



OREGON BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS BOARD BULLETIN

Summer 2009



OBPE TO RAISE LICENSURE FEES TRANSITION TO BIRTH-MONTH RENEWAL

In January 2009 the Oregon Legislature approved a fee increase for OBPE beginning in December 2009. While the cost of business has grown, the Board has not raised fees in ten years. The fee increase is necessary to provide adequate cash-flow to the agency, to keep staffing at its current level and to provide a sufficient “ending balance” in the event of unusual costs such as unanticipated contested case hearings. The new active licensure fee will be \$750/ two years. The new in-active licensure fee will be \$100/two years.

An additional strategy to address OBPE’s cash flow concerns is a transition to a birth-month renewal schedule. This means that most licensees renewing their license will pay in two payments: one payment in December and one payment in their birth month. If a birthday falls within the first three months of the year, the license fee will need to be paid in one payment in December.

Questions about the fee increase or the birth month renewal should be directed to Debra McHugh (503)373-1155.

**COMMUNICATION LEADS TO COMMUNITY, THAT IS,
TO UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL VALUING.**

~Rollo May

In this Issue

New Board Members.....	2
Legislative Update	3
Qualified Person	4
Board Statistics	5
Welcome New Licensees.....	6
Diversity Survey.....	7

FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

Do you have a suggestion about improving Board Statutes, Administrative Rules, Customer Service, Policies or Practices? We get some of our best ideas for change from applicants and licensees!

Email or call Debra McHugh: 503-373-1155
debra.orman@state.or.us.

WELCOME!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

☞ Robin Shallcross, Ph.D., ABPP

Licensed in Oregon, 1992

Assistant Professor and Director of Latino Bilingual Track, Pacific University's School of Professional Psychology and part-time private practice, treating adults in individual and couples therapy.

☞ Linda Sherman, Ph.D.

Licensed in Oregon, 1982

Specialties – Marriage and Family, High Conflict Divorce and Custody and Parenting Evaluations

☞ ☞ ☞

COMMENTS FROM THE FIELD

NOTE: Thanks to everyone who submits comments regarding customer service, and to those who make suggestions for improvement, (and even complaints!) It helps me to know where to look for opportunities to make our services more helpful, accessible and timely. ☞ Debra McHugh, Executive Director

☞

1) IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE A MORE FREQUENT NEWSLETTER FROM OBPE INDICATING WHAT IS GOING ON.

With the addition of a new staff person, Kelli Kelly, this past year, we have re-distributed the day-to-day workload and Debra will be able to publish a quarterly newsletter.

☞

2) I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SEARCH THE STATUTES BY SUBJECT MORE EASILY.

Done! Kathy Mann, OBPE Web Master, has created 'Subject Matter' links to all of the Board's Administrative Rules on our website. This should make finding a topic much easier.

http://www.obpe.state.or.us/OBPE/Ad_Rules_TOC.shtml

☞

3) COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING COMPLIANCE TO BOARD REQUIREMENTS ARE OFTEN CONTRADICTORY AND CREATE CONFUSION.

If you feel that a law or rule is unclear, please call for clarification. If you feel that you are not receiving a satisfactory explanation — please call the Board's Executive Director.

4) IT IS EXTREMELY FRUSTRATING TO BE REFERRED TO THE WEBSITE WHEN CALLING WITH A QUESTION. IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME THAT MOST PEOPLE WHO CALL HAVE QUESTIONS THE WEBSITE DID NOT ANSWER.

While we continually improve and revise the OBPE website, some people prefer to call and ask questions. Moreover, while we are developing "plain language" FAQ's and other tools-- the laws and rules are in legalese, and can be very difficult to understand.

There has been an office policy, for nearly three years, that requires staff to respond to caller's questions—no matter how long it may take. At the end of the call a reference to the website may be helpful since many of our forms and FAQ's can be found there.

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5) AT THIS POINT I DO NOT THINK IT IS HELPFUL, OR AT THIS POINT ACCURATE, TO REFERENCE ADVERSARIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OBPE AND PSYCHOLOGISTS.

Thanks! This Board and the Executive Director have made a concerted effort to improve all our relationships, from revising all of our written materials to providing Board minutes on the Website to distributing Board meeting agendas.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Board had three bills (proposed laws) moving through the Legislature during the 2009 Legislative Session.

Senate Bill 173. Passed. Adds two additional Board member positions: One public member and one professional member. Makes psychologist associates eligible for Board membership.

Senate Bill 174. Passed. Increases the civil penalty authority to \$5,000, or \$10,000 in certain cases. The specific language is as follows:



- 3) The board may impose a civil penalty under subsection (1) of this section:
 - (a) In an amount not to exceed \$5,000; or
 - (b) In an amount not to exceed \$10,000, if any of the following conditions exist:
 - (A) The conduct giving rise to the penalty had a serious detrimental effect on the health or safety of another person;
 - (B) The person subject to the penalty has a history of discipline for the same or similar conduct;
 - (C) The conduct giving rise to the penalty involves a willful or reckless disregard of the law;
 - (D) The conduct giving rise to the penalty was perpetrated against a minor, an elderly person or a person with a disability; or
 - (E) The person subject to the penalty violated ORS 675.020 by practicing psychology or representing that the person is a psychologist without having a license.

NOTE: At the initiative of Senator Whitsett, District 28, SB 174 was amended to include a portion of SB 175 (see below). The addition reads as follows:

- (2)(a) A person with a doctoral degree in psychology who is employed by a local, state or federal government agency, or employed by a community mental health program or drug and alcohol treatment program licensed or certified by the State of Oregon may practice psychology without a license under ORS 675.010 to 675.150 to the extent that the person's activities and services are rendered within the person's scope of employment for no more than 24 months after the person begins practicing psychology within the agency or program.
- (b) Before the person obtains a license under ORS 675.010 to 675.150:
 - (A) The person may practice only within the confines of the employing agency or program; and
 - (B) The person may not use the title "psychologist."

Implications: If an individual has a doctoral degree in psychology, and practices psychology in a local, state or federal government agency, or in a community mental health program or drug and alcohol treatment program they have 24 months to obtain license.

Senate Bill 175. failed. Reduces exemptions to licensure as a psychologist.

These bills are expected to be signed into law by the Governor and become effective January 1, 2010. If you have any questions about these bills, please contact Debra McHugh, Executive Director, or any Board member. ☞

Qualified Person Requirement

QUESTION: I work for the County and client records belong to the County. I live out of state and have never had Oregon clients. I teach and have never seen clients. Do I have to comply with this Rule?

ANSWER: Yes. Please submit the Qualified Person form describing your employment setting, and a contact person for client record request (if any). Be sure to provide an updated form if you leave this employer.

QUESTION: I am in-active and have not seen clients for three years. Do I have to send in a form?

ANSWER: Yes. Psychologists are required to keep records for seven years from the last client visit. You should designate someone to cover for the next four years. Once you have not seen a client for seven years, you can submit an updated Qualified Person form stating your seven year inactive status.

QUESTION: Does the Board actually have clients calling for this information?

ANSWER: Yes! In fact, in the past year or so we have had two deaths and three licensees who have suffered incapacitating strokes. We get calls from clients, attorneys, spouses and psychologist-colleagues requesting information about who the Qualified Person is or asking what to do with client records.

NOTE: A Qualified Person can be either licensed Psychologist or a licensed Psychologist Associate.



Residency-Supervision

Q: Do I have to put my supervisor's name on my business cards, letterhead etc.?

A: Yes. This information gives the public information they need if they have some sort of grievance. Example:

Jane Doe, Psychologist Resident
John Doe, Supervisor

Q: Why do I need an Associate Supervisor named in my Resident contract?

A: You are not required to name an associate supervisor, but it is a good idea in case your supervisor is away for some reason and is unable to meet with you in a particular week.

Q: My supervisor unexpectedly went out of town for a week. Can I work just a few hours?

A: No. If you work even one hour in a week, you need supervision. If you work without supervision those weeks will not count, and you may be subject to sanction by the Board.

Q: What do I need to do to change supervisors?

A: Plan ahead—if at all possible! First, write to the Board requesting a change of supervisor. It is helpful to let us know why you are changing supervisors. Second, ask your supervisor to send in an evaluation. A change of supervisor is usually reviewed by Board staff. Unusual circumstances may be brought to the Board for a final determination.

Q: How long do I have to complete my residency?

A: Current Board Administrative Rules allow three years to complete a residency. If you need more time, you must write to the Board and request an extension. Extension requests will be reviewed by Board staff. Unusual circumstances may be brought to the Board for a final determination.

Q: CAN I BE A RESIDENT WORKING IN MORE THAN ONE OFFICE?

A: Yes, but you will need two residency contracts.

BOARD STATISTICS ~2009~ BOARD STATISTICS

APPLICANTS

NEW APPLICANTS: 38

SENIOR PSYCHOLOGISTS: 3

OUT-OF-STATE: 14

∞ Average # days to approve a completed application: 5

RESIDENTS

PSYCHOLOGIST RESIDENTS: 127

RESIDENCY CONTRACTS: 46

LICENSEES

ACTIVE PSYCHOLOGISTS: 1199

INACTIVE PSYCHOLOGISTS: 131

ACTIVE PSYCHOLOGIST ASSOCIATES: 37

INACTIVE PSYCHOLOGISTS ASSOCIATES: 3

RETIRED PSYCHOLOGISTS: 7

LANGUAGES

ARABIC: 1

CHINESE: 1

DUTCH: 3

ESTONIAN: 1

FINNISH: 1

FRENCH: 39

GERMAN: 26

HEBREW: 3

HINDUSTANI: 1

ITALIAN: 5

INDONESIAN: 2

LAOTIAN: 1

PERSIAN-FARSI: 1

POLISH: 1

PORTUGUESE: 1

RUSSIAN: 1

SAMOAN: 1

SPANISH: 54

SWEDISH: 1

CAMBODIAN: 1

TAIWANESE: 2

YIDDISH: 1

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE: 8

ETHNICITY

AMERICAN INDIAN: 4

ASIAN: 17

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN: 4

HISPANIC: 16

NATIVE HAWAIIAN: 2

WHITE/CAUCASIAN: 769

PLEASE PARTICIPATE!
LOOK FOR THE GOVERNOR'S
DIVERSITY SURVEY
IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

COMPLAINTS FILED

01/01/2009 – TO DATE

APPLICANTS: 1

LICENSEES: 24

UNLICENSED PRACTICE: 9

DISCIPLINE

01/01/2009 TO DATE

DISMISSED: 10 (SOME 2007 & 2008 CARRY-OVER)

PROPOSED DISCIPLINE: 1

FINAL DISCIPLINE: 2

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION: 1

UNDER INVESTIGATION: 43

UNDER DISCIPLINARY SUPERVISION: 7

MISCELLANEOUS

∞ Delinquent License Renewal: 39

∞ Limited Permits Issued: 9

∞ NEW LICENSEES: 39

Congratulations!

The following individuals passed the Oregon Jurisprudence Examination administered on April 17, 2009:

Lori Allen

Cynthia Anderson

Karyn Angell

Jennifer Antick

Andrew Barnes

Darin Bergen

Noelle Carroll

Rachel Chester

Anne Dean

Lori DeCarvalho

Amy Detweiler

Andrew Downs

Brian Evans

John Garofalo

Sharon Gizara

Christina Irvine

Kristen Iverson

Stephen James

Charlotte Jeskey

Chelsea MacLane

Daniel Munoz

Joel Nigg

Darcy Norling

Laura Orgel

Julie Oyemaja

Karen Paez

Angela Plowhead

Diana Pollak

Thomas Rogat

Tobias Ryan

Colleen Scott

Ketki Shah

Ryan Skelton

Daniel Smith

Clarissa Steffen

Whitney Vail

Holly Waldron

Andrew White

Christine Wung

Administrative Rule

ADVISORY WORK GROUP

On Friday, June 19, 2009, twenty licensees gathered in the Board's office in Salem to review OBPE's Administrative Rules, to make recommendations to the Board.

The work group recommendations will be reviewed and voted on by the Board at their July 17th meeting.

The "proposed rules" will then go out for public comment in August. All licensees and other interested parties will be notified of the proposed rules, and given an opportunity to make comments. ☺

Direct questions to: Debra McHugh, Executive Director (503) 373-1155.

NEW BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT!

RURAL AND SEMI-RURAL APPLICANTS ENCOURAGED

In anticipation of the Governor signing SB 173, we are recruiting an ADDITIONAL two new Board members: one public member and one professional member. If you submitted an application for the last recruitment, you will be considered for the current recruitment as well. If you have a friend, neighbor or colleague whom you believe would make a good Public Member please encourage them to call the Board office and inquire about membership.

Note: All Board appointments are approved by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The new Board member confirmations will likely not take place until February, during the "Special Session" of the Legislature.

If you have an interest in serving Oregon's psychological community and the public in this way, call Debra McHugh for more information and an application. 503-373-1155. *∞* **Application Deadline: January 1, 2010** *∞*

Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners
3218 Pringle Road SE, Suite 130
Salem OR 97302-6309

Summer 2009 Newsletter

OREGON BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

Race, Ethnicity, and Language Skills Questionnaire

During the 2001 Legislative Session, a law was passed requiring all health professional regulatory boards to maintain records of the racial and ethnic makeup of applicants and licensees. The goal is to encourage identification of professionals to promote the health of bilingual citizens of Oregon.

While the Board of Psychologist Examiners is required to seek, maintain, and report to the Legislature information, providing such information to the Board is completely voluntary. Please return your questionnaire to OBPE, 3218 Pringle Rd. SE, Suite 130, Salem, OR 97302-6309, or fax it to 503-378-3575.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Name: _____

License Number _____

RACE: *Please check one.*

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black/African American (not of Hispanic origin)
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian (not of Hispanic origin)
- Other: _____

Ethnicity: _____ (e.g., American Indian tribe, Bengalese, Cambodian, Filipino, Guamanian, Haitian, Italian, Kenyan, Lebanese, Mexican, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Samoan, Thai, etc.)

Languages: *Please list languages, besides English, in which you are fully proficient or at least conversationally proficient, including American Sign Language.*
