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RH/CL

P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 134, *approved December 14, 2020*
Assembly, No. 543 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT revising psychologist training requirements and amending
2 P.L.1966, c.282.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 17 of P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-17) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 17. Any person applying to the board, after January 1, 1968, may
10 be admitted to an assembled examination if **[he]** the applicant meets
11 the qualifications set forth in **[section 14(a), (b) and (c)]** subsections
12 (a), (b), and (c) of section 14 of P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-14) and
13 provides evidence satisfactory to the board that **[he]** the applicant:

14 (a) Has received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in psychology
15 from a recognized educational institution, or in lieu of **[such]** that
16 degree, a doctoral degree in a closely allied field if it is the opinion of
17 the board that the training required therefor is substantially similar, or
18 has otherwise had training in psychology deemed equivalent by the
19 board;

20 (b) Has engaged for the equivalent of at least **[2]** two years full
21 time, at least **[1]** one year of which was subsequent to **[his]** the
22 applicant receiving the doctoral degree, in professional **[employment]**
23 experience in the practice of psychology under the supervision of a
24 licensed psychologist or of one clearly eligible for licensure in the
25 opinion of the board, which **[employment]** experience the board
26 deems sufficient to warrant its opinion that the applicant is competent
27 to engage in the practice of psychology as a licensed psychologist,
28 subject to **[his]** the applicant satisfying the other requirements for
29 **[such]** that license specified in **[this act]** P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-1
30 et seq.). In the case of a person applying to the board after ¹**[January]**
31 October¹1, 2020, or six months after the ¹**[passage]** effective date¹ of
32 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
33 whichever is sooner, the two years of full time professional experience
34 required by this subsection, or any portion thereof, may be completed
35 prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree. An applicant who
36 has applied to the board, but who is not yet licensed by the effective
37 date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
38 bill), may update the application to apply professional experience
39 earned prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree to the
40 professional experience requirement.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ARP committee amendments adopted January 27, 2020.

ASSEMBLY, No. 543

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Revises psychologist training requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT revising psychologist training requirements and amending
2 P.L.1966, c.282.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 17 of P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-17) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 17. Any person applying to the board, after January 1, 1968,
10 may be admitted to an assembled examination if **[he]** the applicant
11 meets the qualifications set forth in **[section 14(a), (b) and (c)]**
12 subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 14 of P.L.1966, c.282
13 (C.45:14B-14) and provides evidence satisfactory to the board that
14 **[he]** the applicant:

15 (a) Has received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in
16 psychology from a recognized educational institution, or in lieu of
17 **[such]** that degree, a doctoral degree in a closely allied field if it is
18 the opinion of the board that the training required therefor is
19 substantially similar, or has otherwise had training in psychology
20 deemed equivalent by the board;

21 (b) Has engaged for the equivalent of at least **[2]** two years full
22 time, at least **[1]** one year of which was subsequent to **[his]** the
23 applicant receiving the doctoral degree, in professional
24 **[employment]** experience in the practice of psychology under the
25 supervision of a licensed psychologist or of one clearly eligible for
26 licensure in the opinion of the board, which **[employment]**
27 experience the board deems sufficient to warrant its opinion that the
28 applicant is competent to engage in the practice of psychology as a
29 licensed psychologist, subject to **[his]** the applicant satisfying the
30 other requirements for **[such]** that license specified in **[this act]**
31 P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-1 et seq.). In the case of a person
32 applying to the board after January 1, 2020, or six months after the
33 passage of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
34 this bill), whichever is sooner, the two years of full time professional
35 experience required by this subsection, or any portion thereof, may
36 be completed prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree. An
37 applicant who has applied to the board, but who is not yet licensed
38 by the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
39 Legislature as this bill), may update the application to apply
40 professional experience earned prior to the applicant receiving a
41 doctoral degree to the professional experience requirement.

42 (c) The New Jersey Board of Psychological Examiners shall
43 promulgate regulations to implement the changes in the experience

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 requirements of subsection (b) of this section effected by P.L. _____,
2 c. (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
3 (cf: P.L.1966, c.282, s.17)
4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
6
7

8 STATEMENT
9

10 This bill amends the training requirements for psychologists.
11 The bill provides that persons applying to the State Board of
12 Psychological Examiners after January 1, 2020, or six months after
13 the passage of this bill, whichever is sooner, may complete the two
14 years of full time professional experience in the practice of
15 psychology, which are required to be completed prior to licensure,
16 either prior to or subsequent to receiving the requisite doctoral
17 degree.

18 The bill also provides that an applicant who has applied to the
19 board, but who is not yet licensed by January 1, 2020, or six months
20 after the passage of this bill, whichever is sooner, may update the
21 application to apply professional experience earned prior to the
22 applicant receiving a doctoral degree to the professional experience
23 requirement.

24 Current law requires applicants to complete at least one of the
25 two required years of full time professional employment subsequent
26 to the receipt of the requisite degree.

ASSEMBLY REGULATED PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 543

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 27, 2020

The Assembly Regulated Professions Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 543.

As amended, the bill updates the training requirements for psychologists. Current law states that two years of professional employment is required of an applicant to qualify for licensure from the State Board of Psychological Examiners (the “board”). Under the bill, the term “employment” is changed to “experience” to account for professional opportunities that may not have entailed employment.

Current law also requires at least one year of the professional employment to be completed after receiving a doctoral degree. As amended, the bill provides that for individuals applying for licensure after October 1, 2020, or six months after the effective date of the bill, whichever is sooner, the required two years of full time professional experience, or any portion thereof, may be completed prior to receiving the requisite doctoral degree.

The bill also provides that an applicant who has applied to the board but is not yet licensed by the effective date of the bill may update the application for licensure with professional experience earned prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2020-2021 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to change the date under which the revised professional experience requirement may apply from January 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020. Additionally, the committee amended the bill to change the reference to a “date of passage” to “effective date.”

SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 543

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JULY 23, 2020

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 543 (1R).

This bill updates the training requirements for psychologists. Current law states that two years of professional employment is required of an applicant to qualify for licensure from the State Board of Psychological Examiners (the “board”). Under the bill, the term “employment” is changed to “experience” to account for professional opportunities that may not have entailed employment.

Current law also requires at least one year of the professional employment to be completed after receiving a doctoral degree. As amended, the bill provides that for individuals applying for licensure after October 1, 2020, or six months after the effective date of the bill, whichever is sooner, the required two years of full time professional experience, or any portion thereof, may be completed prior to receiving the requisite doctoral degree.

The bill also provides that an applicant who has applied to the board but is not yet licensed by the effective date of the bill may update the application for licensure with professional experience earned prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree.

SENATE, No. 2582

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 15, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Corrado

SYNOPSIS

Revises psychologist training requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/30/2020)

1 AN ACT revising psychologist training requirements and amending
2 P.L.1966, c.282.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 17 of P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-17) is amended to
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12 (a), (b), and (c) of section 14 of P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-14) and
13 provides evidence satisfactory to the board that **[he]** the applicant:

14 (a) Has received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in
15 psychology from a recognized educational institution, or in lieu of
16 **[such]** that degree, a doctoral degree in a closely allied field if it is the
17 opinion of the board that the training required therefor is substantially
18 similar, or has otherwise had training in psychology deemed
19 equivalent by the board;

20 (b) Has engaged for the equivalent of at least **[2]** two years full
21 time, at least **[1]** one year of which was subsequent to **[his]** the
22 applicant receiving the doctoral degree, in professional **[employment]**
23 experience in the practice of psychology under the supervision of a
24 licensed psychologist or of one clearly eligible for licensure in the
25 opinion of the board, which **[employment]** experience the board
26 deems sufficient to warrant its opinion that the applicant is competent
27 to engage in the practice of psychology as a licensed psychologist,
28 subject to **[his]** the applicant satisfying the other requirements for
29 **[such]** that license specified in **[this act]** P.L.1966, c.282 (C.45:14B-1
30 et seq.). In the case of a person applying to the board after October 1,
31 2020, or six months after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
32 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), whichever is sooner, the
33 two years of full time professional experience required by this
34 subsection, or any portion thereof, may be completed prior to the
35 applicant receiving a doctoral degree. An applicant who has applied to
36 the board, but who is not yet licensed by the effective date of
37 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), may
38 update the application to apply professional experience earned prior to
39 the applicant receiving a doctoral degree to the professional experience
40 requirement.

41 (c) The New Jersey Board of Psychological Examiners shall
42 promulgate regulations to implement the changes in the experience
43 requirements of subsection (b) of this section effected by
44 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
45 (cf: P.L.1966, c.282, s.17)

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 The bill updates the training requirements for psychologists.
7 Current law states that two years of professional employment is
8 required of an applicant to qualify for licensure from the State Board
9 of Psychological Examiners (the “board”). Under the bill, the term
10 “employment” is changed to “experience” to account for professional
11 opportunities that may not have entailed employment.

12 Current law also requires at least one year of the professional
13 employment to be completed after receiving a doctoral degree. Under
14 the bill, individuals applying for licensure after October 1, 2020, or six
15 months after the effective date of the bill, whichever is sooner, may
16 complete the required two years of full time professional experience,
17 or any portion thereof, prior to receiving the requisite doctoral degree.

18 The bill also provides that an applicant who has applied to the
19 board but is not yet licensed by the effective date of the bill may
20 update the application for licensure with professional experience
21 earned prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree.

SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2582

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JULY 23, 2020

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2582.

This bill updates the training requirements for psychologists. Current law states that two years of professional employment is required of an applicant to qualify for licensure from the State Board of Psychological Examiners (the “board”). Under the bill, the term “employment” is changed to “experience” to account for professional opportunities that may not have entailed employment.

Current law also requires at least one year of the professional employment to be completed after receiving a doctoral degree. Under the bill, individuals applying for licensure after October 1, 2020, or six months after the effective date of the bill, whichever is sooner, may complete the required two years of full time professional experience, or any portion thereof, prior to receiving the requisite doctoral degree.

The bill also provides that an applicant who has applied to the board but is not yet licensed by the effective date of the bill may update the application for licensure with professional experience earned prior to the applicant receiving a doctoral degree.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

12/14/2020

TRENTON - Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

S-848/A-2140 (Pou, Gopal, Tully/Vainieri Huttie, Freiman) - Revises requirements for health care service firms to report financial information to Division of Consumer Affairs.

S-2465/A-4143 (Sweeney/Conaway, Giblin, Jimenez) - "New Jersey Health Care Transparency Act."

A-543/S-2582 (Jimenez, Giblin, Vainieri Huttie/Gopal, Pou) - Revises psychologist training requirements.

A-4282/S-2566 (Pinkin, Karabinchak, Benson, Vainieri Huttie, DeCroce/Diegnan, Gopal, Vitale) - Requires long term care facilities and hospitals to maintain minimum supply of personal protective equipment.

A-4442/S-2755 (Downey, Benson, Houghtaling/Gopal, Bucco) - Authorizes individuals who have passed road test to use driving permit to operate motor vehicle for 60 days during COVID-19 public health emergency.

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

S-2354/A-3920 (Greenstein, Oroho/Bramnick, Freiman, Speight) - Prohibits cancellation or nonrenewal of certain insurance policies and insurance premium finance agreements for a period of at least 60 days under certain circumstances after declaration of public health emergency, or state of emergency, or both.

[Copy of Statement](#)

S-2708/A-4446 (Sweeney, Codey/Benson, Vainieri Huttie, Verrelli) - Requires certain provisions in State contracts for delivery of publicly financed mental health, behavioral health, and addiction services.

[Copy of Statement](#)

Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bill:

S-1957/A-3756 (Greenstein, Oroho/DePhillips, Zwicker, Speight) - Supports activities of New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc.

[Copy of Statement](#)