October 13, 2020

Dear Members,

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 licensed 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 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 has 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. However, it is hoped that these forms will assist jurisdictions in your review of applicants for licensure whose information coming before you may look different than it has in previous years due to COVID-19. These forms are also intended to assist individuals to better log information about their personal training experiences while the experiences are fresh in their minds and students and trainees are still closely working with those that can properly attest to their work and training experiences.

As a result, the Workgroup is excited about the work they have done on this project, and they now want to share their work with you. Please find attached the 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

During the upcoming ASPPB 60th Annual Meeting, a session has been developed to provide you with an opportunity to share your thoughts on these items before they are distributed for use.

Thank you in advance for your review of these materials, and I look forward to hearing your comments later this month.

Respectfully,

Mariann Burnetti-Atwell, PsyD
Chief Executive Officer, ASPPB