

October 2, 2018

Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)
Board of Directors
PO Box 849
Tyrone, GA 30290

Dear Board of Directors:

Thank you for the continued engagement concerning the implementation of the Enhanced Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology. At the Board of Psychology's (Board's) August 17, 2018 meeting, the Board requested a response from ASPPB regarding the 2020 deadline for implementation of the Enhanced EPPP and concerns about its affordability. ASPPB released a message on that same day concerning the implementation of the Enhanced EPPP. Specifically, ASPPB:

- Rescinded the requirement that made the Enhanced EPPP examination a mandatory component of a single licensure exam and the mandatory implementation date of January 2020, and
- Expressed its intention to launch the Enhanced EPPP in 2020 and make it available to states and provinces interested in serving as early adopters.

We deeply appreciate ASPPB hearing the concerns of the Board and delaying implementation of the Enhanced EPPP. The above points appear to clarify ASPPB's intentions as follows: 1) that the implementation of the Enhanced EPPP is no longer mandatory, but now an optional examination for those states interested in implementing the Enhanced EPPP, and 2) that the January 1, 2020 implementation is no longer mandatory.

First, while well-received, this announcement created confusion as to the duration of the delayed implementation. Specifically, we seek clarification on whether the optional Enhanced EPPP is an indefinite alternative or ASPPB is simply postponing the deadline for mandatory adoption. If the implementation date is merely being delayed, the Board would appreciate clarification on the anticipated date for mandatory implementation.

Second, the Board remains concerned about the costs of the exam to prospective licensees. Your announcement in August did not directly address this issue. This continues to be a key area of concern raised by the Board's EPPP Part 2 Task Force, a point which was reiterated at the Board's August 2018 meeting. This concern stems from the impact the 100 percent increase in examination fees would have on consumer access to psychological services, particularly in areas serving vulnerable populations, and the impact on prospective licensees who may already be feeling the pressure of substantial financial burdens for their graduate education and training. The last letter received from Dr. Matt Turner, writing on behalf of ASPPB, stated:

"ASPPB is considering options to decrease hardship associated with increased fees to candidates but no decisions have been made."

The Board would appreciate greater clarity on this issue. Does ASPPB have plans to lower the cost of the Enhanced EPPP, or provide scholarship opportunities? The Board is interested in the anticipated cost and the available options to decrease hardship.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for November 15 and 16, 2018 in San Diego, CA. We respectfully request a response to these two concerns prior to that date if possible in order to illuminate the Board's discussions about the possible adoption of the Enhanced EPPP and to inform the regulatory process

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Antonette Sorrick, Executive Officer, at Antonette.Sorrick@dca.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Phillips'.

Stephen Phillips, JD, PsyD
President, Board of Psychology

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Seyron Foo'.

Seyron Foo
Public Member, Board of Psychology