

EPPP2 TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Department of Consumer Affairs
1747 N. Market Blvd., HQ2 Hearing Room #186
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 574-7720

1 **THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018**

2
3 **Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum**

4 Sheryll Casuga, PsyD, Chairperson, called the EPPP 2 Task Force meeting to order at
5 9:36am. A quorum was present and due notice had been sent to all interested parties.
6

7 **Members Present:**

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9 Sheryl Casuga, PsyD, Chairperson
10 Seyron Foo, Board Member
11 Amy Welch-Gandy, Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES)
12 Crystal Faith Cajilog, Student Representative of California Psychological Association of
13 Graduate Students
14 Anushree Belur, Student Representative of California Psychological Association of
15 Graduate Students for The Chicago School of Professional Psychology
16 William Bloxham, Student Representative of JFK University 5th Year Student
17 Sherry Johnson, Director of Clinical Training, Representative of University of California
18 Rene Puliatti, Esq, Representative of California Psychology Internship Council (CAPIC)
19 Andrew Harlem, PhD, Representative of California Institute of Integral Studies
20 Gilbert Newman, PhD, Representative of The Wright Institute
21 Alejandra Ojeda-Beck, Student Representative of California Psychological Association
22 of Graduate Students, UC Berkeley
23 Sherri Sedler, Student Representative of California Psychological Association of
24 Graduate Students, California Southern University
25 Olga Belik, PhD, Representative of California Psychological Association (CPA), Division
26 II
27

28 **Others Present:**

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30 Antonette Sorrack, Executive Officer
31 Jeffrey Thomas, Assistant Executive Officer
32 Stephanie Cheung, Licensing Manager
33 Cherise Burns, Central Services Manager
34 Lavinia Snyder, Examination Coordinator
35 Jason Glasspiegel, Central Services Coordinator
36 Norine Marks, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs
37

38 **Agenda Item #2: Chairperson Welcome**

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40 Dr. Casuga welcomed the Task Force members and those in attendance. Ms. Snyder
41 provided an overview of the contents of the packet provided to the attendees of the
42 Task Force meeting.

43

44 **Agenda Item #3: Public Comment(s) for Items not on the Agenda.**

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46 There were no public comments.

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48 **Agenda Item #4: Review and Discussion of the Development and Implementation**
49 **of ASPPB's Enhanced EPPP (Presented by Dr. Emil Rodolfa, Chair of the ASPPB**
50 **EPPP2 Implementation Task Force and Dr. Matthew Turner, ASPPB Director of**
51 **Examination Program)**

52

53 Dr. Casuga introduced Dr. Rodolfa and Dr. Turner and advised of the presentation they
54 will be providing for the Task Force.

55

56 Dr. Turner and Dr. Rodolfa began the presentation on behalf of the Association of State
57 and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB).

58

59 Task Force members asked a variety of questions of the presenters during the
60 presentation. Discussion ensued regarding the following topics: ASPPB's perceived
61 deficiency that the EPPP 2 is trying to correct, questions relating to the content validity
62 of the new part of the examination, concerns related to the structure of the examination,
63 increased cost of the examination, the additional time needed for students to pass the
64 new part of the examination before licensure, and implementation timeline for the new
65 part of the examination, and ASPPB's lack of communication with member Board's
66 throughout the development process. Additional concerns were raised about when
67 students would or should be able to take the two parts of the examination and if this
68 would cause delays in licensure and the inequity of allowing students from graduate
69 programs accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) to take the
70 exam before degree completion versus students from regionally accredited programs.

71

72 Ms. Sorrick assured that the Task Force was aware of the importance of license
73 portability and not creating additional barriers to licensure while discussing this
74 question. Additionally, she provided the Task Force with a spectrum of options
75 regarding answers to the question. She advised that should the Task Force recommend
76 to the Board not to adopt the EPPP 2, which would encompass both the knowledge and
77 competency based examinations, that the Board would need to create their own general
78 knowledge exam. She indicated that doing so may reduce licensure portability, as
79 states other than California will not administer the same examination, and therefore
80 licensees within California would not be expected to meet the criteria for licensure set
81 by other states, thus hindering licensees from California becoming licensed elsewhere.

82

83 **Agenda Item #5: Task Force Discussion of the following issues:**

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85 **a. Is Implementation of a New National Licensing Examination in the**
86 **Best Interests of California Consumers of Psychological Services**
87 **and Prospective Licensees?**

87

88 Dr. Casuga introduced this question. After which she asked the Task Force members to
89 provide their thoughts on the issue.

90
91 Task Force members provided input on the question and expressed concerns over the
92 following issues: ensuring that the portability of California psychologist license is not
93 diminished, disbelief that the value added of the new part of the examination will
94 outweigh the additional costs and burdens it places on students and that the
95 examination would actually assess skills, the new part of the examination creating
96 additional barriers to entering the profession for socio-economically disadvantaged
97 students, and uncertainty that the new part of the exam will actually ensure competency
98 and enhance public protection.

99
100 Given the aforementioned comments by the Task Force members and Ms. Sorricks, Mr.
101 Foo stated that the new part of the examination will need to be implemented, but that
102 there were significant concerns regarding ASPPB's anticipated 2020 start date as well
103 as other items.

104
105 Discussion ensued and a sentiment was reached that introducing a secondary portion
106 to the examination was not in the best interest of California consumers of psychological
107 services and prospective licensees, but that the alternative of the Board abandoning the
108 EPPP and creating its own general knowledge exam was not feasible or desirable due
109 to potential issues with license portability.

110
111 It was M(Harlem)/S (Newman)/C to move to agenda item 5(b)

112
113 Vote: 17 Aye, No-0

114
115 **b. Should the Board Allow ASPPB to Determine Eligibility for Taking**
116 **the National Examination for California Applicants? Should There Be**
117 **Different Eligibility Criteria?**

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119 Dr Casuga introduced this agenda item. She advised that based on the information
120 provided by ASPPB, ASPPB plans to approve candidates to take the first part of the
121 EPPP prior to the conferring of their degree, as long as they have completed their
122 course requirements, and are attending an APA approved graduate program. Dr.
123 Casuga asked Ms. Snyder to provide the Board's current process regarding providing
124 ASPPB with the list of eligible applicants.

125
126 Ms. Snyder provided the Task Force with the Board's current process of review and
127 approval for eligibility to take the EPPP, including the requirements that the applicant be
128 awarded their degree and have accrued 1500 hours of supervised professional
129 experience.

130
131 After this overview, discussion ensued regarding whether or not the Task Force should
132 recommend the Board accept EPPP scores if Part 1 is taken prior to the confirmation of
133 the degree and accrual of 1500 hours of supervised professional experience, or whether
134 the Board would make the applicant take Part 1 of the EPPP again after approval by the
135 Board.

136
137 After a discussion, the Task Force concluded that it did not approve of ASPPB
138 approving applicants to take Part 1 of the EPPP prior to candidates meeting the Board's
139 specified approval requirements. They also concluded that if ASPPB was going to
140 provide early approvals for students of APA accredited programs, that they believed it
141 would be necessary that the Board approve all applicants for licensure to take part 1 of
142 the exam after completing their coursework but prior to degree conferment and accrual
143 of all 1500 hours.

144
145 Additional discussion ensued regarding the Task Force's role and its ability to make an
146 effective decision regarding the EPPP Part 2 with the information provided. The
147 sentiment of the Task Force was that more information was needed to make an
148 informed decision.

149
150 Dr. Casuga recommended to the Task Force that they ask staff to draft a letter of
151 concern to ASPPB.

152
153 The Task Force agreed with Dr. Casuga and discussed what questions should be asked
154 and agreed on the following questions to be sent to ASPPB:

155
156 What were the factors that led to the decision to create two separate
157 examinations instead of one combined examination that assesses both
158 knowledge and skills?

159
160 Would ASPPB consider a mechanism to make the cost of the examination more
161 affordable for low-income applicants or for those serving impoverished
162 communities, underserved populations, or performing services in public
163 agencies? For instance, would there be consideration to lower the cost of the
164 EPPP Part 1 to off-set the cost of the whole examination?

165
166 Would ASPPB reconsider its requirement of American Psychological Association
167 (APA) or Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) accreditation for eligibility to
168 take the EPPP Part 1 for pre-degree graduate students?

169
170 Would ASPPB consider delaying the implementation of the EPPP2 to allow
171 jurisdictions more time to develop processes, procedures, legislation and/or
172 regulations for implementation?

173
174 What was the formal process ASPPB used to solicit feedback from member
175 boards and would the Task Force be able to review the feedback received?

176
177 The Task Force advised they wanted a response by their next meeting which will allow
178 the responses to be included for discussion.

179
180 Dr. Casuga advised due to time constraints the Task Force will need to table the
181 remaining agenda items for a future meeting.

182
183 **Agenda Item #7:** Recommendations for Agenda Items for Future Task Force Meetings.

184

185 Task Force members requested to see a flow chart to help visualize all of the possible
186 ways that this new examination can be implemented. Additionally, they wanted to see
187 how the Board's regulations might need to be updated.

188

189 **The Task Force adjourned at 5:10pm**