



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

4334 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, #C-150
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816

Voice: (225)295-8410
Fax: (225)295-8412
Email: admin.lsbep@la.gov
Website: lsbep.org

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE #7

May 6, 2020

Dear Licensee,

The LSBEP officers and administration recognize the rapid changes occurring in your lives and practices. Therefore, this agency will continue sending weekly updates every Wednesday for the duration of the COVID19 emergency. This update is the seventh in this "Weekly Wednesday" series, refer to the LSBEP website www.lsbep.org for archived weekly updates, links to referenced information, and other communication from the board. Additionally, please note that we are aware that due to rapid changes in information and interpretation of various directives from state and local officials, information may vary over time. Please ensure you are referencing the most updated information when making decisions about your practice.

As previously noted, should news impacting your practice require more immediate attention, additional updates may be necessary. Koren Boggs, Ph.D., Chair; Amy Henke, Psy.D., Vice Chair; and Jaime Monic, Executive Director have been meeting daily via telephone or Zoom to discuss developments in regulation and resources you need to remain compliant in your practice while putting the health and welfare of your patients first. Our goal is to keep you informed, but not overwhelm your email!

For our seventh Weekly Wednesday Update, we would like to advise you of the following:

- 1) **LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (LDH) RESOURCES** – In addition to utilizing the decision tree in deciding on the provision of services (see Weekly Wednesday Update #6) The LDH website <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/1198/n/311> contains resources to the application of telehealth and in person practice in a variety of settings. We have identified the following Bulletins as being applicable to the practice of psychology:
 - a) [Informational Bulletin 20-4](#): COVID-19 – MHR Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised April 8, 2020)
 - b) [Informational Bulletin 20-5](#): COVID-19 Provider Update (Revised April 30, 2020)
 - c) [Informational Bulletin 20-6](#): COVID-19 – LMHP Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised April 9, 2020)
 - d) [Informational Bulletin 20-7](#): COVID-19 – SUD Telemedicine/Telehealth (Revised April 9, 2020)
 - e) [Informational Bulletin 20-8](#): CARES Act Provider Relief Funding (Revised April 29, 2020)

These are updated frequently therefore, you are encouraged to visit this site regularly to keep pace with any changes that affect your practice.

- 2) **APA issues guidance to assist practitioners in making determinations to resume in-person services:**
<https://www.apaservices.org/practice/news/in-person-services-covid-19>
- 3) **RENEWALS** – We want to remind you that License Renewals will begin for ALL Licensees on July 1, 2020. For this Renewal period, EVEN NUMBERED Licensees will be reporting Continuing Professional Development. Due to COVID-19 accommodations have been made and the following will be required:
 - a) **30 HOURS** are required for the period **July 1, 2018** through **June 30, 2020**
 - b) **2 HOURS** of the required 30 must be in the area of ethics and forensics.
 - c) Please refer to Chapter 8 of the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46, Part LXIII for reporting requirements to ensure they meet the definitions and that you have documentation required to report an activity under a specific category; and that the activities meet the objectives required for an activity to be acceptable. The LSBEP does not prereview/preapprove your activities.

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

Koren Boggs, Ph.D., Chair

Amy Henke, Psy.D., Vice Chair

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

LA R.S. 42:14.D. Public comments – In accordance with LA R.S. 42:14.D., the LSBEP shall allow public comments at any point during a meeting of the LSBEP prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Individuals who wish to comment on a matter must sign in and state their intent to comment on a matter.

La. R.S. 44:33.1 - In compliance with La. R.S. 44:33.1, the LSBEP hereby gives notice that information submitted to the LSBEP may become public record pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, *et seq.*