

R156. Commerce, Occupational and Professional Licensing.

R156-61. Psychologist Licensing Act Rule.

R156-61-102. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in Title 58, Chapters 1 and 61, as used in Title 58, Chapters 1 and 61 or this rule:

(1) "Approved diagnostic and statistical manual for mental disorders" means the following:

(a) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition: DSM-5 [~~or Fourth Edition: DSM-IV~~] published by the American Psychiatric Association;

(b) [~~2013~~]2015 ICD-~~[9]~~10-CM for Physicians, [~~Volumes 1 and 2~~] Professional Edition published by the American Medical Association; or

(c) ICD-10-CM [~~2013~~]2019: The Complete Official Draft Code Set published by the American Medical Association.

(2) "CoA" means Committee on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association.

(3) (a) "Conversion therapy" means any practice or treatment that seeks to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of a patient or client, including mental health therapy that seeks to change, eliminate, or reduce behaviors, expressions, attractions, or feelings related to a patient or client's sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b) "Conversion therapy" does not mean a practice or treatment that does not seek to change a patient or client's sexual orientation or gender identity, including mental health therapy that:

(i) is neutral with respect to sexual orientation and gender identity;

(ii) provides assistance to a patient or client undergoing gender transition;

(iii) provides acceptance, support, and understanding of a patient or client;

(iv) facilitates a patient or client's ability to cope, social support, and identity exploration and development;

(v) addresses unlawful, unsafe, premarital, or extramarital sexual activities in a manner that is neutral with respect to sexual orientation; or

(vi) discusses with a patient or client the patient or client's moral or religious beliefs or practices.

(4) "Direct supervision" of a supervisee in training, as used in Subsection 58-61-304(1)(f), means:

(a) a supervisor meeting with the supervisee when both are physically present in the same room at the same time; or

(b) a supervisor meeting with the supervisee remotely via real-time electronic methods that allow for visual and audio interaction between the supervisor and supervisee under the following conditions:

(i) the supervisor and supervisee shall enter into a written supervisory agreement which, at a minimum, establishes the following:

(A) frequency, duration, reason for, and objectives of electronic meetings between the supervisor and supervisee;

(B) a plan to ensure accessibility of the supervisor to the supervisee despite the physical distance between their offices;

(C) a plan to address potential conflicts between clinical recommendations of the supervisor and the representatives of the agency employing the supervisee;

(D) a plan to inform a supervisee's client or patient and employer regarding the supervisee's use of remote supervision;

(E) a plan to comply with the supervisor's duties and responsibilities as established in rule; and

(F) a plan to physically visit the location where the supervisee practices on at least a quarterly basis during the period of supervision or at a lesser frequency as approved by the Division in collaboration with the Board;

(ii) the supervisee submits the supervisory agreement to the Division and obtains approval before counting direct supervision completed via live real-time methods toward the 40 hour direct supervision requirement; and

(iii) in evaluating a supervisory agreement, the Division shall consider whether it adequately protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

([4]5) "On-the-job training program approved by the Division", as used in Subsection 58-61-301(1)(b), means a program that meets the standards established in Section R156-61-601.

([5]6)(a) "Predoctoral internship" refers to a formal training program that meets the minimum requirements of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) offered to culminate a doctoral degree in clinical, counseling, or school psychology.

(b) A training program may be a full-time one year program or a half-time two year program.

([6]7)(a) "Program accredited by the CoA", as used in Subsections R156-61-302a(1), means a psychology department program that, as of the date on which a student completes a doctoral psychology degree program:

(i) has obtained an accreditation from the CoA; or

(ii)(A) has applied to the CoA for accreditation;

(B) has been approved by the CoA for a site visit, which is to occur within the ensuing six years; and

(C) has not previously been denied accreditation by the CoA.

([7]8)(a) "Program of respecialization", as used in Subsection R156-61-302a(3), is a formal program designed to prepare someone with a doctoral degree in psychology with the necessary skills to practice psychology.

(b) The respecialization activities shall include substantial requirements that are formally offered as an organized sequence of course work and supervised practicum leading to a certificate (or similar recognition) by an educational body that offers a doctoral degree qualifying for licensure in the same area of practice as that of the certificate.

(9)(a) "Psychology training", as used in Subsection 58-61-304(1)(e), means practical training experience providing direct services in the practice of mental health therapy and psychology under supervision. All activities in full-time internships and full-time post-doctoral positions devoted solely to mental health delivery meet this definition.

(b) Activities not directly related to the practice of

psychology, even if commonly performed by psychologists, do not meet the definition of psychology training under Subsection 58-61-304(1)(e). Examples of ineligible activities include psychology coursework, analog clinical activities (e.g. role plays), activities required for business purposes (e.g. billing), supervision of others engaged in activities other than practice of psychology (e.g. supervising adolescents in wilderness settings), and activities commonly performed by non-psychologists (e.g. teaching of psychology on topics not of a professional nature).

~~[[8]10)~~ "Qualified faculty", as used in Subsection 58-1-307(1)(b), means a university faculty member who provides pre-doctoral supervision of clinical or counseling experience in a university setting who:

(i) is licensed in Utah as a psychologist; and
(ii) is training students in the context of a doctoral program leading to licensure.

~~[[9]11)~~ "Residency program", as used in Subsection 58-61-301(1)(b), means a program of post-doctoral supervised clinical training necessary to meet licensing requirements as a psychologist.

~~[(10)(a)]~~ "Psychology training", as used in Subsection 58-61-304(1)(e), means practical training experience providing direct services in the practice of mental health therapy and psychology under supervision. All activities in full-time internships and full-time post-doctoral positions devoted solely to mental health delivery meet this definition.

~~[(b)]~~ Activities not directly related to the practice of psychology, even if commonly performed by psychologists, do not meet the definition of psychology training under Subsection 58-61-304(1)(e). Examples of ineligible activities include psychology coursework, analog clinical activities (e.g. role plays), activities required for business purposes (e.g. billing), supervision of others engaged in activities other than practice of psychology (e.g. supervising adolescents in wilderness settings), and activities commonly performed by non-psychologists (e.g. teaching of psychology on topics not of a professional nature).]

R156-61-502. Unprofessional Conduct.

"Unprofessional conduct" includes:

(1) violation of any provision of the "Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct" of the American Psychological Association (APA) as adopted by the APA, ~~[June 1, 2010]~~ January 1, 2017 edition, which is adopted and incorporated by reference;

(2) violation of any provision of the "ASPPB Code of Conduct" of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) as adopted by the ASPPB, ~~[2005]~~ January 1, 2018 edition, which is adopted and incorporated by reference;

(3) acting as a supervisor or accepting supervision of a supervisor without complying with or ensuring the compliance with the requirements of Sections R156-61-302d and R156-61-302e;

(4) engaging in and aiding or abetting conduct or practices which are dishonest, deceptive or fraudulent;

(5) engaging in or aiding or abetting deceptive or fraudulent billing practices;

(6) failing to establish and maintain appropriate professional boundaries with a client or former client;

(7) engaging in dual or multiple relationships with a client or former client in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the client;

(8) engaging in sexual activities or sexual contact with a client with or without client consent;

(9) engaging in sexual activities or sexual contact with a former client within two years of documented termination of services;

(10) engaging in sexual activities or sexual contact at any time with a former client who is especially vulnerable or susceptible to being disadvantaged because of the client's personal history, current mental status, or any condition which could reasonably be expected to place the client at a disadvantage recognizing the power imbalance which exists or may exist between the psychologist and the client;

(11) engaging in sexual activities or sexual contact with client's relatives or other individuals with whom the client maintains a relationship when that individual is especially vulnerable or susceptible to being disadvantaged because of his personal history, current mental status, or any condition which could reasonably be expected to place that individual at a disadvantage recognizing the power imbalance which exists or may exist between the psychologist and that individual;

(12) physical contact with a client when there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the client resulting from the contact;

(13) engaging in or aiding or abetting sexual harassment or any conduct which is exploitive or abusive with respect to a student, trainee, employee, or colleague with whom the licensee has supervisory or management responsibility;

(14) failing to render impartial, objective, and informed services, recommendations or opinions with respect to custodial or parental rights, divorce, domestic relationships, adoptions, sanity, competency, mental health or any other determination concerning an individual's civil or legal rights;

(15) exploiting a client for personal gain;

(16) using a professional client relationship to exploit a client or other person for personal gain;

(17) failing to maintain appropriate client records for a period of not less than ten years from the documented termination of services to the client;

(18) failing to obtain informed consent from the client or legal guardian before taping, recording or permitting third party observations of client care or records;

(19) failure to cooperate with the Division during an investigation

(20) participating in a residency program or other post degree experience without being certified as a psychology resident for post-doctoral training and experience;

(21) supervising a residency program of an individual who is not certified as a psychology resident; [✗]

(22) when providing services remotely:

(a) failing to practice according to professional standards

of care in the delivery of services remotely;

(b) failing to protect the security of electronic, confidential data and information; or

(c) failing to appropriately store and dispose of electronic, confidential data and information[-]; or

(23) (a) providing conversion therapy to a patient or client who is younger than 18 years old; and

(b) Subsection (23)(a) does not apply to:

(i) a clergy member or religious counselor who is acting substantially in a pastoral or religious capacity and not in the capacity of a psychologist; or

(ii) a parent or grandparent who is a psychologist and who is acting substantially in the capacity of a parent or grandparent and not in the capacity of a psychologist.