

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID**

No. R. 622**9 May 2003**

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT No. 56 OF 1974)

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF INTERN PSYCHOLOGISTS

The Minister of Health intends in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, in terms of section 61 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), to make the regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director: Human Resource Development), Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director-General: Health) within one month of the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations "the Act" means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear that meaning and, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"**accredited facility**" means a hospital, clinic or health care centre which has been accredited by the board for the purpose of internship training;

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

"**penalty**" means the fee payable for the late payment of the registration fee referred to in regulation 2(n) of the regulations relating to fees payable to the Council, published under Government Notice No. R. 1129 of 9 November 2001; and;

"**section**" means a section of the Act.

Requirements for registration

2. An intern psychologist shall apply to the board for registration as such an intern—

- (1) in the case of an intern psychologist who commences such training at an accredited facility for training of intern psychologists, within one month following his or her commencement; or
- (2) in the case of an intern psychologist who on the date of publication of these regulations has already commenced such training at an accredited facility for training of intern psychologists, within one month after the date of publication of these regulations.

Registration as an intern psychologist

3. Any person who holds a qualification prescribed in the regulations relating to the registration of psychologists made in terms of section 17 of the Act or who holds a qualification accepted by the board shall, before he or she is entitled to registration as a psychologist in any category of such registration, undertake training to the satisfaction of the board as an intern psychologist for a period and in the manner described in regulation 6, unless the board exempts him or her partially or in full from this requirements on submission of documentary evidence to the satisfaction of the board of internship or equivalent training undergone or experience obtained.

Keeping of register

4. The register kept in terms of section 18 of the Act shall reflect all such information as the board may require.

Information submitted by applicant to the board

5. A person referred to in regulation 3 shall—

- (1) submit his or her application to the board in terms of section 17 of the Act for registration as an intern psychologist on an application form supplied by the board and duly completed;
- (2) submit proof that he or she holds a qualification—
 - (a) prescribed in the Regulations referred to in regulation 3; or
 - (b) accepted by the board in terms of the Regulations referred to in regulation 3 and has passed an examination or other assessment determined by the board;
- (3) submit the name of the accredited facility to which he or she was allocated to undergo training as an intern and shall notify the board in writing in advance if he or she intends to change from that facility to another facility; and
- (4) pay the registration fee of R55,00.

Conditions of internship training

6. The training to be undertaken by an intern psychologist shall meet the following conditions:

- (1) Internship training shall be for a period of twelve (12) months and, where it is broken or interrupted, it shall consist of periods which, when added together, are not less than twelve (12) months in total, including vacation leave not exceeding one month per annum, and shall comply with criteria laid down by the board from time to time.

- (2) No such break or interruption shall exceed a period of one year if the period of training prior to such break or interruption is to be recognised as part of completed internship training.
- (3) The period of twelve months of internship training referred to in subregulation (1) shall be completed within a period of two years from the date an intern psychologist registers as such in terms of section 17 of the Act.
- (4) If an intern does not complete his or her internship training within a period of two years, his or her registration in terms of the Act shall be cancelled, unless—
 - (a) he or she provides the board with satisfactory reasons as to why his or her registration should not be cancelled; and
 - (b) he or she complies with the conditions which the board may determine for completing the applicant's internship training and for the board to recognise the applicant's internship training, such conditions may include the passing of the board's national examination in psychology.
- (5)
 - (a) The training shall be undertaken by an intern at a facility accredited by the board.
 - (b) If a facility referred to in paragraph (a) is not available, the board may, at its discretion, accept alternative training, which in the board's opinion is equivalent to training at a facility accredited by the board.
 - (c) When accrediting a facility or alternative training, the board may stipulate that only a portion of an intern's training shall be undertaken thereat and the remainder shall be undertaken at another accredited facility.
 - (d) If internship training at an accredited facility is regarded by the board for any reason to be inadequate or unsatisfactorily, the board may withdraw the facility's accreditation, in which case the board shall inform any interns at the facility accordingly in writing and request such interns to undertake internship training at another, accredited facility for the remaining period of internship training.

Rules applicable to interns

7. Interns in psychology shall be subject to all the rules of professional conduct prescribed by the board.

Duty certificate as proof of training

8. (1) Upon completion of internship training, an intern shall submit a duty certificate to the satisfaction of the board to certify that he or she has satisfactorily undertaken internship training as required by the board, and his or her doing so shall be a precondition for his or her registration as a psychologist.

(2) The duty certificate referred to in paragraph (1) shall be issued by such officials of an accredited facility where an intern successfully undertook internship training as the board may require.

Application for restoration to the register

9. (1) Where the name of an intern psychologist has been removed from the register and he or she resumes such internship training after having interrupted such training for a period of one year or longer, an application for his or her name to be restored to the register shall be made within two months of resumption of such training and such application shall be accompanied by—

- (a) a certificate issued by the accredited facility to confirm that such intern psychologist has thus resumed his or her training;
- (b) the applicant's original certificate of registration issued by the board or a certified copy thereof; and
- (c) the prescribed restoration fee.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 19 of the Act, the name of an intern psychologist who interrupts his or her internship training for a period of more than one year, but annually states in writing his or her intention of continuing his or her training, shall not be removed from the register on intern psychologists.

Penalty

10. Where an application for the registration of a name on the register of intern psychologist or for its restoration thereto together with documents and fees referred to in regulation 5 or 9, as the case may be, is submitted after the date specified in regulation 2 or 9, as the case may be, such application shall be subject to the prescribed penalty in respect of each month or part of a month by which the application is submitted after the date so prescribed.

Registration certificate

11. The registrar shall issue a registration certificate to an intern psychologist who has been registered in terms of these regulations or whose name has been restored to the register of intern psychologists.

Removal of name

12. The name of the intern psychologist shall be removed as soon as proof is furnished to the satisfaction of the registrar that such intern has successfully completed his or her internship training in South Africa or has discontinued such training.

Repeal

13. The regulations published under Government Notice No. 1859 of 16 September 1977, as amended by Government Notices Nos. R. 326 of 18 February 1983, R. 895 of 13 May 1994 and R. 953 of 18 July 1997, are hereby repealed.

M. E. TSHABALALA-MSIMANG

Minister of Health