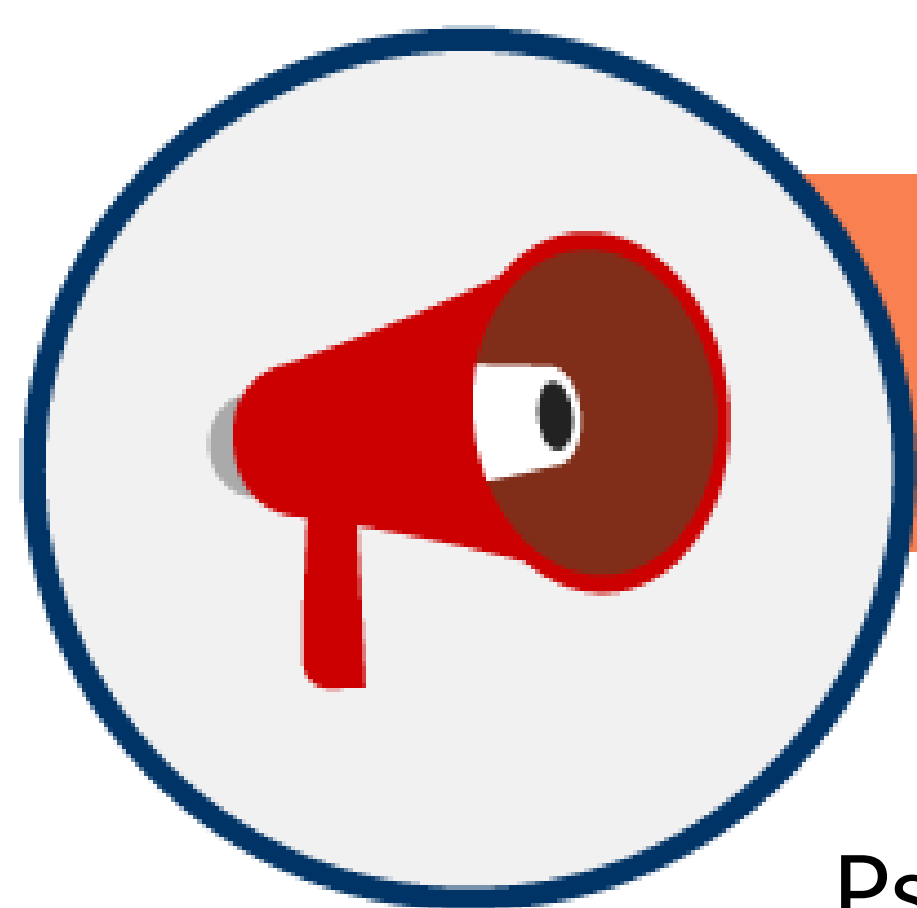


Info Brief

APA's Model Licensure Act



17 states have already adopted the Model Licensure Act (MLA)

The American Psychological Association (APA) and The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) have developed codes of ethical behavior and model licensure acts.

This is the 5th iteration of the Model Act - which is a prototype for creating state legislation that regulates the practice of psychology. The current MLA was approved by the APA Council in 2010.

The MLA documents provides a roadmap, including policies, to inform state licensure law. The MLA is a guide to support state licensing boards in drafting their own rules and regulations.

Continue reading...

To view the APA Model Act for State Licensure of Psychologists please visit:
www.apa.org/about/policy/model-act-2010.pdf

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Why adopt the MLA?

The MLA can be adopted in part or in full. It is meant to act as a guide and support. At least 17 states (i.e., Connecticut, Washington, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wyoming) have already adopted these licensure requirements.

Why be in favor this change?

- It reflects the increasing number of **supervised hours for students** in doctoral programs; schools better preparing students
- Hours required for licensure are not decreasing, instead there is **flexibility** in when these hours can be accumulated and accounted for
- The experience students gain during predoctoral training is not necessarily more valuable than postdoctoral hours
- Allows **students to be licensed earlier**

- The **quality** of licensees and prospective licensee remains the same
- Early career psychologists (ECPs) can begin **billing and earning income sooner**
- **Institutions benefit** because ECPs can bill insurance for services
- **Greater mobility** for psychologists in other states
- Help fill the **demand** for psychologists in rural areas

APA - www.apa.org/careers/early-career/licensure/guidance.aspx



Provides much needed **financial relief to ECPs** who graduate with debt, median debt for PhD graduates (75k) and PsyD graduates (200k)

How do I learn more?

The Alaska Psychological Association (AK-PA), your state psychological association, has started a committee to inform psychologists and members across the state about the MLA .

We have also begun critical advocacy work and are communicating with our state psychology board. In those states who have already initiated the MLA, the proposed changes in licensure were not significantly opposed. However, the process required collaboration with stakeholders, review of regulations, and developing a strategic plan.

You can read more about the process and experiences of other states that have recently updated their licensure requirements at: www.apa.org/careers/early-career/licensure/case-studies.aspx

Stages of the Process

APA has provided a guidance document that outlines the key stages of the process, informed by the case studies and experiences of other states. On average, it took 1.5 years for states to go through these stages if they chose to adopt all or parts of the MLA.

We have summarized the APA's guidance document here, but to read the document in its entirety please visit: www.apa.org/careers/early-career/licensure/guidance.aspx

1: Contemplation

Research MLA. Beginning discussions about changing licensure requirements in collaboration with stakeholders. Form a committee/task force.

2: Preparation

Prepare data and evidence to support decision for changing. Identify suggested regulatory changes. Obtain testimonials (e.g., graduate students, ECPs). Stakeholders agree with strategic plan. Connect with legislators.

3: Action

Articulate strong argument. Engage legislators and lobbyists to push for adoption of change and get amendment/bill adopted. Timelines are critical.

4: Implementation/ Maintenance

Once passed, regulations can be updated. Communicate with regulators on the process and set milestones within a timeline.

The easiest way to get involved with any of the work being done by AK-PA's committees is to send us an email letting us know you're interested!

www.ak-pa.org/about/get-involved/



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