

**BOARD NOTICE 152 OF 2001**  
**HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**RULES RELATING TO CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN PSYCHOLOGY**

The Health Professions Council of South Africa intends, in terms of section 26 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), to make the rules set out in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed rules to the Registrar, Health Professions Council of South Africa, P O Box 205, Pretoria, 0001, within one month of the date of publication of this notice.

**SCHEDULE**

**DEFINITIONS**

1. In these rules **"the Act"** means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and, unless inconsistent with the context –

**"board"** means the Professional Board for Psychology established by Government Notice No. R.75 of 16 January 1998;

**"continuing professional development"** means the continuing education and training referred to in section 26 of the Act and prescribed in terms of these rules;

**"practitioner"** means a psychologist or a registered counsellor registered in terms of the Act.

## REQUIREMENTS

2. Any psychologist or registered counsellor whose name on 1 April 2002 appears on the register of psychologists or the register of registered counsellors kept in terms of section 18 of the Act, shall be required to comply with the conditions of continuing professional development laid down in these rules as a prerequisite for such practitioner to retain his or her registration in terms of the Act.
3. Any psychologist or registered counsellor who after 1 April 2002, registers for the first time in terms of the Act in any of the categories of independent practice or public service, shall be required to comply with the conditions of continuing professional development laid down in these rules which shall be a prerequisite for such practitioner to retain his or her registration in terms of the Act: Provided that any person who is registered for the first time after 1 January of any year shall be required to comply on a pro rata basis with these requirements during the first year of his or her registration.
4. Any person whose name had been removed from the register of psychologists or the register of registered counsellors, shall be subject to compliance with any condition or conditions which the board may specify prior to the restoration of the name of such practitioner to the relevant register.
5. Any person whose name is restored to the register of psychologists or the register of registered counsellors subsequent to 1 April 2002, after it had been removed from the relevant register for a period exceeding twelve months, shall be subject to compliance with any condition or conditions which the board may specify prior to the restoration of the name of such practitioner to the relevant register.

6. For the purpose of continuing professional development, every psychologists and registered counsellors shall be required to accumulate at least 50 points within any one year which shall extend from 1 April to 31 March annually, provided that any points accumulated in excess of 50 points during a specific year, may be forwarded to the subsequent year only: Provided further that, if the practitioner does not accumulate the prescribed minimum in any one year, he or she shall be permitted to obtain as many points as he or she may require in the subsequent year.

7. The 50 points prescribed in rule 6 shall be accumulated by way of different educational or developmental activities accredited by the board in any of the following categories of activities:

(1) Organisational activities

(2) Small group activities

(3) Individual activities

(4) Any other activities or category of activities, which the board may accredit from time to time.

8. In complying with the requirements, no more than 80 percent of the points may be obtained in any one category.

9. During any one year, at least 10 percent of the points shall have to be obtained by every practitioner in professional ethics.

10. Deferment of compliance with the requirements of continuing professional development will be granted by the board to individual practitioners on application and submission of adequate reasons and subject to such requirements as the board may determine.

11. In the event of a practitioner not complying with the conditions specified in these rules within the prescribed period of time, the board may impose any one or more of the following conditions, namely –

- (a) granting the practitioner deferment for one extra year;
- (b) requiring the practitioner to follow a remedial programme of continuing education and training as specified by the board;
- (b) require the practitioner to write an examination as determined by the board;
- (d) register the practitioner in a category of registration which shall provide for supervision regarded as appropriate by the board;
- (e) remove the name of the practitioner from the relevant register.