

## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	July 12, 2018
<b>TO</b>	Board Members
<b>FROM</b>	<i>Stephanie Cheung</i> Stephanie Cheung Licensing Manager
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 21(a)</b> Standardization of Training Categories

### Background:

At its January 22, 2018 meeting, the Licensing Committee discussed and considered a proposal relating to the standardization of trainee categories. The aim of the proposal would be to enhance consumer protection and transparency by creating a single pathway to licensure that would standardize the process for trainees to gain experience towards licensure as a psychologist. The proposal would require all trainees to register as psychological assistants with the Board to ensure accountability while providing psychological services to the public as well as the accrual of supervised professional experience (SPE).

Currently, an individual can gain supervised professional experience required for licensure in five (5) different ways:

- Apply to the Board and register as a psychological assistant;
- Apply to the Board to become a registered psychologist;
- Gain experience through an exempt setting, such as academic institutions or governmental organizations;
- Gain experience through a formal doctoral internship/placement that is overseen by the American Psychological Association (APA), the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC), or the California Psychology Internship council (CAPIC); or
- Gain experience through a Department of Mental Health Waiver

Even though the common goal for these trainees in these different settings is to gain experience towards licensure as a psychologist, the requirements, oversight, and processes can be varied.

Staff worked with SOLID Training and Planning Solutions of the Department of Consumer Affairs and developed three surveys to obtain feedback on the proposal from three different perspectives: staff, licensees, and stakeholders.

At its April 24, 2018 meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed written feedback and survey responses from stakeholders, licensees, and staff relating to the proposal on the standardization of trainee categories. As a result of the discussion, the Licensing Committee recommended to consolidate the current five (5) different pathways into four (4) by removing the registered psychologist category. The Committee has tasked staff to include their recommendation as part of the proposed amendments for “Pathways to Licensure” for review at its October 25, 2018 meeting with the anticipation that the recommendations will be presented to the full Board at the November 2018 Board meeting.

**Action Requested:**

This item is for informational purposes only. No action is required.