

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY:

You may only call yourself a psychologist when you are licensed by the State of California. Enrollment in a psychology program or obtaining a degree in psychology does not qualify a student to refer to oneself as a psychologist. Please see list of requirements under the Board of Psychology Licensing FAQs <http://www.psychology.ca.gov/licensees/faq.shtml>

1. How do I obtain a license as a psychologist in California?

To obtain a license as a psychologist in California, each applicant must:

- a) Submit an application for licensure. The application can be downloaded from the web site at <http://www.psychology.ca.gov/applicants/index.shtml>
- b) Have applicant fingerprints scanned for a criminal history clearance through a process called "Live Scan." This process requires applicants to go to a Live Scan site for fingerprint scanning services. Live Scan sites are located throughout the state at various locations within each county. For further information about the fingerprint procedures, please review the Fingerprint Procedure form on the Board's web site at <http://www.psychology.ca.gov/applicants/fingerprint.shtml>
- c) Possess a doctoral degree in psychology, educational psychology, or in education with a field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology from a nationally or regionally accredited (if recognized by the USDOE), or an approved academic institution that meets the provisions of Section 2914 (g) of the Business and Professions Code, as follows.
An applicant holding a doctoral degree in psychology from an approved institution is deemed to meet the requirements of this section if all of the following are true:
 - (1) The approved institution offered a doctoral degree in psychology designed to prepare students for a license to practice psychology and was approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education on or before July 1, 1999.
 - (2) The approved institution has not, since July 1, 1999, had a new location, as described in Section 94721 of the Education Code.
 - (3) The approved institution is not a franchise institution, as defined in Section 94729.3 of the Education Code.
- d) Complete 3,000 hours of qualifying supervised professional experience, 1,500 of which must be accrued post-doctorally. For further information about supervised professional experience, please review section 1387 of the California Code of Regulations at http://www.psychology.ca.gov/laws_regs/index.shtml
- e) Take and pass the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and the California Psychology Laws and Ethics Examination (CPLEE). For further information about the EPPP please visit <http://www.asppb.net/?page=FAQs>. For further information about the CPLEE, please review the Examinations section of the Board's web site at <http://www.psychology.ca.gov/applicants/index.shtml>
- f) Submit evidence of completing coursework in human sexuality, child abuse, substance abuse, spousal abuse, and aging and long-term care. For further information about the specific requirements for each course, please review Sections 1382 through 1382.5 of the California Code of Regulations http://www.psychology.ca.gov/laws_regs/index.shtml

Business and Professions Code Section 2914, effective January 1, 2017, has been amended to gradually require applicants for licensure to obtain their qualifying degree from a regionally accredited university.

<http://www.psychology.ca.gov/applicants/schools.shtml>

- Applicants for licensure that are enrolled as of December 31, 2016, in a doctoral program in psychology, educational psychology, or education with a field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology at a nationally accredited institution, or an approved institution that meets the requirements of Section 2914 (h), will be able to apply for licensure at any time, and this requirement will not apply.
- Applicants for licensure that enroll in a doctoral program on or after January 1, 2017, in psychology, educational psychology, or education with a field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology at a nationally accredited institution, or an approved institution that meets the requirements of Section 2914 (h), will need to meet the requirements for and apply for licensure on or before December 31, 2019.
- Applicants for licensure that apply after on or January 1, 2020, must possess an earned doctorate degree in psychology, educational psychology, or education with the field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology from a college or institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.