Board Administrators/Registrars Committee (BARC), and the Board Chairs Committee (BCC). This group, through three virtual meetings, together began discussions with representatives from the education and training community, the professional practice community, the Canadian and U.S. regulatory community, and groups within Canadian and U.S. national psychological organizations to find out what they were hearing about unintended consequences impacting the practice of psychology, and if they had considered how to deal with these potential problems.

As a result of these meetings, the ASPPB Workgroup grew to include one representative each from the education and training community, the professional practice community, and the provincial regulatory community with the plan of developing resources for the training and practice communities to assist students to document their experiences during the pandemic in a standardized way that can be provided to psychology boards and colleges to assist in their review of credentials, educational experiences and/or practice requirements. To begin with, this group expanded on the work that recently occurred in Canada to capture education and training experiences for those students and trainees impacted by COVID-19. Specifically, the ASPPB Workgroup developed four forms that can function as resource tools to assist individuals to consistently capture the nuances that are occurring in their training programs, during practicum, internship, and in their post-doctoral experiences.

These forms are not meant to take the place of any licensure requirement or needed document, or to give the impression or promise that the completion of these forms will ensure licensing. These forms are intended, however, to assist individuals to better log information about their personal training experiences during COVID-19 and while the experiences are fresh in their minds and students and trainees are still closely working with those who can properly attest to their work and training experiences.

President, Board of Directors – Sheila G. Young, PhD | Chief Executive Officer – Mariann Burnetti-Atwell, PsyD

As a result, the ASPPB COVID-19 Workgroup is excited to share the work they have done on this project. Please find attached four developed resource tools:

- COVID-19 Modification-Education Form
- COVID-19 Modification-Practicum Form
- COVID-19 Modification-Internship Form
- COVID-19 Modification-Post-Doctoral Experience Form

These forms can also be accessed on the ASPPB website at:

https://www.asppb.net/page/COVID19ModificationForms

In addition, ASPPB would like to thank those groups listed below that helped to guide the work of the Workgroup. Without the willingness of these groups to come together, these forms could not have been produced:

- APA Board of Educational Affairs
- APA Commission on Accreditation
- Committee on Early Career Psychologists
- Council of Chairs of Training Councils
- Council of Executives of State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Association
- APA Ethics Committee
- APA of Graduate Students
- APA Office of Legal & Regulatory Policy
- APA Professional Practice
- Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations
- Association of Counseling Center Training Agencies
- Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers
- Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs
- Canadian Psychological Association
- Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs
- Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs
- Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists
- Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology
- National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology
- Veterans Administration

ASPPB and the ASPPB COVID-19 Workgroup hope these documents will prove to be useful resources to you and to those you are charged to assist and support.

Respectfully,

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Mariann Burnetti-Atwell, PsyD Chief Executive Officer, ASPPB

