

Board Adopts Biennial Renewal Schedule for all Licenses

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists adopted a change to Board rule 471.1 at its August 15th meeting whereby effective November 2019 the renewal period for licenses will change from one year to two years, i.e. biennial renewal. This rule change also mandates that all licenses must be renewed via the Board's online licensing system; paper renewal forms will no longer be accepted. For more information on how to access the Board's online licensing system, please read the article entitled "Instructions for Changing Your Mailing or Email Address in the Online System" found in the Board's February 2019 newsletter.

To facilitate the transition to biennial renewal, the Board will, over the course of one year, randomly select one-half of the licensees renewing each month, and require those licensees to renew their license(s) for two years. Licensees selected for biennial renewal will note an increase in the amount of their renewal fee(s), per newly amended Board rule 473.3. However, the number of professional development hours required for the initial biennial renewal will remain at 20 hours but will increase to 40 hours for all renewals thereafter.

Those licensees not selected for biennial renewal during this first year will be required to begin renewing their license(s) on a biennial basis at their next renewal date. Again though, the number of professional development hours required for the initial biennial renewal will remain at 20 hours but will increase to 40 hours for all renewals thereafter.

Posted on August 16, 2019

Governor Abbott Appoints Chair of Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council

Governor Greg Abbott has appointed Gloria Canseco to the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council, effective September 1, 2019, for a term set to expire on February 1, 2025. Canseco will also serve as chair. The council will oversee and regulate the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists, Texas State Board of Examiners of

Professional Counselors, Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners, and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Gloria Canseco of San Antonio is the Executive Director of San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic. She previously served as the Director of Development for the UT Health San Antonio School of Health Professions. Canseco currently serves on UT Health San Antonio Women's Council for Excellence in Health, and is a member of the San Antonio Non-Profit Council. She is a former member of the SAMMinistries Educational Endowment Committee, Webb County Children's Advocacy Center, and Summerlee Commission on Texas History. Canseco received a Bachelor of Arts in arts management from Mary Baldwin College and a Master of Arts in interdisciplinary studies from Texas A&M International University.

Posted on August 12, 2019

New Rules Proposed by PSYPACT Commission

The Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission, of which the Board is a member, has published Proposed Rules for consideration and comment. The Proposed Rules can be found [HERE](#).

These Proposed Rules are open for a period of 60 days for public comment for those stakeholders interested in providing such comment. The deadline for submission of written comments is September 30, 2019.

Written comments should be submitted via the public comment form found on the PSYPACT website (www.psypact.org) and submitted to the PSYPACT Commission no later than 5:00 pm EST on September 30, 2019.

A public hearing will be conducted via Zoom on October 1, 2019 beginning at 3:00 pm EST. Interested parties may participate and notification will be posted to the PSYPACT website ([ww](#)

w.psypact.org

) 30 days prior to the meeting with call -in information provided.

Posted on July 30, 2019

Changes to the Public Availability of Licensee Addresses

Following passage of H.B. 1501, the Sunset bill for the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, the Board has made changes to its online licensing system whereby the licensee's main address, i.e. the current address of record to which all agency correspondence is sent, will be displayed in-part only. More specifically, the agency has removed the street address from public display in results returned from the online licensee search function. Search returns will continue to display the city, state, county and zip code associated with the main address supplied by licensees. As a result, licensees may now utilize their home address as the main address for all agency correspondence if they so choose, without fear of their street address being publicly displayed.

Additionally, licensees will now have the option of entering a business address into the online licensing system. This business address will be publicly available and displayed, without redaction, in search results returned from the online licensing system. This will ensure those licensees using their home address as the main address for agency correspondence have the option of displaying a publicly available address where members of the public may contact them.

The decision of whether to utilize a home address as the main address, as well as the decision of whether to enter a business address in the Board's online licensing system is left to each individual licensee. While licensees are not required to enter a business address into the online licensing system, they are encouraged to do so as a point of convenience for the public.

Licensees wishing to display a business address can do so by logging into the Board's online licensing system and executing a change of address in the system. Simply go to the "Add Another Contact" section and select the business address to enter that address. Both

addresses will then be displayed on the public search feature found on our website, but the main address will only display city, state, county and zip code.

It should be noted that the address entered by a licensee as his or her main address, including a home address, will continue to be publicly available via the Public Information Act.

Posted on June 3, 2019

Governor Abbott Appoints Three New Members to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Governor Greg Abbott has appointed Herman B. Adler, M.A., Ryan T. Bridges, and Andoni Zagouris, M.A. to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to replace outgoing Board members Donna Black, M.A., Jo Ann Campbell, M.S., and John Huffman, J.D. The terms for Mr. Adler, Mr. Bridges, and Mr. Zagouris will run through October 31, 2023.

The official press release issued by the Governor announcing the appointments can be viewed by [clicking here](#) .

Posted on September 19, 2018

Office of the Governor and Attorney General Training Video to Combat Human Trafficking

Governor Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton have joined forces to put together a training video teaching state employees how to recognize and report suspected human

trafficking. While each of the Board's employees have been provided with a link to the training video, the Board would like to take this opportunity to provide its licensees, applicants, and members of the public with a link to this video and training as well. The training video entitled *Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking*, along with other related training information, can be found by [clicking here](#).

Posted on March 20, 2018

TSBEP Adopts Rules Permitting Independent Practice for Qualified LPAs and Eliminating the Oral Examination

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists met on November 9, 2017 to consider, among other things, rule changes that would allow qualified licensed psychological associates to practice independently, i.e. without the supervision of a licensed psychologist, as well as rule changes eliminating the requirement that an individual pass an oral examination to be eligible for licensure as a psychologist.

Individuals wanting to learn more about the specific changes referenced above should review those rules in the Texas Register by clicking on the following links:

- LPA Independent Practice - [463.1](#), [463.8](#), [463.14](#), and [465.2](#)
- Oral Examination - [463.11](#), [463.13](#), [463.15](#), [463.27](#), and [473.2](#)

While the foregoing rule changes have been adopted by the Board, these changes will not become effective until the expiration of 20 days following their filing with the office of the secretary of state. Individuals wanting to learn or be notified of the effective date of these changes should not contact the Board, but rather monitor the [Texas Register](#) themselves. Email and telephone inquiries regarding the substance of the changes adopted or the effective date of the rule changes will be referred to this webpage.

Posted November 10, 2017, revised December 5, 2017

The Sunset Review of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists is currently under Sunset review. The psychology board underwent Sunset review in the 2016–2017 biennium, but the agency’s Sunset legislation, which contained the Sunset Commission’s statutory recommendations for the psychology board, did not pass during the 85th Regular Session. Instead, during the 85th Legislature, First Called Session, the Legislature simply continued the psychology board for two years, and placed the agency under Sunset review again.

Through the Sunset review, every Texan has the opportunity to provide input on the mission and operations of the psychology board. The current Sunset review of the psychology board will focus on the issues and recommendations identified during the previous review. If you would like to share any concerns or ideas about those issues and recommendations, please send an email to the address below, use the comment form on the Sunset Commission website, or contact Robert Romig of the Sunset staff. Comments are preferred by **October 27, 2017**, so they can be fully considered by the Commission staff.

Sunset Advisory Commission P.O. Box 13066 Austin, Texas 78711 512/463-1300
Fax: 512/463-0705

Email: sunset@sunset.texas.gov

Information about the Sunset process, Sunset Commission meetings, and how to receive Sunset Commission email updates is available at: www.sunset.texas.gov.

Posted September 27, 2017

EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LICENSE NOW AVAILABLE TO ASSIST HURRICANE HARVEY VICTIMS

In accordance with Governor Abbott's disaster proclamation issued as a result of Hurricane Harvey, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists has suspended those portions of Rule 463.27 that could prevent, hinder, or delay access to mental health treatment for the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Effective immediately, individuals licensed to practice psychology in another jurisdiction may apply for an emergency temporary license from this agency under Rule 463.27. Upon submission of documentation of current licensure and good standing in another jurisdiction, this agency will issue an emergency temporary license valid for 120 days, or until the Governor's disaster declaration is lifted or expired.

A copy of the application for an emergency temporary license may be obtained by [clicking here](#).

Individuals who do not qualify for this emergency temporary license may consider volunteering their time for hurricane relief efforts by contacting the Texas Department of State Health Services [Disaster Volunteer Registry](#). The Texas Disaster Volunteer Registry allows health professionals and lay persons wishing to support medical preparedness and response to register as a responder with participating organizations to provide services during a disaster or public health emergency.

Posted August 30, 2017