## **LCB File No. R164-07**

## PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

NAC 641.112 [Oral] Board examination: Format; scoring; administration; review; reevaluation; fee; prohibited acts. (NRS 641.100, 641.180)

- 1. The Board will administer an [oral] examination to each applicant for a license as a psychologist.
- 2. The [oral] Board examination will consist of [short hypothetical cases presented for the applicant's review and response. Written materials provided to the applicant will contain all the information necessary to respond to the examiners' questions. The materials for the hypothetical cases may include the results of commonly used psychological tests] questions addressing the practice of professional psychology including but not limited to federal and state laws, ethical principles, and codes of professional conduct relevant to practice in the state of Nevada. At least 30 days prior to the examination the Board will furnish a description of the content to be covered in the examination to any applicant.
  - [3. The oral examination will be scored based on the applicant's:
- (a) Applicable professional knowledge, including his ability to analyze a problem, his theoretical knowledge and his integrated thinking;
- (b) Knowledge and application of psychometrics;
- (c) Application of professional skills, including intervention and case or problem management, or both;
- (d) Sensitivity to sociocultural issues;
- (e) Recognition of his limitations;
- (f) Judgment in analysis and case management;
- (g) Awareness and appreciation of related professions and his ability to relate to them;
- (h) Ability to evaluate and prevent suicide;
- (i) Knowledge and skills related to community referrals;
- (j) Knowledge and skills related to involuntary confinement;
- (k) Knowledge and skills related to issues concerning confidentiality;
- (l) Knowledge and skills related to the requirements for reporting abuse and the duty to protect the welfare of other persons; and
- (m) Knowledge of related federal and state laws, standards of ethics and codes of professional conduct and the ability to apply those laws, standards and codes to the practice of psychology.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the oral examination will be administered by a panel of two licensed psychologists who are selected by the Board, but are not members of the Board. Members of the Board may serve as examiners if necessary to provide a timely opportunity to complete the oral examination.
- 5. A grade of 70 percent is a passing grade for the oral examination.
- —6] 3. An applicant who fails the [oral] Board examination may review his or her examination upon written request submitted to the Board. The written request must be submitted within 10 days after receiving written notice of the failure.
- [7] 4. An applicant who fails the [oral] Board examination may submit a written request to the Board for one reevaluation of his or her [oral] examination within 10 days after receiving

written notice of the failure. The Board *or its designee* may grant or deny an applicant's request for reevaluation. The Board *or its designee* will give written notice of its decision within 20 days after receiving the written request for reevaluation. If the request for reevaluation is granted, the Board *or its designee* will issue a final evaluation of the applicant's [oral] examination within 60 days after notifying the applicant of its decision to undertake the reevaluation.

- [8] 5. The fee for the [oral] Board examination must be paid before the examination is administered. A fee must be paid each time the applicant takes the [oral] examination.
  - [9] 6. An applicant shall not:
  - (a) Remove any notes taken during the [oral] examination;
  - (b) Record the **[oral]** examination by electronic or other means; or
- (c) Engage in any other conduct that results in the disclosure of the contents of the examination.

## [NAC 641.115 Oral examination: Subject areas. (NRS 641.100, 641.180) The oral examination for a license as a psychologist will consist of questions in the following subjects:

- 1. Ethics and laws relating to the practice of psychology and professional conduct, including, but not limited to:
- (a) Knowledge of federal and state laws and regulations relating to the practice of psychology, professional codes of ethics and laws and regulations related to professional conduct, including, but not limited to, laws, regulations and codes related to:
  - (1) Involuntary confinement.
- (2) Confidentiality and privileged communications.
  - (3) Procedures to be followed when a client is a danger to himself.
- (4) Procedures to be followed when a client is a danger to other persons.
- (5) Procedures to be followed when there is a threat of violence.
- (6) Requirements for reporting abuse.
- (7) The treatment of minors.
- (8) The role of psychological assistants.
  - (9) Discrimination.
- (10) Sexual relationships with clients.
  - (11) Informed consent.
- (b) Knowledge of guidelines for professional conduct, including, but not limited to:
  - (1) Scope of training.
- (2) A psychologist's recognition of his personal limitations.
  - (3) Consultations and peer review.
  - (4) The continual evaluation of a psychologist's professional practice.
  - (5) Conflicts of interest.
  - (6) Professional development.
  - (7) A psychologist's relationship with his colleagues.
  - (8) The potential for obtaining iatrogenic results in the practice of psychology.
- (c) The ability to apply guidelines for professional conduct.
- 2. Human diversity, including, but not limited to:
- (a) Knowledge of individual and group diversity, including, but not limited to, differences in persons based on:
  - (1) Ethnicity.
- (2) Social conditions.

(3) Cultural factors. (4) Social economic conditions. (5) Physical and psychological disabilities. (6) Age. <del>(7) Gender.</del> (8) Religion. (9) Sexual preferences. (10) Hereditary factors. (11) Developmental characteristics from infancy to adulthood. (b) The applicant's ability to apply his knowledge of human diversity to the practice of psychology. 3. The theoretical and empirical bases of practice, including, but not limited to: — (a) The ability to formulate a conceptual framework of practice. (b) Knowledge of diverse conceptual frameworks. (c) The ability to evaluate conceptual frameworks in the context of empirical evidence. — (d) Knowledge of relevant empirical information related to the practice of psychology. — (e) Knowledge of individual and group system disfunction. — (f) Knowledge of psychological research and literature. (g) Knowledge of human behavior, including, but not limited to, knowledge of: (1) Cognitive processes. (2) The organization of personalities. (3) The biological bases of behavior. (4) Psychosocial factors that affect behavior. (5) Systemic processes. (6) Group processes. (7) Individual differences. (8) Substance abuse. (9) Affective processes. (10) Cross cultural studies. (11) Outcome studies. 4. The assessment and evaluation of data, including, but not limited to: (a) Knowledge of techniques and procedures for the collection of information. (b) Knowledge of psychometric procedures. — (c) Knowledge of collateral sources of information. (d) Knowledge of diagnostic distinctions. — (e) The ability to analyze and formulate generalizations from assessment information. (f) The ability to integrate assessment information in order to draw conclusions, formulate diagnoses and make recommendations. — (g) The ability to conduct observational assessments. (h) Knowledge of psychometric theory and construction. — (i) The ability to apply statistical techniques. 5. Programs of intervention, including, but not limited to: — (a) The ability to use theoretical information, empirical data and assessment information to formulate and carry out a program of intervention.

(b) Knowledge of the strengths and limitations of alternative programs of intervention.

— (c) Knowledge of the rationale for the program of intervention chosen.

- (d) The ability to evaluate the effectiveness of programs of intervention.
- (e) Knowledge of various models and strategies for programs of intervention, including, but not limited to:
- (1) Psychotherapy, including psychodynamic, behavioral, cognitive, marital and family, and group approaches.
- (2) Biologically based treatment modalities, such as biofeedback, psychotropic medication and electroconvulsive therapy, and the use of appropriate referrals for such treatment.
- (3) Community based approaches.
  - (4) Techniques for consultations.
- (f) Knowledge of community resources and the circumstances under which referrals may be made to those resources.
  - 6. Intervention in a crisis, including, but not limited to:
- (a) Knowledge of how to assess a crisis, including, but not limited to:
  - (1) Suicides.
- (2) When the client is a danger to himself.
- (3) When the client is a danger to other persons.
  - (4) Critical incidents.
- (b) Knowledge of models, techniques and professional standards of practice for intervening in a crisis, including, but not limited to:
  - (1) Suicides.
  - (2) When the client is a danger to himself.
- (3) When the client is a danger to other persons.
  - (4) Situations involving abuse.
- (5) Circumstances that may require involuntary confinement.
- (c) Knowledge of appropriate sources for referrals and when to make such referrals.
- (d) Knowledge of the effect intervening in a crisis will have on:
  - (1) Case management.
  - (2) The psychologist's relationship with the client.

## NAC 641.120 [Written] *National* examination. (NRS 641.100, 641.180)

- 1. The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology which is sponsored by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards and is created and distributed by the Professional Examination Service constitutes [the written] one portion of the examination for licensure as a psychologist and shall be referred to hereinafter as the "National examination."
- 2. An applicant for a license may take the [written portion of the examination for licensure as a psychologist] National examination after the applicant has graduated with a doctoral degree from:
- (a) A training program which is accredited by the American Psychological Association or a program which meets the requirements of NAC 641.061; or
  - (b) An institution which meets the requirements of subsection 2 of <u>NAC 641.050</u>.

NAC 641.130 Waiver of [written] National examination. (NRS 641.100, 641.180) The Board may waive the [written] National examination of:

1. A diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology who became a diplomate through examination; or

- 2. An applicant who meets all of the requirements for licensure with respect to education and experience and who achieved a score on the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards equal to or surpassing the criterion in Nevada for passage of that examination.
- → [An oral] *The Board* examination is required even if the [written] *National* examination is waived.