

List of Acceptable Programs for Registration Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

1.) CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (CPA) ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

The Board has adopted the Position of the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO) that the National Standard for registration as a Psychologist is graduation from a doctoral program in Psychology accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA). Consequently, a doctoral program in Psychology accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) automatically constitutes a degree in psychology that is acceptable to the Board from an educational institution approved the Board. The full document containing the National Standard is available from the following URL:

<http://www.nsbep.org/downloads/ACPRONationalStandard.pdf>

To view a list of doctoral programs across Canada acceptable to the Board, accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association, you can visit the following address:

<https://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/CPAaccreditedprograms/>

2.) PROGRAMS IN ATLANTIC CANADA

Additionally, here are the psychology graduate programs in Atlantic Canada that have been accepted for registration purposes since 2016 and their concentration areas:

Acadia University – M.Sc. - (Clinical Psychology)
Dalhousie University Ph.D. - (Clinical Psychology)
Mount Saint Vincent University – M.A. (School Psychology)
University of Moncton – Psy.D. (Clinical Psychology)
University of New Brunswick – Ph.D. (Clinical Psychology)
Memorial University – Psy.D. (Clinical Psychology)

One new program in Atlantic Canada:

University of Prince Edward Island – Psy.D. (Clinical Psychology)

Information provided about the program suggests that it would qualify students for registration once it is in a position to graduate students.

3.) AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (APA) ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

Many, but not all, of the psychology programs accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) have been found to be acceptable for registration. APA accredited programs must be reviewed to ensure they meet the criteria for acceptable programs in psychology described below in Sections 4 and 5. More information about these programs can be found via the following URL:

<https://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/programs/index.aspx>

4.) OTHER ACCEPTABLE PROGRAMS

There are other (e.g., non-accredited, international) programs not listed above that may be acceptable; however, the Board needs to vet them on a case-by-case basis upon its receipt of an application. All programs are assessed according to the Board's criteria which is accessible from the following URL:

http://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Registration_Requirements_Regular.pdf

5.) PROGRAMS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD

Other degree programs are not acceptable if they do not meet the Board's requirements for registration (Section 4) even though the programs may contain "psychology" in their title. In general, some of the challenges which lead to degree programs not being accepted for registration, include, but are not limited to the following:

- Programs taught online or via distance learning where there is not a continuous period of residency for at least 1 year. For further clarification, the Board has adopted the Section on Residency from the Model Licensing Act recently approved by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards. It states: "Residency means physical presence, in person, at an educational institution or training facility in a manner that facilitates acculturation in the profession, the full participation and integration of the individual in the educational, and training experience and includes faculty student interaction. Training models that rely exclusively on physical presence for periods of less than one continuous year (e.g. multiple long weekends and/or summer intensive sessions), or that use video teleconferencing or other electronic means as a substitute for any part of the minimum requirement for physical presence at the institution do not meet this definition of residency."

Note: The minimum period of one continuous year of residency is in addition to any practica or internship completed as part of the program requirements;

- Not having the majority of program faculty comprised of psychologists;
- Not requiring psychologists to act as the primary supervisors of students completing practica and internship experience.
- Not requiring adequate preparation in psychology prior to admission. The graduate program must have required an undergraduate degree in psychology (or equivalent courses in psychology) as part of the entrance requirement. To clarify, this criterion does not simply require the applicant to possess an undergraduate degree in psychology but an undergraduate degree in psychology (or equivalent courses in psychology) must be an admittance requirement of the program.
- Not adequately preparing applicants to meet Foundational Knowledge requirements. Here is a link to the Foundational Knowledge requirements:

http://nsbep.org/downloads/Foundational_Knowledge.pdf

- Not adequately preparing the applicant in the Core Competencies in Psychology
Here is a link to the Core Competencies:
http://nsbep.org/downloads/Core_Competerencies.pdf