

OBPE – Frequently Asked Questions for Residents

Q. *When can I begin my residency?*

A. You may begin performing psychological services once you receive notification that your Contract for Supervision of a Psychologist Resident has been approved by the Board.

Q. *What is an “exempt setting”?*

A. An exempt setting is where a person is employed by:

- A city, state or federal government agency;
- A community mental health program designated by the State of Oregon as a CMHP; *or*
- A drug and alcohol treatment program licensed or certified by the State of Oregon.

The exemption only applies when the person works at the exempt site and within the scope of employment. The exemption is only valid for 24 months after the person begins practicing psychology at the site. A Contract for Supervision of a Psychologist Resident is not *necessary*; however, it is recommended to ensure the residency experience meets Oregon licensure requirements.

Q. *Do I need to name an Associate Supervisor in my contract?*

A. You are not required to name an associate supervisor, but it is a good idea in case your supervisor is away for some reason and is unable to meet with you in a particular week.

Q. *I’m changing supervisors to another psychologist in the office. What do we need to do to make this happen?*

A. You will need to submit a new Contract for Supervision of a Psychologist Resident Form indicating a change in supervisor. Remember, the contract is not valid until approved. You also will need to terminate the old residency contract. This may be done by indicating a termination date on the Final Resident Evaluation Form (which is required anyways), or by notifying the Board’s office in writing.

Q. *What title do I use?*

A. A resident must be designated at all times by the title “psychologist resident” or “psychologist associate resident.” All signed materials, letterhead, business cards, telephone directory listings, brochures, insurance billings and any other public or private representation must include the resident’s title and the

supervisor's name and designation as "supervisor." Doctoral level candidates may also use the title "doctor" once you have a board-approved residency contract.

Q. *How does a Resident bill insurance?*

A. By law, insurance billings must include the resident's name and title, and the supervisor's name and designation as "supervisor." The APA's "Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (2002)" states "in their reports to payors for services or sources of research funding, psychologists take reasonable steps to ensure the accurate reporting of the nature of service provided or research conducted, the fees, charges, or payments, and where applicable, the identity of the provider, the findings, and the diagnosis." [6.06 Accuracy in Reports to Payors and Funding Sources]. Submitting insurance claims indicating that the supervisor was the person "rendering service" or was the "service provider" when, in fact, the resident provided the psychological service is fraudulent.

Q. *Can I count my individual and group supervision towards the 1,500 hours of psychological services?*

A. Yes. Weekly supervision is a valuable learning experience for residents.

Q. *As a resident, I provide supervision to interns at my site. Does this count towards the 1,500 hours of psychological services?*

A. Yes.

Q. *What if I complete my 1,500 hours of post-doctoral supervised work experience in 9 months?*

A. The law requires that residents earn their 1,500 hours in a period not less than 12 months.

Q. *How long do I have to complete my residency?*

A. A residency contract is valid for 2 years from the date it is approved by the Board.

Q. *Can I get an extension on my contract?*

A. In certain circumstances, the Board may extend the contract beyond 2 years. The resident and supervisor must submit a written request to the Board *prior* to the expiration of the contract that explains the reason an extension is needed and the amount of time requested.

Q. How do I end my residency?

A. You may terminate a resident supervision contract simply filling in the termination date on the Final Resident Evaluation Form. Alternatively, a termination may be granted upon written request to the Board by the resident or supervisor.

Q. What final documents does the Board need once my residency is completed?

A. You will need to submit: **1)** a Final Resident Evaluation Form that has been reviewed and signed by your primary and associate supervisor(s) (if any); **2)** the attestation slip from each Final Supervisor Evaluation Form; and **3)** a Record of Supervised Hours Form from each supervisor.