

The University of the State of New York
State Education Department
Office of the Professions

**State Board for Mental Health Practitioners
Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

Friday, June 7, 2024

This meeting was held in-person at the following location:

State Education Building, 89 Washington Avenue, EB 201, Albany, NY 12234

Board members present:

Susan Boxer Kappel
Renee Jones
Christopher Smith
Timothy Mooney
John/Jay Cerio
Melissa Dukofsky
Shirley Disu
Helena Boersma
Ann Canastra

Board members absent:

Angela Musolino
Jasmine Thomas
Thomas Biglin
Michele “Mikki” Meyer

Staff present:

Evan Seiden, Executive Secretary
Kate Letzelter, Associate in Professional Education
Michele Govertsen, Senior Administrative Analyst
Henry Phillips, Education Program Assistant
Kellie Murphy, SED Deputy Commissioner’s Office

Welcome and Review of the Agenda

Evan Seiden called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Kellie Murphy from the Deputy Commissioner’s Office was added to the agenda with a presentation on Professional Connections.

Review of the March 1, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the March 1, 2024, Board meeting was reviewed. There were no changes made. A quorum of members was present. A motion was made and seconded to approve the previous meetings' minutes; motion was passed unanimously. Minutes accepted.

Executive Secretary's Report

Evan Seiden noted the queue for experience reviews and Limited Permit applications are both about 4 weeks out. Staff is actively working on answering questions on the Diagnostic Privilege. Diagnostic Privilege FAQ is live on the NYSED OP website. Diagnostic Privilege forms are live on the NYSED OP website.

Board actively in the process of recruiting new members – looking for Psychiatrist, 1 LCAT, and 1 Psychoanalyst. Nomination forms for potential Board members are being reviewed and additional candidates continue to be recruited. Board nomination forms can be found on the NYSED website.

Professional Connections Presentation

Presenter: Kellie Murphy

Kellie Murphy from the SED Deputy Commissioner's office gave a presentation on Professional Connections. Professional Connections raises awareness of professionals in NYS. OP website has Career Paths page for each profession with information on the profession itself, requirements for the license, as well as salary information, employment settings, and interests, abilities, and skills related to each profession. Website is <https://www.op.nysed.gov/careers-index>.
<https://www.op.nysed.gov/careers/explore-your-options/mental-health-practitioners-careers>

The website has a compilation of tools and resources for each profession. It also has information on related associations.

Suggestions were solicited of resources to add to the website. The Board discussed different suggestions of other resources and information that could be added to the website. The Board discussed adding local chapter information, NBCC resources. The Board suggested adding social media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram. The Board suggested working with colleges and institutions – career services officers, graduate advisors, college career center representatives.

Legislation and Regulation affecting Mental Health Practice: Mental Health Practitioners' Diagnosis Privilege (Chapter 230 of the Laws of 2022)

Staff is actively working on answering questions on the Diagnostic Privilege. Diagnostic Privilege FAQ is live on the NYSED OP website. Diagnostic Privilege forms are live on the NYSED OP website. Regulations adopted at last Board of Regents meeting. Meetings with Comp Ed and DPLS on reviewing education for "D" privilege. A few licensees have been approved for this privilege at this time (privilege cannot be issued until 6/24/2024 at the earliest).

Form 4D has been updated to account for exempt settings. Some schools not sure how to complete Form 2D. Some clearinghouses won't fill out Form 2D. In either situation, applicants must ensure the school or clearinghouse is submitting a transcript. Comparative Education will reach out to the applicant if they need more information. Applicants can call the Board Office or processing unit for an update. "D" privilege will show up on verification website upon issuance.

Board Members had questions about the diagnostic privilege. Board members asked if approved education programs will be listed online. PDF/paper version on Form 1D not yet available on website. Applicants should email the Board Office with any questions on experience (Form 4D). Applicants will be notified if more information is needed during experience reviews. Board members requested more information on the website – timeline chart, notable dates, diagnostic exemption dates and information. Copy of Operating Certificate for exempt settings is required to be submitted with Form 4D.

Discussion: Tele-Supervision

Board noted that tele-supervision is still being accepted – current regulation allows tele-supervision. Regulations to make tele-supervision allowed permanently are out for public comment.

Discussion: Psychoanalytic Exam

Exam requirement for Psychoanalyst license consists of 2 case studies. There is an interest in looking for ways to improve the exam process -> Board discussed possibility of 1 case study with a certain score being able to meet exam requirement. Requirement of 2 Case Narratives will remain for foreseeable future.

Other Business

Next Board meeting will be in September.

Board members can reach out if they need additional support with OPD duties. OPD investigators have been contacting Board members for assistance and advice.

Board Chair reminded members that Board member positions need to be filled.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Evan Seiden thanked the Board for their participation in the meeting. Board Chair Susan Boxer Kappel called for adjournment. Seconded by John Jay Cerio. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02pm by Board Chair Susan Boxer Kappel.

