

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS
APPLICATION TRACKING EQUIVALENCY AND MOBILITY (ATEAM)
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

March 23, 2021

1. Call to order/roll call to determine the presence of a quorum.

Call to Order: The meeting of the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners' Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee was called to order by President Dr. Whitney Owens at 5:08 p.m. Due to COVID-19 and Governor Sisolak's Emergency Mandate to Stay at Home for Nevada, this meeting was conducted online via Zoom.

Roll Call: Board President Whitney Owens, PsyD, and Member Stephanie Holland, PsyD, were present. Stephanie Woodard, PsyD, was absent.

Also present were Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, and members of the public Dr. Danielle Richards and Dr. Nino Chkhaidze.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, stated that no public comment had been received in the Board office via email in advance of the meeting.

3. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the February 23, 2021 Meeting of the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee.

There was no discussion nor suggested changes to the minutes.

On motion by Stephanie Holland, second by Whitney Owens, the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee approved the minutes of the February 23, 2021 meeting of the ATEAM Committee. (Yea: Whitney Owens and Stephanie Holland) Motion Carries Unanimously: 2-0

4. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Action on Applicants Who Attended Non-APA Accredited Programs Requiring Education and Application Review.

Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, provided updates on the following applicants:

A. Charlotte Watley, Psychological Trainee

There was no update on the applicant.

B. Tracy Moore, Psychological Intern

There was no update on the applicant.

C. Sharon Simington, Psychological Intern

There was no update on the applicant.

D. Linda Curtis, Psychological Intern

There was no update on the applicant.

E. Michael Hobbs, Psychological Intern

Mr. Hobbs is updating his PLUS application. Once completed, his application will be reviewed by the committee.

F. Barbara Sommer, Psychological Intern

There was no update on the applicant.

G. Nats Babel, Psychologist

Review of the application was delayed until the April meeting of the ATEAM Committee.

H. Mavis Major, Psychologist

There was no update on the applicant as the PLUS application had not been received.

I. Danielle Richards, Psychologist

In 2014, the non-APA accredited educational program attended by Danielle Richards was reviewed and approved. Since then, Dr. Richards has completed her internship and post-doctoral supervised hours.

President Owens inquired about what, if any, clinical experience has been obtained in the 7 years since completed the post-doctoral supervised experience. It was also established that Dr. Richards had not yet taken the EPPP.

Dr. Richards explained that she is a tenured professor and has been teaching psychology for the last several years.

Director Scurry stated that the PLUS application did not indicate the correct number of hours with a supervisor. Dr. Richards will update the application to correct the error as the group supervision hours had been left off.

Member Dr. Holland inquired about potential work settings after obtaining licensure. This was in reaction to the amount of time since Dr. Richards had been in a clinical setting and whether other licensed professionals would be available to her.

President Owens recommended Dr. Richards take both the EPPP Part 1 and 2. She added that Part 2 was designed to measure competency to practice which would assure the Board that she is ready to practice. Dr. Holland agreed.

On motion by Stephanie Holland, second by Whitney Owens, the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee approved the equivalency review of Dr. Danielle Richards and forwarded the application to the Board of Psychological Examiners for approval, contingent upon completion of the requirements for licensure including passing both the EPPP Parts 1 and 2. (Yea: Whitney Owens and Stephanie Holland) Motion Carries Unanimously: 2-0

5. (For Possible Action) Discussion of Applicants for Licensure by Endorsement; and Possible Action to Provide Direction to an Applicant(s) or Make Recommendation to the Board of Psychological Examiners.

Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, provided updates on the following applicants:

A. Yvonne Westover

There was no update on the applicant as the endorsement application had not been received.

B. Matthew Damon

There was no update on the applicant at the PLUS application is pending an update of his supervised experience hours.

C. Raymond Nourmand

Review of the application was delayed until the April meeting of the ATEAM Committee.

D. Nino Chkhaidze

President Owens reviewed the application of Nino Chkhaidze. Although the educational program was APA-accredited, Dr. Chkhaidze completed approximately 1,700 internship hours rather than the 2,000 that are required in Nevada and no post-doctoral hours. It was stated that the State of Virginia does not require post-doctoral supervision for licensure.

There was discussion about registration as a psychological assistant in order to gain the post-doctoral hours as well as to make-up the additional internship hours. Once those are completed, full licensure may be sought.

Dr. Chkhaidze stated she was licensed since 2018 in Virginia and since 2013 in her home country of Georgia.

President Owens confirmed that her doctorate was earned in the United States rather than in George. Otherwise, her application would have been reviewed in an alternative manner to ensure equivalency.

Member Dr. Holland agreed that the only pathway to licensure would be to register Dr. Chkhaidze as a psychological assistant.

Director Scurry confirmed that she would need 2,000 post-doctoral hours to fulfill both the 300 missing internship hours as well as the 1,750 post-doctoral hours.

President Owens recommended that 2,058 hours be completed as a post-doctoral psychological assistant. Dr. Holland added that the internship hours did not indicate sufficient group supervision. She suggested the post-doctoral hours include enough group supervision.

Dr. Chkhaidze inquired if any of the experience gained while licensed in Virginia could be used to fulfill the Nevada requirements.

President Owens explained that Nevada regulations allow for a reduction of the supervised hours to 3,000 total for an individual who has been licensed in another state for five years. Director Scurry stated the Dr. Chkhaidze had only been licensed in Virginia for three years so that exception would not apply.

E. Janina Scarlet

The application of Janina Scarlet was reviewed by President Owens with a recommendation to approve.

Dr. Scarlet has been licensed for 6 years in another jurisdiction and completed nearly 4,000 supervised hours. She was recommended for approval based on the regulation that allows for licensure under those parameters. The recommendation for approval would be contingent upon completion of other requirements for licensure.

Member Dr. Holland inquired about the number of hours of individual and group supervision. As no formal internship was completed, she expressed concern that a sufficient number of supervised hours were not completed.

President Owens asked if the six years of licensure would be sufficient to compensate for the missing supervision. Upon review of the PLUS application, it was determined that Dr. Scarlet received sufficient supervision hours to meet the requirements for interns as well as post-doctoral students.

Dr. Holland inquired if the Committee had the authority to make a recommendation when the internship hours are missing. President Owens stated that the Committee has made similar recommendations when the internship hours are sufficient but the post-doc hours are missing. She added that there is movement in the Nevada Legislature to remove barriers to licensure.

On motion by Stephanie Holland, second by Whitney Owens, the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee approved the equivalency review of Dr. Janina Scarlet and forwarded the application to the Board of Psychological Examiners for approval, contingent upon completion of the requirements for licensure. (Yea: Whitney Owens and Stephanie Holland)
Motion Carries Unanimously: 2-0

6. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Revision of Procedures Related to Licensure by Endorsement, Including Procedures for the ATEAM Committee and Board Office; and Possible Action to Recommend Approval by the Board of Psychological Examiners.

Director Scurry presented Senate Bill 208 to the members. The bill would provide for a provisional license to an applicant for licensure by endorsement immediately upon submitting a completed application. Full licensure would be pending completion of the licensure process. There was discussion about how applications will be handled for individuals who are known to not meet the state's minimum requirements, such as from Virginia and Texas where a doctoral degree is not required.

President Owens asked how we define a completed application. The definition would determine when the provisional license would be granted. There was discussion about whether a completed application is defined as when the full PLUS or endorsement application is submitted or as when the initial informational form and fee are submitted.

Another bill being discussed by the Legislature was also presented. It would extend the current Directive 011 that provides for temporary registration to practice via telehealth as a result of the pandemic. Under the directive, individuals known not to meet Nevada's licensure requirements may be denied the temporary registration. Under the proposed bill, the Board would not have a choice.

President Owens expressed concern that an individual who has undergone discipline in another jurisdiction, for example, could be provided a provisional license. Ms. Scurry stated that she does try to verify licensure using the various state verification websites.

Other concerns include that not all states have the same licensure requirements, all behavioral health professions are not equal and should not be treated as such, and much of the testing and assessments done by licensed psychologists should not be done via telehealth.

- A. Review R158-19: the NAC draft language to address the applications for licensure by endorsement
- B. Review of proposed procedures for the handling of endorsement applications received in the Board office
- C. Review and discuss the red light/green light language to provide guidance to the Board when reviewing applicants from different jurisdictions applying for licensure by endorsement.
- D. Review of the Licensure by Endorsement application
- E. Review of the State-by-State Comparison
- F. Discussion of proposed legislation related to licensure by endorsement and provisional license

7. (For Possible Action) Discussion of Upcoming Meeting Dates for the ATEAM Committee

- A. The next ATEAM Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

There was no discussion nor suggested changes to the next meeting date.

8. Items for Future Discussion.

There were not items suggested for future meetings.

9. Public Comment.

There was no public comment at this time.

10. (For Possible Action) Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, President Owens adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.