

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS – Starting in 2026

MASTER’S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Please note that supervision must occur in WV with a WV approved supervisor and WV employment as a W-2 employee.

1. **Master’s Degree Applicants** must possess a MA (Master of Arts) or MS (Master of Science) degree granted by an accredited institution of higher learning, the degree must have been completed in a department of psychology, a department of educational psychology, a department of education and psychology, or in a university department with the official designation containing the words “psychology” or “psychological.” On-campus and online master’s degrees shall be in “clinical psychology” or “counseling psychology” and include the course work content requirements delineated in §17-3-2.1 and universities must be accredited as denoted in §17-3-2.2. Practicum and internships shall be in-person and face to face.
2. **Accredited Graduate Degree Granting Institutions** must be accredited by one of the six nationally recognized regional accrediting agencies which include: North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges.
3. **Fifty (50) Hours** of graduate level psychology course work must be completed for a Master’s degree to meet Board standards.
4. **On Campus Graduate Programs:** Beginning May 4, 2026, both online and on-campus degrees now qualify for licensure.
5. **Required Core Graduate Level Course** work includes, but is not limited to, all of the following areas: clinical interviewing, diagnosis and treatment planning, psychopathology, biological bases of behavior, ethics, assessment of children and adults, individual psychotherapy, clinical practicum, clinical internship, and tests and measures.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Application:** If your credentials meet the above cited criteria, contact the Board office for an application. All application materials and fees listed on the appropriate check list must be submitted for Board approval. Email: psychbd@wv.gov
2. **W-2 Employees:** All Supervised-Psychologists must be W-2 employees. Evidence that the Supervised-Psychologist is or will be employed in this way must be submitted with the application.

SUPERVISION

1. **Gold Card:** Once approved, the applicant will be issued a “Gold Card” which denotes that they are a Board Approved Supervised-Psychologist. It also designates the Board Approved Supervisor(s) for the Supervised-Psychologist. This card has an expiration date. It must be renewed on an annual basis via submission of a renewal form, continuing education certificates, CE Audit Form, and a fee.
2. **Adherence to Supervision Contract:** Supervised-Psychologists and their supervisors are expected to complete supervision in accordance with the tenants of the contract.
3. **5 Year Supervision Requirement:** Master’s level Supervised-Psychologists are required to complete 5 years of supervised practice.
4. **Quarterly Reports:** Supervised-Psychologists are required to submit quarterly reports to the Board office 4 times per year. Additional information will be provided once an application is approved. Quarterly reports include face to face supervision hours and psychology work hours completed by the supervisee. Supervisors are also required to keep a supervision log, see the supervision contract for details.
5. **Continuing Education:** 10 hours of continuing education per full year is required for renewal of gold cards and 1.5 hours must be in ethics.

EXAMINATIONS

1. **EPPP:** All Supervised-Psychologists are required to take the EPPP at least once during the first 12 months of their status as a supervised-psychologist. Masters Supervised-Psychologists must (a) pass the EPPP within 5 years, (b) must take the EPPP at least once per year, and (c) shall only take the EPPP a maximum of five (5) times during the 5-year supervision period. Those who fail to pass the EPPP within the designated periods will no longer be eligible for licensure. Those that do not meet this requirement must cease all psychological practice and must stop using the title of “Supervised-Psychologist.”
2. **Oral Examination:** After completing the 5 years of full-time supervised work and the required number of face-to-face supervision hours, master’s degree supervised psychologists are eligible to sit for an oral examination. Upon successful passage of the oral examination a WV psychology license will be issued to the candidate.

Additional information may be found on our web page www.psychbd.wv.gov

Contact the Board Office at 304-558-3040 or psychbd@wv.gov