

# North Carolina Psychology Board



Robert W. Hill, Ph.D., ABPP  
Chairperson

895 State Farm Road, Suite 101, Boone, NC 28607

Telephone (828) 262-2258

Fax (828) 265-8611

[www.ncpsychologyboard.org](http://www.ncpsychologyboard.org)

Daniel P. Collins  
Executive Director

Marc B. Davis, M.A.  
Staff Psychologist

## Board Statement on Supervision of Licensed Psychological Associates

The North Carolina Psychology Board supports amending the NC Psychology Practice Act to facilitate a pathway for Licensed Psychological Associates (LPAs) to practice independent from Board-required, career-long supervision, within the framework specified by the Psychology Board's recent rule changes related to LPA supervision.

The Psychology Board is composed of five Psychologists (three PhD level, two MA level) and two public members. The Psychology Board has reviewed the supervision requirements for LPAs and considered the evidence for concerns relevant to protecting the public and competence to practice. The Psychology Board also sought and received considerable input from the professional community and public on the LPA supervision requirements.

After deliberation, the Psychology Board voted to create pathways for LPAs to become independent of supervision after three to five years with stipulations for demonstrated competence. The Psychology Board's effort to revise its rules to facilitate a path to independent practice was limited by the NC Rules Review Commission's determination that the Psychology Practice Act, as currently enacted, required career long supervision of LPAs. As a result, while not having reviewed or approved any specific proposed statutory language, the Psychology Board supports the efforts to revise the Psychology Practice Act to facilitate a pathway for LPAs to practice independent from career-long supervision.

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