

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF A MEETING FOR
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS'
APPLICATION TRACKING EQUIVALENCY AND MOBILITY
"ATEAM" COMMITTEE**

March 10, 2023

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 Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Soseh Esmaeili, Psy.D. at 10:04 a.m. online via "Zoom" and physically at the office of the Board of Psychological Examiners, 4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite B-116, Reno, Nevada 89502.

Roll Call: Committee Chair Soseh Esmaeili, Psy.D. and member Stephanie Holland, Psy.D. were present. Member Catherine Pearson, Ph.D. was absent. The presence of Chair Esmaeili and Dr. Holland constituted a quorum.

Also present was staff member Laura Arnold, executive director of the Board of Psychological Examiners, and member of the public Dr. Farnaz Samavi.

2. Public Comment. NOTE: Public comment is welcomed by the Board and may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the Committee Chair. Public comment will be allowed at the beginning and end of the meeting, as noted on the agenda. The Committee Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in their sole discretion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken (NRS 241.020).

There was no public comment at this time.

3. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the January 13, 2023, Meeting of the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee.

Chair Esmaeili sought approval of the meeting minutes from the January 13, 2023, ATEAM meeting. Director Arnold interjected that she did not have the correct date in the agenda item, and that this item was to review the minutes from the February 10, 2023, meeting.

On Motion by Dr. Holland, second by Soseh Esmaeili, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners' Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee approved the meeting minutes of the ATEAM's February 10, 2023, Committee Meeting. (Yea: Soseh Esmaeili and Stephanie Holland.)

Motion Carried: 2-0

4. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Action on Applications for Licensure as a Psychologist or Registration as a Psychological Assistant, Intern or Trainee to Determine Equivalency with Nevada Requirements, Including Education and/or Training. (See Attachment A for the List of Applicants for Possible Consideration)

a. Samavi, Farnaz

This item was taken out of order.

Dr. Holland noted that Dr. Samavi's application was brought to the ATEAM two meetings ago, and that there had been a lot of questions regarding the PLUS application and Dr. Samavi's hours. Dr. Holland recalled that Dr. Samavi was going to revise her PLUS application in the areas that Lisa Scurry, the former executive director, would highlight for her. She noted that the Committee had an updated PLUS, and asked if Dr. Samavi would update the Committee on what she revised in the PLUS system.

Director Arnold interjected that she had provided the original and updated PLUS documents regarding Dr. Samavi and provided notes with those documents that identified the changes to Dr. Samavi's PLUS. She asked if it would be helpful for Dr. Holland to take a minute to review those documents while Dr. Samavi gave updates.

Dr. Samavi stated that she revised everything that was requested on the PLUS, and that there had been a mistake on her hours, as she was confused about group and individual hours, so she fixed everything and revised it.

Dr. Holland stated that in reviewing the executive director's notes, there was no practicum listed and asked if the residency had been updated. Dr. Samavi stated that there was no residency, as her school was all online.

Dr. Esmaeili stated that it would not be APA accredited if the program was 100% online. Dr. Holland explained that she did not realize it was corrected prior to the meeting, and that she would minimally need to look at the syllabus, as there were a couple of classes about which she was concerned. Dr. Holland said, for instance, she had concerns about the intervention class because it was about treatment plans, not necessarily about intervention, and she needed to review that.

Director Arnold suggested taking a 10 minute recess for Dr. Holland to review and come back, with which Dr. Holland agreed. Director Arnold recessed the meeting at 10:10, to return at 10:20.

After the recess, Dr. Holland stated that, in reviewing Dr. Samavi's updated PLUS, there remained concerns about equivalency in reference to two of the classes and some of the supervision hours. Dr. Holland went on to say that even setting those aside, the biggest obstacle is residency because Dr. Samavi's program was 100% online. She explained that, to date, neither the ATEAM nor the Board has approved a candidate for licensure whose education was not at least in part in person instruction. Dr. Holland said that there are other non-APA programs that the Committee has approved because there was a residency portion of the program. Dr. Holland thought it might be best if she and Dr. Samavi could connect directly in the next week to go over the specific concerns that might be able to be worked around, like taking a course that addresses the intervention piece. She noted, however, that the residency piece would still have to go to the Board because there is no precedence for approving someone who has not had any in person residency, and she would hate for Dr. Samavi to do what might be required for the other issues of concern and have the Board ultimately not approve her because she has not met the residency requirement.

Dr. Samavi thought that made sense and thanked the Committee. She wanted to be able to be in touch with Dr. Holland to go over everything and look at other options. Dr. Holland reiterated her willingness to do so, and asked Director Arnold to email Dr. Samavi and her to set up a time for them to talk. Director Arnold stated she would do so.

Director Arnold suggested moving this item to the Board for the next Board meeting, and Dr. Holland said that would be her recommendation.

On Motion by Dr. Holland, second by Soseh Esmaeili, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners' Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee moved to refer Dr. Samavi's application for further consideration at the next Board meeting. (Yea: Soseh Esmaeili and Stephanie Holland.) Motion Carried: 2-0

5. (For Possible Action) Discussion of ATEAM Committee Operating Procedures, including the Applicant Review Forms; and Possible Action to Propose Revisions to and/or Make Recommendations to the Board of Psychological Examiners for Adoption of the Revised Procedures and/or Review Forms.

Dr. Esmaeili inquired about whether there was anything to discuss on the committee operating procedures. There being no discussion on this item, it was deferred for consideration to the ATEAM's next meeting.

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

- a. The next ATEAM Committee meeting will be held on April 7, 2023, following the meeting of the regular Board meeting (10 a.m. or later)

There was no conflict with or changes to the meeting schedule.

7. Items for Future Discussion. (No discussion among the Committee members will take place on this item.)

There were no suggestions for future agenda items.

8. Public Comment. Public comment is welcomed by the Board and may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the Committee Chair. Public comment will be allowed at the beginning and end of the meeting, as noted on the agenda. The Committee Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in their sole discretion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken (NRS 241.020).

There was no public comment at this time.

9. (For Possible Action) Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Esmaeili adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.
