

## LICENSURE COMMITTEE MEETING WEBEX

NOTE: Pursuant to the provisions of Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020, neither Board member locations nor a public meeting location were provided.

**Friday, July 22, 2022**

### **Members Present**

Mary Harb Sheets, PhD, Chairperson  
Julie Nystrom  
Lea Tate, PsyD

### **Legal Counsel**

Sabina Knight  
Brittany Ng  
Heather Hoganson

### **Board Staff Present**

Antonette Sorrick, Executive Officer  
Jonathan Burke, Assistant Executive Officer  
Stephanie Cheung, Licensing Manager  
Jason Glasspiegel, Central Services Manager  
Mai Xiong, Licensing/BreEZe Coordinator  
Liezal McCockran, Continuing Education and Renewals Coordinator

Friday, July 22, 2022

### **Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum**

Mary Harb Sheets, PhD, Chairperson, called the open session meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present and due notice had been sent to all interested parties.

### **Agenda Item #2: Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda. Note: The Board May Not Discuss or Take Action on Any Matter Raised During this Public Comment Section, Except to Decide Whether to Place the Matter on the Agenda of a Future Meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].**

Dr. Harb Sheets called for public comment.

No public comment offered.

**Agenda Item #3: Chairperson's Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Dr. Harb Sheets offered opening remarks.

**Agenda Item #4: Approval of Licensure Committee Meeting Minutes: January 7, 2022**

It was (M)Tate(S)Nystrom(C) to adopt the January 7, 2022 Licensure Committee meeting minutes.

Votes: 3 ayes (Harb Sheets, Nystrom, Tate), 0 noes

Motion passes.

**Agenda Item #5: Staff Reports**

a) Licensing Report

Ms. Cheung provided the update on this item.

Ms. Cheung commented that to address the lengthened processing times for applications, staff and management came up with various long-term permanent and short-term temporary solutions, which includes streamlining the application process via Pathways to Licensure regulations, seeking additional resources via Budget Change Proposal, redirecting an Office Technician position to the Licensing unit to assist with administrative duties, hiring and extending the temporary help provided by the Retired Annuitant to assist with the processing of applications, and having the Special Projects Coordinator to assist with licensing workload. The implementation of these solutions has successfully shortened the processing times in May and June.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion to public comment.

Public comment was offered as to whether there were mechanisms in place or a number to call to expedite Psychological Associate applications. Ms. Cheung commented that applications can only be expedited when they meet specific statutory requirements, otherwise, all applications are processed in the order as they are received for fairness.

b) Continuing Education and Renewals Report

Ms. McCockran provided the update on this item.

Ms. McCockran commented that among recent audits, Board Members Drs. Tate, Casuga, Harb Sheets, and Rodgers had all passed their own 2021 audits.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion to public comment.

No public comment or further committee discussion offered.

c) Examination Report and Multiple Test Takers Statistics

Ms. Snyder provided the update on this item.

Discussion ensued as to possible causes for a lower pass rate for the EPPP since 2017.

Ms. Snyder commented that California's pass rate was lower than the pass rate of the rest of the country, and that could be the result of having more test-takers in California who graduated from non-APA-accredited programs than in other states.

Discussion continued as to whether the pass rate was higher for test-takers whose doctoral programs were APA-accredited, but there was no data to support this at the time of the meeting.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion for public comment.

No public comment and no further Committee offered.

**Agenda Item #6: Board Response to Psychologist Applications – Correspondence Review**

Ms. Cheung presented this item.

Discussion ensued as to the content of the correspondence sent out to applicants to address deficiencies in their application materials, and to provide information.

Dr. Tate commented that the application acknowledgement letter should provide a timeline as to when an applicant might hear from their assigned Licensing Analyst if they needed information.

Dr. Harb Sheets commented that it could be useful for the letter to provide information on current processing times.

Ms. Nystrom asked how applicants are notified when there has been a change in which Licensing Analyst is assigned to their application.

Ms. Cheung commented that the only time an application is reassigned is if the assigned Analyst leaves employment with the board.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion to public comment.

No public comment and no further Committee discussion offered.

**Agenda Item #7: Legislation: Acceptable Verification of Pre-Licensure Coursework Requirements, Business and Professions Code sections 2915.4 and 2915.5**

Ms. Cheung presented this item. To address the issue of application processing timeframes, staff suggested an additional verification method for qualified psychologist license applicants to demonstrate that they have completed the prelicensure coursework on suicide risk assessment and intervention, and on aging and long-term care.

Discussion ensued regarding the options for applicants when it came to demonstrating compliance with prelicensure coursework requirements.

Ms. Cheung described the three ways applicants may currently demonstrate compliance with this educational requirement: 1) obtain it as part of their graduate degree program, 2) obtain it as part of their applied experience, or 3) take a continuing education course as specified in this Statute.

Staff suggested to expand the options by 1) allowing verification through transcripts if they clearly indicate completion of the specified coursework with the course title shown, and 2) allowing the Department Chair to be an additional entity who qualifies to provide the written certification as specified in statute attesting to the completion of the prelicensure coursework by the applicant.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion for public comment.

No public comment offered.

It was (M)Tate/(S)Nystrom/(C) to propose to the full Board to make the changes to Statute that would allow transcripts to be acceptable for the purpose of verification of educational prerequisites and to allow Department Chairs to provide a written letter of verification where necessary to verify that coursework satisfied the prelicensure coursework requirements for licensure.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion for public comment.

No public comment offered.

Votes: 3 ayes (Harb Sheets, Nystrom, Tate), 0 noes

The motion passes.

Text as approved:

**2915.4.**

(a) Effective January 1, 2020, an applicant for licensure as a psychologist shall show, as part of the application, that he or she has completed a minimum of six hours of coursework or applied experience under supervision in suicide risk assessment and intervention. This requirement shall be met in one of the following ways:

- (1) Obtained as part of ~~his or her~~ the applicant's qualifying graduate degree program. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a transcript indicating completion of this coursework. In absence of this coursework title in the transcript, the applicant shall submit a written certification from the registrar, department chair, or training director of the educational institution or program from which the applicant graduated stating that the coursework required by this section is included within the institution's curriculum required for graduation at the time the applicant graduated, or within the coursework that was completed by the applicant.
- (2) Obtained as part of ~~his or her~~ the applicant's applied experience. Applied experience can be met in any of the following settings: practicum, internship, or formal postdoctoral placement that meets the requirement of Section 2911, or other qualifying supervised professional experience. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a written certification from the director of training for the program or primary supervisor where the qualifying experience has occurred stating that the training required by this section is included within the applied experience.
- (3) By taking a continuing education course that meets the requirements of subdivision (e) or (f) of Section 2915 and that qualifies as a continuing education learning activity category specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 2915. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a certification of completion.

(b) Effective January 1, 2020, as a one-time requirement, a licensee prior to the time of ~~his or her~~ the applicant's first renewal after the operative date of this section, or an applicant for reactivation or reinstatement to an active license status, shall have completed a minimum of six hours of coursework or applied experience under supervision in suicide risk assessment and intervention, as specified in subdivision (a). Proof of compliance with this section shall be certified under penalty of perjury that ~~he or~~

she the applicant is in compliance with this section and shall be retained for submission to the board upon request.

*(Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 182, Sec. 1. (AB 89) Effective January 1, 2018.)*

**2915.5.**

(a) Any applicant for licensure as a psychologist as a condition of licensure, a minimum of six contact hours of coursework or applied experience in aging and long-term care, which may include, but need not be limited to, the biological, social, and psychological aspects of aging. This coursework shall include instruction on the assessment and reporting of, as well as treatment related to, elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect.

(b) In order to satisfy the coursework requirement of this section, the applicant shall submit to the board a transcript indicating completion of this coursework. In absence of this coursework title in the transcript, the applicant shall submit a written certification from the registrar, department chair, or training director of the educational institution or program from which the applicant graduated stating that the coursework required by this section is included within the institution's required curriculum for graduation at the time the applicant graduated, or within the coursework, that was completed by the applicant.

(c) (1) If an applicant does not have coursework pursuant to this section, the applicant may obtain evidence of compliance as part of their applied experience in a practicum, internship, or formal postdoctoral placement that meets the requirement of Section 2911, or other qualifying supervised professional experience.

(2) To satisfy the applied experience requirement of this section, the applicant shall submit to the board a written certification from the director of training for the program or primary supervisor where the qualifying experience occurred stating that the training required by this section is included within the applied experience.

(d) If an applicant does not meet the curriculum or coursework requirement pursuant to this section, the applicant may obtain evidence of compliance by taking a continuing education course that meets the requirements of subdivision (d) or (e) of Section 2915 and that qualifies as a learning activity category specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 2915. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a certification of completion.

(e) A written certification made or submitted pursuant to this section shall be done under penalty of perjury.

*(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 647, Sec. 10. (SB 801) Effective January 1, 2022.)*

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**Agenda Item #8: Recommendations for Agenda Items for Future Licensure Committee Meetings**

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion for Committee recommendations and commented that it would be useful to provide an update on the EPPP.

Dr. Harb Sheets opened the discussion for public comment.

Public comment was offered that called for solicitation of further input from applicants about how to expedite the application process further.

No further public comment nor Committee discussion offered.

**Agenda Item #9: Closed Session – The Licensure Committee will Meet in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(2) and Business and Professions Code Section 2949 to Discuss and Consider Qualifications for Licensure.****CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee entered closed session at 11:00 a.m.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

No further Committee business was taken up prior to adjournment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.