



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

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WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE #19

July 29, 2020

Dear Licensee,

For our nineteenth Weekly Wednesday Update, we continue to keep our eyes and ears open to news related to COVID-19. On Tuesday, July 15, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards announced we would continue in Phase II of recovery at least until August 7, 2020.

As reports of cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in Louisiana and throughout specific regions of the state, psychologists are reminded that they are essential to the state's infrastructure and in responding to the COVID-19 emergency. However, psychologists are not immune to contracting COVID-19 nor to the secondary impacts related to the virus on individuals you interact with at work or home who have either contracted or been exposed to the virus. As we hear of these impacts throughout the psychology community, we continue to encourage you to stay vigilant and deliberate in adhering all local, regional, state, and federal guidelines; staying up to date on information being published by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health; and consulting with the American Psychological Association guidelines when interacting with clients, patients, students, etc.

To assist you, please note the following updates:

On July 23, 2020, HHS Secretary Alex M. Azar III renewed the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration and CMS updated their [COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers for Health Care Providers](#) on July 29, 2020.

The following are the latest updates to LDH Bulletins:

[Informational Bulletin 20-7](#): COVID-19 SUD Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised July 28, 2020)

[Informational Bulletin 20-6](#): COVID-19 LMHP Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised July 28, 2020)

[Informational Bulletin 20-4](#): COVID-19 MHR Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised July 28, 2020)

We would like to again remind those of you that have not completed the process to renew your license, that **License Renewals will end this Friday, July 31, 2020**. Please refer to [Weekly Wednesday Update #12 \(License Renewal Edition\) \(6/10/2020\)](#), published on June 10, 2020 for License Renewal Information and important provisions that will be applied this renewal season due to COVID-19. Also many of you have had questions about how to claim your CPD Exemption being offered due to COVID-19. Please refer to the **"Welcome"** page of the Renew Portal for this, as well as other information on renewing your license.

LSBEP again thanks Louisiana Psychologists for stepping up to the challenges in applying technology to deliver psychological services to their patients and clients safely, while respecting the health and well-being of their patients/clients, the people with whom they work, themselves, as well as the individuals

who have no other choice but to be exposed to COVID19. Our Ethical Standards are established for the welfare and protection of the individuals and groups with whom psychologists work. Therefore, our charge is to think of others before ourselves and to consider all risks when determining how to provide vital care to our clients and patients. Emergency Orders and Proclamations from Federal, State and Local Governments impose stricter but necessary restrictions and guidelines impacting the delivery of psychological services for the time being. History will remember our actions or inactions at this time. Let us remember why we all chose this profession and be on the side of history that aligns with the health and well-being of all people.

Sincerely,

LSBEP Executive Committee

Amy Henke, Psy.D., Chairperson

Gina Gibson, Ph.D., Vice Chairperson

Jaime T. Monic, Executive Director

NOTICE: In compliance with Act 655 of the 2018 Regular Session, the LSBEP hereby gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions and board procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations:

- Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: **Submit in writing to:** LSBEP, 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., #C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; admin.lsbep@la.gov; (225)295-8410
- Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives: **Submit to:** H&GA@legis.la.gov or Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives, PO Box 44486, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-2403
- Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate: **Submit to:** s&g@legis.la.gov or Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate PO Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-9845

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