

**Chapter 60. Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners.**

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted. Complete new sections are not in boldface or underlined.)

12 AAC 60.035(c)(4) is amended to read:

(4) provide verification of a current license **in good standing** to practice psychology **independently** in another jurisdiction **where the licensing requirements are at least equivalent to those in this state** for the scope of practice specified in the application; to meet the requirements of this paragraph, the verification must be sent directly to the department from the licensing jurisdiction and the license must [BE ACTIVE, IN GOOD STANDING, AND] cover the scope of the practice requested for the courtesy license in this state; (Eff. 2/27/2005, Register 173; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.01.062 AS 08.86.070 AS 08.86.080

12 AAC 60.260(b) is amended to read:

(b) **For a licensing period ending on or before June 30, 2023 each** [EACH] psychologist or psychological associate seeking license renewal shall obtain and document an average of 20 credit hours of continuing education for each year during the concluding licensing period, **at least three of which must be in professional ethics.** [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999, AT LEAST THREE OF THE TOTAL CREDIT HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR THE CONCLUDING LICENSING PERIOD MUST BE IN PROFESSIONAL ETHICS].

12 AAC 60.260 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(c) For the licensing period that begins on July 1, 2023, and ends on June 30 2025, each psychologist or psychological associate seeking license renewal or reinstatement shall obtain and document completion of 20 credit hours of continuing education earned each year during the licensing period; continuing education credit hours must include a minimum of

- (1) six contact hours in cross-cultural education relating to Alaska Natives;
- (2) four contact hours in teletherapy practice as set out under 12 AAC 60.405;
- (3) three contact hours in professional ethics;
- (4) three contact hours in suicide prevention; and
- (5) two contact hours in substance abuse education.

(d) For a licensing period beginning on or after July 1, 2025, each psychologist or psychological associate seeking a first license renewal after initial issuance of the psychologist or psychological associate's license or license reinstatement shall obtain and document completion of 20 credit hours of continuing education earned each year during the concluding licensing period; continuing education credit hours include a minimum of

- (1) six contact hours in cross-cultural education relating to Alaska Natives;
- (2) four contact hours in teletherapy practice as set out under 12 AAC 60.405;
- (3) three contact hours in professional ethics;
- (4) three contact hours in suicide prevention; and
- (5) two contact hours in substance abuse education.

(e) For a licensing period beginning on or after July 1, 2025 a psychologist or psychological associate seeking a license renewal other than a first license renewal after the initial issuance of the psychologist or psychological associate's license shall obtain and document completion of 20 contact hours of continuing education earned for each year during the

concluding licensing period, at least three of which must be in professional ethics. (Eff. 4/22/83,

Register 86; am 3/27/98, Register 145; am \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.86.070

12 AAC 60 is changed by adding new sections to Article 7 to read:

**Article**

1. Applications (12 AAC 60.010 - 12 AAC 60.065)
2. Experience and Education (12 AAC 60.070 - 12 AAC 60.090)
3. Examinations (12 AAC 60.100 - 12 AAC 60.170)
4. Rules of Professional Conduct (12 AAC 60.180 - 12 AAC 60.220)
5. Reinstatement of Professional Privileges After Discipline (12 AAC 60.230 - 12 AAC 60.240)
6. Continuing Education (12 AAC 60.250 - 12 AAC 60.350)
7. **Teletherapy Practice (12 AAC 60.400 - 12 AAC 60.415)**
8. General Provisions (12 AAC 60.900 - 12 AAC 60.990)

**Article 7. Teletherapy Practice [GENERAL PROVISIONS].**

**Section**

- 400. Scope of teletherapy practice
- 405. Eligibility to practice teletherapy
- 410. Providing technology assisted distance professional services
- 415. Informed consent

**12 AAC 60.400. Scope of teletherapy practice.** (a) Services offered by licensees by electronic means who are physically separate from the recipient of the services fall within the jurisdiction of the board.

(b) The standards of traditional face-to-face services described in AS 08.86 and

12 AAC 60 apply to teletherapy or technology-assisted distance professional services.

(c) The practice of technology-assisted distance professional services does not include functions or practices that are not within the training required for licensure under this chapter in accordance with AS 08.86.164 and 12 AAC 60.180.

(d) The scope, eligibility, and standards of teletherapy practice established under 12 AAC 60.400 - 12 AAC 60.415 do not supersede the functions, practices, and definitions relating to “appropriate supervision” and “supervised experience” as described elsewhere in AS 08.86 and this chapter. (Eff. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.86.070 AS 08.86.130 AS 08.86.160

**12 AAC 60.405. Eligibility to practice teletherapy.** To be eligible to practice teletherapy with clients physically present in this state, a psychologist or psychological associate must meet the requirements under AS 08.01.085 and

(1) be licensed under AS 08.86.130 as a licensed psychologist or under AS 08.86.160 as a licensed psychological associate; and

(2) complete board-approved general competency training in the practice of teletherapy, totaling a minimum of four hours.

(Eff. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.01.085 AS 08.86.160 AS 08.86.170  
AS 08.86.130

**12 AAC 60.410. Technology assisted distance professional services.** The provision of services in this state by a person licensed under AS 08.86 through digital, telephonic, or electronic means, regardless of the location of the client, constitutes the practice of psychology in

this state. Licensees are required to comply with all statutes, regulations, and rules of the state where the client is physically located. (Eff. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.01.085 AS 08.86.160 AS 08.86.170  
AS 08.86.130

**12 AAC 60.415. Informed consent.** Licensees shall obtain informed consent of the recipient before providing distance professional services. To be effective, informed consent must be, understandable by the recipient, discuss the benefits and risks of entering into distance professional services, and address the use of telephone, online synchronous provision of psychological services, electronic billing, text, and email contact with a recipient. (Eff. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.86.070 AS 08.86.130 AS 08.86.160

12 AAC 60.990(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(11) "distance professional services" means the mode of delivering services while physically separate from the recipient by means of technology-assisted media, including telephone, video, Internet, smartphone, tablet, desktop system, or other electronic means. (Eff. 4/22/83, Register 86; am 6/29/87, Register 102; am 3/17/91, Register 117; am 3/27/98, Register 145; am 11/21/2001, Register 160; am 12/8/2005, Register, 176; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.86.070 AS 08.86.130 AS 08.86.204  
AS 08.86.080