

Who does the South Dakota Board of Examiners of Psychologists regulate?

The primary purpose of the South Dakota Board of Examiners of Psychologists is protection of the public. The Board protects the health and safety of the consumer public by licensure of qualified persons, enforcement of the statutes, rules and regulations governing the practice of psychology, including the appropriate resolution of complaints. Per SDCL 36-27A-1(4), the definition of a "Psychologist," a person licensed under this chapter in the practice of psychology who holds himself or herself out to the public by any title or description of services which uses the words psychological, psychology, psychologist, psychometrist, or any derivations thereof. The South Dakota Board of Examiners of Psychologists regulates psychologists only and not persons who are licensed by other boards; physicians/psychiatrists, psychiatric technicians, counselors, marital therapists, child counselors, educational psychologists, applied behavior analysts or addiction and prevention professionals.

Does the South Dakota Board of Examiners of Psychologists license school psychologists?

No, not unless an applicant meets the requirements of SDCL 36-27A and ARSD 20:60 to qualify as a licensed psychologist. South Dakota school psychologists are certified by the South Dakota Department of Education. Please contact the South Dakota Department of Education if you need further information on school psychologists.

Does South Dakota offer reciprocity if I am already licensed in another State?

South Dakota does not offer reciprocity. You must meet our licensure requirements. Please reference the section on How do I "Become Licensed" on our website for detailed information on the licensure process. The "Find Forms" section includes the applicable forms along with a Required Coursework Example Sheet.

If I am registered with CPQ or the National Register, do I still need to complete a licensure application to become licensed as a psychologist in South Dakota?

The Board does now recognize the CPQ and has accepted the National Register to help expedite the paperwork process involved, but an application must still be submitted.

For my licensure application, do I need to send transcripts for my undergraduate and master's level degrees as well as my doctorate degree?

Official transcripts from all graduate programs must be sent from the institution directly to the Board office.

What fees are associated with being licensed to practice in South Dakota as a psychologist?

Please reference the section on How do I “Find the Fee Schedule” on our website for information on application and renewal fees.

Am I eligible for licensure in South Dakota if I have attended an online program?

An all-inclusive online program does not meet South Dakota licensure requirements. State licensure requirements dictate the curriculum must encompass a minimum of 3 academic years of full-time graduate study and completion of a psychology internship prior to awarding the doctoral degree. At least 2 of the 3 academic training years must be with the institution from which the doctoral degree is granted and at least 1 year of which must be in full time residence at that same institution. Fielding Graduate University's doctoral program in Clinical Psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association. It is the only distributed learning program recognized by the APA.

Does South Dakota require APA accreditation?

We do not require APA accreditation of either the academic program OR the national internship. If the program and/or internship is not APA accredited it must satisfy the licensing act, which is South Dakota Codified Law SDCL 36-27A, and which is consistent with APA accreditation requirements.

Am I exempt from the licensure requirements if I hold the American Board of Professional Psychology diploma?

Per SDCL 36-27A-17: At the discretion of the board, an applicant for licensure as a psychologist is exempt from the requirements of § 36-27A-12, and any other examination requirements, if the applicant holds a diploma issued by the American Board of Professional Psychology, a current license to practice

psychology in another state, and is not otherwise disqualified under the provisions of this chapter. Applicants should note that the Board determines whether or not to deem an applicant exempt on a case-by-case basis.

I have a doctoral degree from another country. Are foreign degrees acceptable to the Board?

Foreign degrees may be considered. An applicant trained in an educational institution outside of the United States or Canada shall demonstrate that they possess a doctoral degree in psychology that meets the requirements of SDCL 36-27A and ARSD 20:60. The applicant shall also provide the Board with a comprehensive evaluation of the degree performed by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) and any other documentation the Board deems necessary. For more information about NACES please visit www.naces.org.

When am I able to take the EPPP?

Upon receipt of a completed application including a transcript directly from the registrar, and the verification forms for the pre-doctoral internship, the Board review officer will determine if the applicant's academic and experiential background satisfy the licensing act and the administrative rules. Upon approval by the education review officer, the applicant can be authorized to register for the EPPP exam.

Does South Dakota require the EPPP II?

No, South Dakota does not currently require the EPPP II but will continue to review examination requirements in the future.

I have been licensed for many years elsewhere – do I still need to complete an oral examination for South Dakota licensure?

Yes.

What does the oral examination consist of?

The oral examination will consist of questions regarding your practice, an in-depth knowledge of the April 2005 ASPPB Code of Conduct and mandatory reporting. In addition, the memorandums issued by the Board and included with the laws and

rules in your original application packet may be covered. A score of seventy five percent is required for passing.

Can I conduct a forensic evaluation in South Dakota if I hold a license in another state?

Per SDCL 36-27A-2(4) Exempt persons include: Persons who are not residents of this state, and who have not established offices in this state, who render psychological services in this state for a period which does not exceed an aggregate of more than twenty days during any one year, if they are authorized under the laws of the state or country of their residence to perform these activities and services. If a provider exceeds ten consecutive days of practice in this state in any calendar year the provider shall report to the board, in writing, the nature and extent of the provider's practice in this state.

Is telehealth allowed in South Dakota?

Telehealth/telepsychology are not currently addressed in Statutes and Rules for the South Dakota Board of Examiners of Psychologists. However, Psychologists could reasonably be considered a "Health Care Professional" pursuant to 34-52-1(1) as defined in 58-17F-1. Therefore, we are directing Psychologists to the following chapter that addresses telehealth for health care professionals. Please see this link:

http://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=StatuteChapter&Statute=34-52

Beyond this information, the Board cannot provide any further advice or guidance on providing teletherapy or telehealth services. All Psychologists are entrusted to practice within their areas of competence in compliance with the AASPB Code of Conduct, as specified in Administrative Rules Section 20:60:07:01.

When will my license expire?

All licenses expire on the 30th day of June each calendar year. The failure of a licensee to renew the license by the first day of July each year constitutes a forfeiture. However, a person who forfeits his license may have it restored by making written application and payment of the required renewal fee prior to the first day of January of the next year, following notification from the board.

Does South Dakota have an inactive license status?

No, all licenses expire on June 30 of each calendar year. If a person does not make application to have the license restored prior to the first day of January of the next year, they must complete the initial application process including re-taking the oral examination.

How do I get a duplicate license?

Send your request in writing to the Board office. There is no fee for a duplicate license.

How do I get a new license if my name changes?

Send your request in writing to the Board office along with a copy of a legal document showing the new name, i.e., copy of a marriage license or divorce decree. There is no fee.

How do I submit an address change?

Please call or email the Board office with your updated information.

How do I verify a license for a licensed psychologist in South Dakota?

Please reference the section on How do I “Find License Verifications” on our website for the current roster of licensees. You may also email or call the Board office for license verifications

What is required for continuing education for South Dakota licensed psychologists?

Currently there is no minimum number of continuing education units required, although we state the maximum hours the Board can require. However, you must obtain some continuing education and report annually on your renewal application.