

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS TO BE LICENSED AS PSYCHO-EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS

Applicants must complete an application form furnished by the Board, a non-refundable \$130 application fee, and submit all required documentation as specified by §40-75-530.

Chapter 75, Title 40 Section 40-75-530

An applicant must furnish the Board with satisfactory evidence that the applicant:

1. holds from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, whose program is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists or the American Psychological Association or from a degree program which the Board finds to be substantially equivalent based on criteria established by the Board in regulation:
 - (a) a master's degree plus thirty hours
 - (b) a sixty hour master's degree
 - (c) a specialist's degree, which must require sixty semester hours or ninety quarter hours; or
 - (d) a doctorate in school psychology;

Official copies of all graduate degree transcripts must be sent to the Board office directly from the university or college. Copies of diplomas are unacceptable.

2. Regulations: 36-10.1: Specific training required for persons licensed as Psycho-Educational Specialist to assess and treat serious problems as categorized in standard diagnostic nomenclature. In order for any person licensed as a Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist to assess and treat serious problems as described in standard diagnostic nomenclature, a Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialists must have satisfied the following requirements:

- (1) Completed a minimum of three (3) graduate semester hours in Psychopathology in academic training from a college or university approved by the Board. This course must provide the practitioner with an understanding of psychopathology, abnormal psychology, abnormal behavior, etiology dynamics, and treatment of abnormal behavior; and
- (2) Completed a minimum of three (3) graduate semester hours in Diagnostics in academic training from a college or university approved by the Board. This course must provide the practitioner with an understanding of the diagnostics of psychopathology; and
- (3) Provide evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has successfully served as a certified school psychologist for at least two (2) years in a school or comparable setting with one of the years being under the supervision of a licensed psycho-educational specialist with an emphasis in the treatment of serious problems as categorized in standard diagnostic nomenclature

3. is certified by the South Carolina Department of Education as a school psychologist level II or III;
4. has served successfully for at least two (2) years as a certified school psychologist in a school psychology or comparable setting, at least one (1) year of which must have been under the supervision of a licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist (a LPES Supervisor's Report Form must be completed to confirm one year of supervision under a licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist) ;
5. Must furnish Board with evidence of a passing score on the school psychologist level II or level III examination. (Educational Training Service (ETS) School Psychology Examination. (Praxis).

Applicant Checklist:

- Completed application
- \$130 application fee
- Copy of SC Dept of Education certification as school psychologist level II or III
- Letter from current or former employer(s) verifying at least two years of experience in a school psychology setting, at least one year of which must have been under the supervision of a licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist.
- Completed LPES Supervisor's Report Form
- Official score from ETS (Praxis) of a passing score-level II or III
- Official copy of all graduate degree transcripts must be sent to the Board office directly from the university or college. Copies of diplomas are unacceptable.

Other notes of interest:

- One (1) year of experience is defined as full-time employment for one (1) contract year of at least one hundred ninety (190) work days. Two (2) consecutive years of half-time work may, at the discretion of the Board, be deemed to be equivalent to one (1) full year of experience. The experience must include provision of a full range of services to children, youth, and families. Experience acquired under a provisional or temporary certificate in school psychology, or in a pre-degree practicum or internship, may not count toward this experience requirement.