

TSBEP Newsletter

Vol 21. No. 2

Fall 2008

Contents:

1. Additional Licensee Training and Practice Information Required for Online Renewals
2. Audited Licenses May Be Renewed Online
3. Disciplinary Actions: August 2008 Board Meeting

Additional Licensee Training and Practice Information Required for Online Renewals

Senate Bill 29, passed by the 80th Texas Legislature, requires the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, along with many other health licensing agencies, to establish a system to collect a standardized set of information about the training and practices of all their licensees. This information is commonly referred to as the minimum data set.

The purpose of this new system is to collect information that, although not required for licensing, is needed to conduct workforce studies by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS).

This new system is not to be confused with the existing profile system that is required only for licensed psychologists, per Board 461.17. The new minimum data set system is required for all Board licensees who choose to renew their licenses through TexasOnline, the current online renewal option. The new legislation requires that the Board work in tandem with the TexasOnline renewal system to implement this new mandated system.

New Board rule 461.18 requires that those licensees who choose to renew their licenses online must provide the minimum data set of information about their training and practices.

It is estimated that this new system will be operational by as early as November 2008 or as late as Spring 2009. At that time when a licensee accesses the online system, he or she will be directed to complete the new fields of information about their training and their practices. The Board will not verify this additional information.

Note, for those licensees who choose not to renew their licenses online, the Board will not be collecting this additional information through paper renewals.

Once licensees have entered this information into the TexasOnline system, the information will automatically update the Board's expanded database. The Board can then provide this information about licensees to TDSHS for workforce studies.

Because of the current limitations of the Texas Online system, the licensee who submits this information online will find that for the next year's renewal through the online system they will again have to enter all of the same information about their practices and training, providing updates as needed. It is hoped that this aspect of the new system can be upgraded so that the fields will be re-populated with existing information within 2-3 three years. Until that time, it is recommended that licensees keep a copy of their online renewal printout which includes the new minimum data set information in order to aid them in entering this information for their next online renewal.

At this time, the expanded fields of information for the minimum data set will not be available to the public.

Audited Licenses May Be Renewed Online

As early as November 2008 or as late as Spring 2009, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists will allow a licensee who has a license audited to renew the license online. Currently, this is not allowed.

The Board believes that by allowing audited licensees to renew their licenses online it will assist the licensees in timely renewal of their licenses and conserve staff resources.

When the change to the Board's system is in place for this online renewal option, the licensee who is audited will receive a letter in the mail informing them which license is being audited and the procedure that allows them to renew the license online.

Basically, to renew an audited license online the licensee must submit the proof of continuing education in hard copy to the Board office a minimum of two weeks before the date of planned renewal online. Failing to submit this advance documentation to the Board will delay the Board in approving the license renewal. Staff must have adequate time to review and approve the CE documents in order to set the system to allow for the renewal of the audited licensee.

A licensee who is audited who prefers not to renew online may download the generic renewal form and documentation of continuing education form from the Board's website: www.tsbep.state.tx.us. These must be completed and submitted to the Board along with the proof of continuing education documents and the renewal fee.

Alternatively, if the licensee does not have access to a computer, he or she may request in writing a copy of the required generic forms from the Board office. The written request may be made by regular mail or FAX: 512-305-7701. These completed forms, the proof of CE and the renewal fee must be submitted to the Board office.

**Disciplinary Actions:
August 2008 Board Meeting**

Bonnie Lou Brookshire, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist (Bellaire)

Complaint: Respondent failed to obtain mandatory continuing education.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed an administrative penalty of \$250.00.

Larry Herbert Brown, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist (Houston)

Complaint: Respondent engaged in a dual relationship with a patient, having a social as well as therapeutic relationship.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed administrative penalty/costs of \$1,500.00 and ordered to obtain a minimum of four (4) hours of therapy with a board-approved psychologist charged with informing the Board if Respondent is not able to safely and independently render psychological services.

Julie Ann Graham, M.A., Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (Houston)

Complaint: Respondent was arrested and failed to report this legal action.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed an administrative penalty of \$600.00.

Harold Aaron Jewell, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist (San Antonio)

Complaint: Respondent did not properly maintain certain patient records for ten years after the last date of client contact.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed an administrative penalty of \$750.00.

Jo Anne P. Johnson, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist (Houston)

Complaint: Respondent provided psychological evaluation for a patient who made a written request for records; Respondent failed to comply with the request..

Sanction: Respondent's license was reprimanded; she was assessed an administrative penalty of \$1,000.00 and must obtain six (6) hours of continuing education in ethics and record-keeping.

Gail Driskell Lambeth, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist

(Garland)

Complaint: Respondent violated the terms of an Agreed Order under which her license was suspended, was arrested for 3rd offense DWI, and failed to report the arrest to the Board. Respondent failed to obtain mandatory continuing education.

Sanction: Respondent agreed to a license revocation.

Susan Lorene McMillan, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist

(Austin)

Complaint: Respondent did not promptly respond to a written request for patient records.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed an administrative penalty of \$750.00 and must obtain three (3) hours of continuing education in record keeping.

**Charles N. Silverman, M.S., Licensed Psychological Associate and
(Midland)**

Licensed Specialist in School Psychology

Complaint: Respondent provided supervision to a person who performed duties of an LSSP intern in public schools without being enrolled in an institution of higher learning.

Sanction: Respondent was assessed an administrative penalty of \$150.00 and he must obtain three (3) hours of continuing education in ethics.

Richard K. Yuen, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist

(Austin)

Complaint: Respondent was engaged to perform a forensic evaluation in a civil lawsuit, stated that he was a licensed clinical psychologist when he was provisionally licensed, and failed to engage or identify a supervisor.

Sanction: Respondent's license was suspended with probation for one year, conditioned upon completion of twelve (12) hours of continuing education in forensic services and ethics; Respondent will not accept forensic engagements for the full term of probated suspension, and was assessed administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00.