

MASTER'S ISSUES TASK FORCE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The majority of members who were present at the second meeting of the Task Force voted to recommend that KRS 319 be revised to allow for the granting of Autonomous Functioning to Master's-trained psychology professionals under certain conditions as described below.

The Task Force members who were present at the third meeting of the Task Force voted to recommend that Master's-trained psychology professionals who achieved Autonomous Functioning status would use the title "Licensed Psychological Practitioner." Those Master's-trained individuals who are not credentialed to practice without supervision would use the title "Licensed Psychological Associate."

Also at the third meeting of the Task Force, the members voted to retain the scope of practice of psychology as currently defined by KRS 319. This scope of practice would apply to all individuals credentialed by the State Board of Psychology.

The Task Force agreed on the following criteria for a Master's trained psychology professional to be permitted to engage in independent practice.

1. Passage of the EPPP at the independent practice level.
2. Passage of the oral examination in practice, law and ethics at the independent practice level.
3. Equivalent of five (5) full-time years of practice under the supervision of a licensed psychologist approved by the State Board of Psychology.
4. Endorsements of the candidate for autonomous functioning status (using the title Licensed Psychological Practitioner) by the current Board-approved supervisor and two (2) other licensed mental health professionals who are familiar with the candidate's clinical work and who are acceptable to the State Board of Psychology. The supervisor's endorsement must include a statement describing the scope of practice regarding the candidate's clinical experience.
5. The candidate has not had disciplinary action taken against him/her by the State Board of Psychology. Exceptions may be handled by the State Board of Psychology on a case-by-case basis.
6. Applicants for status as a Licensed Psychological Practitioner shall have a total of sixty (60) graduate hours in Psychology (or a related field) or its equivalent as deemed acceptable by the State Board of Psychology.

Persons currently functioning under the title "Certified Psychologist with Autonomous Functioning" would be permitted to use the title "Licensed Psychological Practitioner."

Persons currently functioning under the title "Certified Psychologist" would be permitted to use the title "Licensed Psychological Associate."

Persons currently functioning under the title "Certified Psychological Associate" would be permitted to use the title "Licensed Psychological Associate."

These recommendations were approved as a package by the majority (17 of 18) of the Task Force members present at the close of the third meeting (August 18, 2000).