

LICENSED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL PRACTITIONER AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stewart E. Barlow

Senate Sponsor: Michael S. Kennedy

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill enacts provisions relating to the licensure of a licensed school psychological practitioner.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates a new license category under the Psychologist Licensing Act for a licensed school psychological practitioner;
- ▶ defines the scope of practice for a licensed school psychological practitioner; and
- ▶ specifies the requirements to receive a license as a licensed school psychological practitioner.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

58-61-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 281

58-61-304, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 339

58-61-308, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 281

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **58-61-301** is amended to read:

58-61-301 . Licensure required.

- (1) (a) A license is required to engage in the practice of psychology, except as specifically provided in Section 58-1-307.

29 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 58-1-307(1)(c) an individual shall be
30 certified under this chapter as a psychology resident in order to engage in a residency
31 program of supervised clinical training necessary to meet licensing requirements as a
32 psychologist under this chapter.

33 (2) The division shall issue to a person who qualifies under this chapter a license in the
34 classification of:

35 (a) psychologist; ~~[or]~~

36 (b) certified psychology resident[-] ; or

37 (c) licensed school psychological practitioner.

38 Section 2. Section **58-61-304** is amended to read:

39 **58-61-304 . Qualifications for licensure by examination or endorsement.**

40 (1) An applicant for licensure as a psychologist based upon education, clinical training, and
41 examination shall:

42 (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;

43 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

44 (c) produce certified transcripts of credit verifying satisfactory completion of a doctoral
45 degree in psychology that includes specific core course work established by division
46 rule under Section 58-1-203, from an institution of higher education whose doctoral
47 program, at the time the applicant received the doctoral degree, met approval criteria
48 established by division rule made in consultation with the board;

49 (d) have completed a minimum of 4,000 hours of psychology training as defined by
50 division rule under Section 58-1-203 in not less than two years and under the
51 supervision of a psychologist supervisor approved by the division in collaboration
52 with the board;

53 (e) to be qualified to engage in mental health therapy, document successful completion
54 of not less than 1,000 hours of supervised training in mental health therapy obtained
55 after completion of a master's level of education in psychology, which training may
56 be included as part of the 4,000 hours of training required in Subsection (1)(d), and
57 for which documented evidence demonstrates not less than one hour of supervision
58 for each 40 hours of supervised training was obtained under the direct supervision of
59 a psychologist, as defined by rule;

60 (f) pass the examination requirement established by division rule under Section 58-1-203;

61 (g) consent to a criminal background check in accordance with Section 58-61-304.1 and
62 any requirements established by rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,

- 63 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
- 64 (h) meet with the board, upon request for good cause, for the purpose of evaluating the
65 applicant's qualifications for licensure.
- 66 (2) An applicant for licensure as a psychologist by endorsement based upon licensure in
67 another jurisdiction shall:
- 68 (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- 69 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- 70 (c) not have any disciplinary action pending or in effect against the applicant's
71 psychologist license in any jurisdiction;
- 72 (d) have passed the Utah Psychologist Law and Ethics Examination established by
73 division rule;
- 74 (e) provide satisfactory evidence the applicant is currently licensed in another state,
75 district, or territory of the United States, or in any other jurisdiction approved by the
76 division in collaboration with the board;
- 77 (f) provide satisfactory evidence the applicant has actively practiced psychology in that
78 jurisdiction for not less than 2,000 hours or one year, whichever is greater;
- 79 (g) provide satisfactory evidence that:
- 80 (i) the education, supervised experience, examination, and all other requirements for
81 licensure in that jurisdiction at the time the applicant obtained licensure were
82 substantially equivalent to the licensure requirements for a psychologist in Utah at
83 the time the applicant obtained licensure in the other jurisdiction; or
- 84 (ii) the applicant is:
- 85 (A) a current holder of Board Certified Specialist status in good standing from the
86 American Board of Professional Psychology;
- 87 (B) currently credentialed as a health service provider in psychology by the
88 National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology; or
- 89 (C) currently holds a Certificate of Professional Qualification (CPQ) granted by
90 the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards;
- 91 (h) consent to a criminal background check in accordance with Section 58-61-304.1 and
92 any requirements established by rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,
93 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
- 94 (i) meet with the board, upon request for good cause, for the purpose of evaluating the
95 applicant's qualifications for licensure.
- 96 (3) (a) An applicant for certification as a psychology resident shall comply with the

97 provisions of Subsections (1)(a), (b), (c), (g), and (h).

98 (b) (i) An individual's certification as a psychology resident is limited to the period of
99 time necessary to complete clinical training as described in Subsections (1)(d) and
100 (e) and extends not more than one year from the date the minimum requirement
101 for training is completed, unless the individual presents satisfactory evidence to
102 the division and the Psychologist Licensing Board that the individual is making
103 reasonable progress toward passing the qualifying examination or is otherwise on
104 a course reasonably expected to lead to licensure as a psychologist.

105 (ii) The period of time under Subsection (3)(b)(i) may not exceed two years past the
106 date the minimum supervised clinical training requirement has been completed.

107 (4) An applicant for licensure as a licensed school psychological practitioner shall:

108 (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;

109 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

110 (c) produce certified transcripts of credit verifying satisfactory completion of a master's
111 degree or equivalent certification program approved by the division that:

112 (i) consists of at least 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours in school psychology at
113 an accredited institution; and

114 (ii) includes training in at least the following topics:

115 (A) understanding the organization, administration, and operation of schools, the
116 major roles of personnel employed in schools, and curriculum development;

117 (B) directing psychological and psycho-educational assessments and intervention
118 including all areas of exceptionality;

119 (C) individual and group intervention and remediation techniques, including
120 consulting, behavioral methods, counseling, and primary prevention;

121 (D) understanding the ethical and professional practice and legal issues related to
122 the work of school psychologists;

123 (E) social psychology, including interpersonal relations, communications, and
124 consultation with students, parents, and professional personnel;

125 (F) coordination and work with community-school relations and multicultural
126 education programs and assessments; and

127 (G) the use and evaluation of tests and measurements, developmental psychology,
128 affective and cognitive processes, social and biological bases of behavior,
129 personality, and psychopathology;

130 (d) provide evidence demonstrating that the applicant has:

- 131 (i) completed a one school year internship, or the equivalent, with a minimum of
132 1,200 clock hours in school psychology, at least 600 hours of which shall be in a
133 school setting or a setting with an educational component; and
134 (ii) completed at least five years of successful experience as a school psychologist in
135 the state; and
136 (e) provide a recommendation from:
137 (i) the institution that the applicant attended under Subsection (4)(c); and
138 (ii) one or more local education agencies, as defined in Section 53E-1-102, that
139 employed the applicant as a school psychologist for the period described in
140 Subsection (4)(d)(ii).

141 Section 3. Section **58-61-308** is amended to read:

142 **58-61-308 . Scope of practice -- Limitations.**

- 143 (1) [A] An individual licensed as a psychologist may engage in all acts and practices defined
144 as the practice of psychology without supervision, in private and independent practice,
145 or as an employee of another person, limited only by the licensee's education, training,
146 and competence.
147 (2) An individual certified as a psychology resident may engage in all acts and practices
148 defined as the practice of psychology only under conditions of employment as a
149 psychology resident and under the supervision of a licensed psychologist who is an
150 approved psychology training supervisor as defined by division rule. A certified
151 psychology resident shall not engage in the independent practice of psychology.
152 (3) (a) An individual licensed as a licensed school psychological practitioner may
153 provide services outside of a school setting if the services are:
154 (i) provided in accordance with the most recent professional standards adopted by the
155 National Association of School Psychologists; and
156 (ii) related to:
157 (A) academic, behavioral, and mental health support;
158 (B) academic evaluation, assessment, and data analysis; or
159 (C) consultation with educators or families.
160 (b) An individual licensed as a licensed school psychological practitioner may not
161 engage in diagnosing, the practice of mental health therapy, psychological evaluation,
162 neuropsychological assessment, or neuropsychological evaluation.

163 Section 4. **Effective date.**

164 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.