

**Board of Psychological Examiners
Policy Requiring Vermont Licensed Supervisors**

The Board recently reviewed our governing statutes to see whether a New Hampshire based and licensed psychologist could provide post degree supervision to a prospective licensee in Vermont. Vermont law defines the “practice of psychology” in 26 V.S.A. § 3001 to include “rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups or organizations, for a consideration, any service involving the application of principles, methods and procedures of understanding, predicting and influencing behavior which are primarily drawn from the science of psychology. The science of psychology includes, but is not restricted to, assessment, diagnosis, prevention, and amelioration of adjustment problems and emotional and mental disorders of individuals and groups....”

Under the definition above, the Board determined that supervision is “rendering a service” clearly within the definition of “practice of psychology.” Supervision involves the application of psychological principles used in the treatment of Vermont clients. It must also include assisting the supervisee in learning and complying with the requirements of practice in Vermont. As a matter of law, the Board determines that supervision of practice involving treatment given to Vermont clients is the practice of psychology. As a matter of policy the Board determines that assisting future licensees preparing to practice under Vermont law is best served by a person who is licensed in Vermont. For both reasons, the Board adopts the following policy:

Vermont law requires that supervised practice in Vermont must be provided by a Vermont licensed psychologist.

Board of Psychological Examiners August 21, 2009

Steve Lewis, Psy.D., Chair