

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

January 13, 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 was called to order by Committee Chair Soseh Esmaeili, PsyD, at 10:38 a.m. online via "zoom" and physically at the office of the Board of Psychological Examiners, 4600 Kietzke Lane, Ste B-116, Reno, Nevada 89502.

Roll Call: Committee Chair Soseh Esmaeili, PsyD, and members Stephanie Holland, Psy.D., and Catherine Pearson, Ph.D., were present.

Also present was staff member Lisa Scurry, Executive Director, and members of the public Laura Arnold and Farnaz Samavi.

2. Public Comment.

There was no public comment at this time.

3. (For Possible Action) Discussion and Possible Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the December 16, 2022, Meeting of the Application Tracking Equivalency and Mobility (ATEAM) Committee.

There were no comments or changes suggested for the minutes of December 16, 2022.

Member Dr. Pearson approved as to form, not content, as she was not on the committee for the December meeting.

On motion by Stephanie Holland, second by Catherine Pearson, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners approved the meeting minutes of the ATEAM Committee on December 16, 2022. (Yea: Soseh Esmaeili, Stephanie Holland, and Catherine Pearson.) Motion Carried: 3-0

4. (For Possible Action) Review 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. Jene Edwards

Dr. Jene Edwards was an applicant for licensure as a psychologist. She was licensed in California previously. In reviewing her application, it was found that she earned less than the required 2,000 training hours during her internship. However, she earned enough hours during post-doctoral training to make up the deficiency. In the end, she completed more than the total 3,750 training hours. She also completed the individual and group supervision hours during the internship and post-doctoral hours.

The application was reviewed by Dr. Esmaeili who found the training requirements for licensure had been met.

Director Scurry added that the Committee previously set a precedent where the training hours can be combined to ensure the applicant reached the total number of training and supervision hours when the internship and post-doctoral periods were combined.

On motion by Stephanie Holland, second by Catherine Pearson, the Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners found the application of Dr. Jene Edwards as equivalent and recommended approval by the Board of Psychological Examiners, contingent upon completion of licensure requirements. (Yea: Soseh Esmaeili, Stephanie Holland, and Catherine Pearson.)

Motion Carried: 3-0

b. Farnaz Samavi

Dr. Farnaz Samavi was an applicant for registration as a psychological assistant. She was referred to ATEAM because, although her application stated she attended a school accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA), upon receipt of the PLUS report it was found that she had not. Additionally, there were questions related to the number of supervised training hours and individual/group supervision hours listed.

Ms. Scurry stated that she believed the contradictory information in the PLUS was just an error on the applicant's part.

Member Dr. Holland reviewed the application for the committee. She expressed concerns related to the education at California Southern University, including the specialty area being educational administration and potential deficiencies related to the courses taken. Additionally, there was no practicum listed nor residency. Lastly, the internship hours appeared to have been entered incorrectly stating that there were more individual/group supervision than actual training hours accrued.

Related to the internship, Director Scurry stated that the hours were entered to the PLUS incorrectly and that Dr. Samavi had been previously informed and would make the corrections.

The PLUS indicated that the internship was APA accredited. Dr. Holland stated that most non-APA educational programs do not refer students to an APA-accredited internship opportunity.

In response to the review, Dr. Samavi stated that the doctorate was in clinical psychology and not educational administration. Regarding the internship, she said the internship was APA-accredited. Dr. Holland requested verification of the accreditation of the internship.

Review of the education found the program was 100% online, which is not considered appropriate for equivalency with APA accreditation. Dr. Samavi confirmed that all learning was online but there were some meetings conducted in-person. Nevada Administrative Code was reviewed which stated that the Board would be prohibited from recommending an applicant who attended a program that was conducted completely by electronic means.

There was discussion about how Dr. Samavi could achieve equivalency in the educational program. That could include re-taking courses, changing programs, etc. The members suggested Dr. Samavi speak to an advisor at the University about possible options related to residency.

Dr. Samavi asked if the requirement would be waived if she achieved licensure in California. Director Scurry explained that Nevada law requires an APA-accredited education or its equivalent. As a result, she did not think that requirement could be waived based on licensure in another state. Additionally, after an individual has been licensed in another state for 5 years, the training hours requirement drops from 3,750 hours to 3,000 hours.

The Committee asked Dr. Samavi to make the corrections to the PLUS about APA accreditation, courses and the internship hours. Once completed, the application could return to the Committee for further review including potential recommendations to correct deficiencies in the educational program.

c. **Jodi Lovejoy**

Director Scurry stated that Dr. Lovejoy's application would be considered at a future meeting. At the previous meeting, it was suggested she take the national examination to establish knowledge competency.

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

There was no discussion on committee procedures. Director Scurry stated that revision of the review forms was ongoing based on recommendations made at the previous meeting.

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

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

There were no 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.

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 11:30 a.m.