PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

LCB FILE NO. R127-21I

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PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS

LCB File No.

AUTHORITY: §§1-, NRS 641.220

A REGULATION relating to mental health; requiring certain mental health professionals to complete continuing education concerning cultural competency and diversity, equity and inclusion; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.; ...

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 1. Chapter 641 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. NAC 641.136 is hereby amended to read as follows:

NAC 641.136 1. To renew his or her license, a psychologist must certify to the Board that during the 2 years immediately preceding the date he or she submits an application for renewal, he or she has completed 30 hours of continuing education in courses approved by the Board pursuant to subsection 2 or NAC 641.138. At least 6 hours must include instruction in scientific and professional ethics and standards, and common areas of professional misconduct. At least 2 hours must include instruction in evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness. At least 2 hours must include instruction relating to cultural competency and diversity, equity, and *inclusion.* Not more than 15 hours may be obtained from an approved distance

education course. A licensee may not receive credit for continuing education for a course in which he or she is the instructor.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Board will accept the following types of continuing education courses or programs:
- (a) Formally organized workshops, seminars or classes which maintain an attendance roster and are conducted by or under the auspices of an accredited institution of higher education offering graduate instruction.
- (b) Workshops, seminars or classes which maintain an attendance roster and are certified or recognized by a state, national or international accrediting agency, including, but not limited to:
 - (1) The American Psychological Association;
 - (2) The American Psychiatric Association;
 - (3) The American Medical Association;
 - (4) The American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy;
 - (5) The American Counseling Association;
 - (6) The International Congress of Psychology; or
 - (7) The National Association of Social Workers.
- (c) Other workshops, classes, seminars and training sessions in psychology or a closely related discipline which have a formal curriculum and attendance roster and receive approval by the Board.

- (d) Distance education courses in psychology or a closely related discipline that are approved by the Board.
- 3. Before a licensee may receive credit for continuing education for a course in scientific and professional ethics and standards and common areas of professional misconduct or a course in evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness, the licensee must submit information concerning the course to the Board for approval of the course unless the Board has previously approved the course. The Board will make available at its office a list of courses and programs that are currently approved by the Board.

Sec. 3. NAC 641.137 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- NAC 641.137 1. A continuing education course or program must be approved by the Board pursuant to NAC 641.136 or 641.138 and:
- (a) Be presented in accordance with accepted educational principles at a doctoral or postdoctoral level which is appropriate for professional psychologists;
 - (b) Be at least 1 hour in length, not including breaks; and
- (c) Be primarily related to the study of psychology or have a potential application to the practice of psychology.
- 2. The subjects acceptable for a continuing education course or program include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Scientific and professional ethics and standards;
 - (b) Forensic issues;

- (c) Research design and methodology;
- (d) Tests and measurements;
- (e) Psychotherapeutic techniques;
- (f) Biological bases of behavior, including physiological psychology, comparative psychology, neuropsychology, human sexuality and psychopharmacology;
- (g) Cognitive and emotional bases of behavior, including learning, memory, perception, cognition, thinking, motivation and emotion;
- (h) Social bases of behavior, including social, group, cultural and ethnic processes, sex roles, and organization and systems therapy;
- (i) Differences in persons, including personality therapy, human development, abnormal psychology, psychopathology and the psychology of persons with disabilities; [and]
 - (j) Evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness. and
- (k) Cultural competency and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Instruction in cultural competency and diversity, equity, and inclusion:
 - 1) May include the training provided pursuant to NRS 449.103, where applicable.
 - 2) Must be based upon a range of research from diverse sources.
 - 3) Must address persons of different cultural backgrounds, including, without limitation:

- I. Persons from various gender, racial and ethnic backgrounds;
- II. Persons from various religious backgrounds;
- III. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons;
- IV. Children and senior citizens;
 - V. Veterans;
- VI. Persons with a mental illness;
- VII. Persons with an intellectual disability, developmental disability or physical disability; and
- VIII. Persons who are part of any other population that the holder of a license may need to better understand, as determined by the Board.