Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners Substantive Policy Statement No. SP.01-25

This substantive policy statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedures Act. If you believe that this substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPROVAL FOR CANDIDATES OF THE EXAMINATION FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN PSYCHOLOGY (EPPP), PART 1 (KNOWLEDGE)

The Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") has adopted this Substantive Policy Statement to provide the public with information useful in the Board's implementation of A.R.S. §32-2072 which addresses the requirement for psychologist licensure applicants to take and pass the examination for professional practice in psychology [the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) established by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards]. This Substantive Policy Statement addresses only the eligibility of a person applying for psychologist licensure to elect to take the EPPP Part 1 (Knowledge) once the coursework requirements for licensure are verified to have been completed.

As amended, A.R.S. §32-2072(C) states that an applicant [for psychologist licensure] may not take an examination administered for or by the board until the applicant completes the education requirements prescribed in Title 32, Chapter 19.1,

Article 2. Additionally, A.R.S. §32-2072(C) states the board may approve an applicant who has obtained a doctoral degree in psychology as required under section A.R.S. §32-2071 to take the national examination before completing the experience [training] requirements prescribed in Title 32, Chapter 19.1, Article 2.

The education requirements are prescribed at A.R.S. §32-2071 represents the education requirements in subsections (A) at (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (7) and (8), as well as in (B), (C) and in (K). A.R.S. §32-2071(A)(6) establishes as a separate and distinct requirement from the educational requirements completion of the dissertation as a required component for conferring the required doctoral degree. The definition of "dissertation" at A.A.C. R4-26-108(17) describes it as component of a graduate doctoral program; the definition does not describe the dissertation as a component of the education requirements.

Accordingly, an applicant for psychologist licensure by examination may elect to take the EPPP Part 1 (Knowledge) once the coursework requirements are verified from the education program to have been completed and the application has been approved by the Board. Verification of education completion shall consist of a letter issued to the Board office and signed by the education program director or the director's designee, or the program's director of clinical training. The Board office will not accept an education program completion letter supplied by the applicant.

An applicant shall meet all other licensure requirements of Title 32, Chapter 19.1 and of the corresponding administrative rules at Arizona Administrative Code Title 4, Chapter 26, Article 2 to be approved for licensure by the Board.

Adopted: November 8, 2024