

Psychology

General Overview – Applying for Psychology Licensure in Florida

Applicants seeking to be licensed as a psychologist in Florida may apply by Examination or Endorsement as provided in Chapter 490, Florida Statutes. Provided here is a summary of the laws pertaining to the various application methods and general information about the review process for each method. All applicants are required to successfully pass the **Florida Laws and Rules Examination** (http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/psychology/psy_bulletins.html) in addition to any other requirements for the application method selected.

Endorsement of Other State License

490.006(1)(a), Florida Statutes, Licensure by endorsement.--

(1) The department shall license a person as a psychologist or school psychologist who, upon applying to the department and remitting the appropriate fee, demonstrates to the department or, in the case of psychologists, to the board that the applicant:

(a) Holds a valid license or certificate in another state to practice psychology or school psychology, as applicable, provided that, when the applicant secured such license or certificate, the requirements were substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those set forth in this chapter at that time; and, if no Florida law existed at that time, then the requirements in the other state must have been substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those set forth in this chapter at the present time

Applicants under this method are to request that the other state's regulatory office send a copy of the laws/regulations, which were in effect at the time they were licensed, for submission directly to this office, to supplement the psychology licensure application. The other state's licensure must be active to be endorsed.

The Board's Credentials Committee will review all applications submitted under this method to determine whether the requirements for licensure, at the time of the applicant's original licensure in the other state, were substantially equivalent to or more stringent than the requirements of Florida law at that time.

Endorsement of 20 Years of Experience as a Licensed Psychologist

490.006(1)(c), Florida Statutes, Licensure by endorsement.--

(1) The department shall license a person as a psychologist or school psychologist who, upon applying to the department and remitting the appropriate fee, demonstrates to the department or, in the case of psychologists, to the board that the applicant:

(c) Possesses a doctoral degree in psychology as described in s. 490.003 and has at least 20 years of experience as a licensed psychologist in any jurisdiction or territory of the United States within 25 years preceding the date of application. Applicants under this method are to request that the other state's regulatory office send a copy of the laws/regulations, which were in effect at the time they were licensed, for submission directly to this office, to supplement the psychology licensure application. The other state's licensure must be active to be endorsed.

Applicants under this method are to submit official doctoral level transcripts and provide a vita showing licensed psychology practice for at least 20 of the last 25 years and verification of 20

Psychology

General Overview – Applying for Psychology Licensure in Florida

years of active psychology licensure, verified by the regulatory licensing authority, to supplement the psychology licensure application.

Application review will include verification that applicant obtained a doctorate in psychology from a program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) at the time he or she was enrolled and graduated from the program, and verification of 20 years of licensed psychology experience with 25 years preceding the date of the application.

Endorsement of American Board of Professional Psychology Diplomate (ABPP)

490.006(1)(b), Florida Statutes, Licensure by endorsement.--

(1) The department shall license a person as a psychologist or school psychologist who, upon applying to the department and remitting the appropriate fee, demonstrates to the department or, in the case of psychologists, to the board that the applicant:

(b) Is a diplomate in good standing with the American Board of Professional Psychology, Inc.;

Applicants are to document their ABPP diploma number, date of diploma and specialty area on the psychology licensure application and to request that ABPP provide verification of the diplomate status directly to this office.

Application review will include verification of good standing with ABPP.

Examination

490.005(1)(b) – (d), Florida Statutes, Licensure by examination.--

(1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a psychologist shall apply to the department to take the licensure examination. The department shall license each applicant who the board certifies has:

(a) Completed the application form and remitted a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$500 and an examination fee set by the board sufficient to cover the actual per applicant cost to the department for development, purchase, and administration of the examination, but not to exceed \$500.

(b) Submitted proof satisfactory to the board that the applicant has:

1. Received doctoral-level psychological education, as defined in s. 490.003(3);

2. Received the equivalent of a doctoral-level psychological education, as defined in s. 490.003(3), from a program at a school or university located outside the United States of America and Canada, which was officially recognized by the government of the country in which it is located as an institution or program to train students to practice professional psychology. The burden of establishing that the requirements of this provision have been met shall be upon the applicant;

3. Received and submitted to the board, prior to July 1, 1999, certification of an augmented doctoral-level psychological education from the program director of a doctoral-level psychology program accredited by a programmatic agency recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education; or

Psychology

General Overview – Applying for Psychology Licensure in Florida

4. Received and submitted to the board, prior to August 31, 2001, certification of a doctoral-level program that at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated maintained a standard of education and training comparable to the standard of training of programs accredited by a programmatic agency recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education. Such certification of comparability shall be provided by the program director of a doctoral-level psychology program accredited by a programmatic agency recognized and approved by the United States Department of Education.

(c) Had at least 2 years or 4,000 hours of experience in the field of psychology in association with or under the supervision of a licensed psychologist meeting the academic and experience requirements of this chapter or the equivalent as determined by the board. The experience requirement may be met by work performed on or off the premises of the supervising psychologist if the off-premises work is not the independent, private practice rendering of psychological services that does not have a psychologist as a member of the group actually rendering psychological services on the premises.

(d) Passed the examination. However, an applicant who has obtained a passing score, as established by the board by rule, on the psychology licensure examination designated by the board as the national licensure examination need only pass the Florida law and rules portion of the examination.

Applicants are required to submit official doctoral level transcripts, post-doctoral supervision verification forms, and may submit national examination score reports if taken prior to application in Florida, along with other standard items needed to complete the licensure application.

Foreign-trained applicants must have their graduate level psychology degree program evaluated by a credentials organization and must also obtain a letter comparing their doctoral level program to that of a program accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA), as required in Rule 64B19-11.0035, Florida Administrative Code.

Application review will include verification that the applicant obtained a doctorate in psychology from a program accredited by the APA, at the time he or she was enrolled and graduated from the program, completion of required supervised experience according to Rule 64B19-11.005, Florida Administrative Code and, where applicable, passage of the national examination according to Rule 64B19-11.001, Florida Administrative Code.