

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

Board/Commission Members:

- Dr. Jason D. Gage, PhD, Boise - Chair
- The Honorable Denton C. Darrington, Declo – Public Member
- Dr. Helen A. Napier, PhD, Boise
- Dr. Linda Hatzenbuehler, PhD, Pocatello
- Dr. Theresa L. Ross, PhD, Pocatello

Board/Commission Composition: The Board consists of five (5) members: four (4) licensed psychologists, and one (1) public member. The Board shall have at least one (1) member who is engaged primarily in rendering services in psychology, and at least one (1) member who is engaged primarily in teaching, training, or research in psychology. Board members serve a term of four (4) years. [Idaho Code § 54-2304](#).

Operating costs per licensee: \$207.22. This number represents the dollar amount required annually to serve each applicant or licensee based on the average number of licensees and the average expenditures since Fiscal Year 2014. This includes all administrative, fiscal, legal, and investigative services.

Total number of current licensees in Idaho on May 19, 2018: **441**.

For the Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners, the **shortest time** from complete application to issuing a license was the **same day**. The **longest time** from complete application to issuing a license was **88 days**. The **average time** to licensure was **17.7 days**. Of all licenses, **33.9 percent** were issued the **same day**. The Board issued **59 licenses** between May 19, 2017 and May 19, 2018.

Note: All Board meetings are subject to Idaho's Open Meeting Law. The law requires a minimum of five (5) calendar days' notice for regular meetings, and a forty-eight (48) hour notice for the agenda. Special meetings require twenty-four (24) hour meeting and agenda notice. [Idaho Code § 74-204](#).

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

A. Index of Statute, Rule, and Policy Requirements for Licensure and Renewal

		Statute I.C. Title 54, Chapter 23	Rule IDAPA 24.12.01	*Policy	Application	Basis to Deny Issuance or Renewal	Fees
Psychologist	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2307 I.C. § 54-2312 (Endorsement)	24.12.01.100	*	Application Reference Form PLUS Application	I.C. § 54-2307 I.C. § 54-2309	\$150 Exam \$250 Endorsement
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2315	24.12.01.400 24.12.01.401	*		I.C. § 54-2309 I.C. § 67-2614	\$250 Renewal
	Inactive License	N/A	24.12.01.275	*			\$125 License & Renewal
Temporary Permit	Issuance for Initial License	N/A	24.12.01.300	*	Application	IDAPA 24.12.01.300	N/A
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	N/A	*		N/A	N/A
Service Extender	Issuance for Initial License	N/A	24.12.01.450	*	Application	IDAPA 24.12.01.450.02	\$100
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	24.12.01.450.03(l)	*	Weekly Notes Annual Supervisory Log	I.C. § 54-2309	\$100

**All of the Board's requirements for licensure and renewal are in statute or rule. The Board does not have any requirements in policy*

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

B. Applications and Renewals Denied, May 19, 2017 – May 19, 2018

Refusal to Issue Initial License [Total Number: 0]

	Basis in Statute and/or Rule	Summary of Factual Basis
	None	

Refusal to Renew License [Total Number: 0]

	Basis in Statute and/or Rule	Summary of Factual Basis
	None	

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

C. Disciplinary Actions in the Last Five (5) Years**

The Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners received **58 complaints** from Fiscal Year 2013 through May 19, 2018. During this time frame, **40 complaints were closed** by the Board with no disciplinary action; **7 resulted in disciplinary action**; **9 remained under investigation**; and **2 awaited Board determination** for a final outcome.

***The detail provided below is only for disciplinary action closed between May 19, 2017 and May 19, 2018. Cases are not always closed within the same fiscal year they are opened, and sometimes multiple complaints are included in one disciplinary action. The Board's full [disciplinary action information](#) is available online.*

Case No.	Date of Final Action	Action Taken	Statutory Basis	Summary of Factual Basis
PSY-2017-3	11/17/2017	Consent Order	I.C. §§ 54-2309(5) ; IDAPA 24-12.01.004 and 24.12.01.450.b.iii	Respondent, who was a service extender, had sexual contact with a client.

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

D. Changes or Attempted Changes in the Last Five (5) Years to Eliminate Barriers to Entry

Law and Rule

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
2013	House Bill 32	<p>This bill allows the Board to promulgate rules setting forth standards and requirements for use of communications technology in the practice of psychology. The Board worked with the Board of Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists and the Social Work Examiners Board on the issue of Telehealth.</p> <p>Impact: The work of these Boards was later folded into the Council convened pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 46, which passed during the 2015 Legislative Session. That Council proposed the Idaho Telehealth Access Act.</p>
2013	Docket No. 24.1201.1201	<p>This rule removes the six-hour limitation on <u>accredited teleconferences with an interactive component</u>.</p> <p>Impact: This expands the opportunities for licensees to meet continuing education requirements.</p>
2016	House Bill 341	<p>In 2015, the Board of Physical Therapy, State Board of Podiatry, State Board of Optometry, Board of Chiropractic Physicians, Idaho State Board of Psychologist Examiners, State Board of Medicine, State Board of Dentistry, Board of Nursing, and the Department of Administration worked together and reached out to interested parties on proposed legislation to revise IDACARE. The Boards' proposed legislation was considered by the 2016 Legislature.</p> <p>Background: In an attempt to expand information accessible to the public regarding available options of health care providers in the State of Idaho, the Legislature passed the Patient Freedom of Information Act in 1998, also known as IDACARE. Through IDACARE, profiles of licensed health care professionals became readily accessible to the public through an online database. These health care professionals included physicians, osteopaths, physical therapists, dentists, podiatrists, chiropractors, optometrists, psychologists, physician assistants, and advanced practice professional nurses currently licensed in the State of Idaho.</p>

Law and Rule (continued)

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
	<p>House Bill 341 (continued)</p>	<p>The intent of IDACARE was to create public access; however, implementation relied upon health care providers to input their data on the IDACARE web page. This was in addition to renewal information they provided to the relevant licensure board. Licensees could be fined \$50 per day for incomplete or inaccurate data.</p> <p>The bill proposed by the Boards in 2016 eliminated the requirement for licensees to annually update their IDACARE profile. It did away with the fines, and it ensured the public still had access to relevant licensure information on each Board’s website. Furthermore, the Boards documented the number of website visits. The numbers showed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDACARE page received about 750 visits per month. Most visits were providers updating their data. • The Board of Medicine page received about 7,500 visits per month. • The web pages for the Board of Physical Therapy, State Board of Podiatry, State Board of Optometry, Board of Chiropractic Physicians, Idaho State Board of Psychologist Examiners, and other Boards served by the Bureau of Occupational Licenses received over 14,000 visits per month. <p>Impact: From a fiscal point of view, eliminating the IDACARE website/database created a savings of \$1,700 annually, and a one-time upgrade cost of \$30,000 for the Department of Administration, all from the general fund. It also eliminated the duplication of effort for individual Boards to support both the IDACARE and Board websites, saving the Boards’ dedicated funds over \$12,000 annually.</p> <p>More importantly, it did away with a duplicative effort on the part of licensees since they no longer would have to update the IDACARE profile in addition to submitting their license renewal. The law change removed the practitioners’ burden to manually update information on the IDACARE web page annually, and removed the ability for Boards to fine licensees \$50 per day if the data was not entered.</p>

Law and Rule (continued)

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
	House Bill 341 (continued)	In short, the bill to revise IDACARE relieved the burden upon healthcare providers to report information to two different state web pages, eliminated the Boards’ ability to fine licensees \$50 per day, and relieved the burden on the State, both administratively and financially, to support two different websites for licensees. Since the Boards’ charge is public protection, this change also ensured that the health care provider information would be verified and publically available on each Board’s website. This bill passed the House (69-0) and Senate (35-0). It was signed into law by the Governor on March 17, 2016, and went into effect July 1, 2016. After the bill went into effect, the Boards notified all licensees and updated each of their websites.
2016	Docket No. 24-1201-1501	Section 150 is amended to decrease the annual renewal fee from \$300 to \$250; the annual renewal fee for inactive license from \$150 to \$125; original application for licensure by exam from \$200 to \$150; original application for licensure by endorsement from \$300 to \$250; and to change the reinstatement fee from \$25 to be in accordance with I.C. § 67-2614 . This results in a reduction in fees of approximately \$19,825 annually.
2017	House Bill 212	In 2017, the Idaho Psychological Association proposed legislation which allows those psychologists who have a doctorate degree in psychology, and have obtained a master's degree in clinical psychopharmacology, clinical experience, have passed a nationally recognized exam, and have two years of clinical experience supervision by a medical doctor to have prescriptive authority in their field. This legislation mandates that a prescribing psychologist collaborate with the patient's primary care provider. This legislation requires an advisory panel of experts to advise the Board of Psychologist Examiners on issues relevant to prescribing psychologists.

Law and Rule (continued)

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
2017	Docket No. 24-1201-1601	<p>These rule changes accomplish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarifies that all of the entities identified in Rule 402.01 can provide online continuing education. • Creates a new category for a service extender who will be providing psychometrician services, and establishes a service provider cannot provide service until after the supervisory plan is approved by the Board. • Establishes rules related to Telepsychology practice.
2018	Docket No. 24-1201-1701	<p>These rule changes accomplish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary licensees hold a certification of prescriptive authority issued by the Board before issuing a prescription. • The frequency of face-to-face supervision time required for category III service extenders is reduced. • Telepsychology rules are amended to refine the definition of telepsychology and clarify informed consent provisions.

Policy

Date	Policy	Summary
2016	Uniformity in Sanctions	The Board is working with the Board of Social Work Examiners and the Idaho Licensing Board of Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Counselors to examine uniformity in sanctions.

Additional Barriers Eliminated/Opportunities Provided

Date	Barriers/Opportunities	Summary
2017	Implemented Idaho Code for military service and added it to the Board’s website	I.C. § 67-2620 For military service members and veterans, the Board added to its website a link to a law that says the Board may accept military training and experience toward qualification for licensure. The law states that professional and occupational licensing boards may accept military education, training, and experience toward meeting the qualifications for a license, certification or registration. Boards may also expedite applications, including military spouse applications.
		I.C. § 67-2602A Additionally, if a licensee already holds an active Idaho license and is on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, that license will remain active without renewing it for six (6) months following discharge from active duty. The license shall remain in good standing without the necessity of renewal and during said period the same shall not be cancelled, suspended or revoked.
2015	I.C. § 67-2614	Sets the reinstatement fee to \$35 and eliminates the requirement that, in addition to the reinstatement fee, the licensee has to include payment of the license fees for all of the years the license has been expired. It also clarifies the continuing education required to reinstate. Impact: Those whose licenses expired within the last five (5) years had to pay licensure fees for each year they were expired. Anyone whose license had been expired for more than five (5) years would have to apply as a new applicant. This law change reduces barriers to reentry in two ways. For those whose licenses have been expired for less than five (5) years, it eliminates the requirement to pay licensure fees for each year the license was expired. For those whose licenses have been expired for more than five (5) years, it allows the Board to consider education, supervised practice, examination or practice in another jurisdiction in determining the person’s competency when reviewing applications.

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

Additional Barriers Eliminated/Opportunities Provided (continued)

Date	Barriers/Opportunities	Summary
2011	Service Extender Review	<p>The Board designates a Board member to approve applications for service extenders between meetings.</p> <p>Impact: This improves access to mental health care by getting appropriately trained individuals into the workforce sooner.</p>
1996	I.C. § 59-509	Legislation passed during the 1996 legislative session removes members of the Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners from the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) by changing the payment they receive from compensation to an honorarium under I.C. § 59-509 .

E. Assessment of Public Interest

The practice of psychology involves the assessment and development of interventions to change and improve human behavior. While the majority of practicing psychologists address various pathological behavioral conditions, some psychologists work with organizations to improve the functioning of the systems including productivity and teamwork. Assessment of behavioral conditions using standardized tests is a unique skill set of clinical psychologists relative to other members of the mental health team such as counselors and psychiatrists. Psychologists receive extensive training in the administration and interpretation of psychological instruments that assess the behavioral effects of neurological impairments, developmental disabilities, and personality/behavioral characteristics of individuals. In all of their work, psychologists attempt to base their practice, to the greatest extent possible, on the research evidence relevant to their practice.

Because psychologists work with vulnerable populations or with individuals who are at vulnerable points in their lives, assuring that psychologists are adequately educated, including practice experience beyond classwork work, is critical to public safety. Psychologists deal with individuals who are suicidal, disabled, chronically or acutely ill, or suffer from major mental illnesses.

Psychologists are educated at the doctoral level because of the vast body of research and clinical skills associated with their field. When non-doctorally prepared individuals are incorporated into a psychologist's practice, psychologists remain responsible for all of the activities performed by these service extenders to assure that no harm comes to the vulnerable persons whom they serve. Because the research on human behavior continues to develop, psychologists are required to remain current in their field, again to assure the public receives state-of-the-art care.

Licensure in Idaho is designated to protect the safety and welfare of the individual whom psychologists serve by assuring that psychological services are provided by individuals who are adequately education.

F. Recommendations for Improvement, Modification, or Elimination of Requirements

1. Review IDAPA 24.12.01: Section 300 regarding temporary licenses and interjurisdictional practice certificate (IPC) limitations; review alternative routes to temporary licensure.
2. Review the National Examination for Professional Practice In Psychology (EPPP).
3. Review requirements for supervised practice.
4. Review continuing education requirements and categories.
5. Streamline the applicant review process to address timeliness.
6. Discuss Doctoral versus Masters level education.
7. The Board follows national trends and attends meetings of state regulators. The Board must stay current to ensure it is updating laws and rules to balance public protection with opportunity.
8. The Board currently follows the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) work on telehealth and a compact for telehealth.
9. Review supervision time.
10. Review the following rules for potential updates:
 - Rule 100.06 – consider adding 30-day notice provisions.
 - Rule 100.07 – consider updated language that adds flexibility to when the Board may review applications.
 - Rule 200.04 – review the requirements regarding how long an applicant must wait to retake a licensure exam.
 - Rule 250.02 – review endorsement requirements with regard to online education and alternative pathways.
 - Rule 450.03(j) – evaluate how the model law applies to Section 600 with regard to the number of service extenders and students a psychologist may supervise at one time.
11. Review laws and rules regarding online education related to degree requirements.
12. Review necessary education level and credentialing for service extenders.

Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

Summary of Objectives

The Licensing Freedom Act asked that all of Idaho's professional licensing entities critically look at their processes, laws and rules. The goal is to document the elimination of barriers and make recommendations for future changes that improve, modify or eliminate laws and rules governing professional licensure. In response, the Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners respectfully submits the above report and summarizes with a checklist to ensure all of the objectives were met:

- ✓ Objectives of Executive Order
 - ✓ Protect the public. (*I.C. [§ 54-2301](#)*)
 - ✓ Portability of licensure. (*I.C. [§ 54-2312](#)*)
 - ✓ Eliminate barriers to entry to work. (*Diverse options for continuing education credits; fee decreases*)
 - ✓ Do away with unnecessary regulation. (*Temporary licenses*)
 - ✓ Modernize licensure and regulatory requirements. (*IDAPA [24.12.01.402](#); diverse options for continuing education credits; attend national meetings*)

- ✓ Comprehensive Review - consider some of the issues raised in the background material, such as,
 - ✓ Telework – Idaho has recently passed laws related to telehealth but other occupations may be facing similar issues regarding telework. (*I.C. [Title 54, Chapter 57](#)*)
 - ✓ Distance/Online Learning/Testing – distance/online education and testing are increasingly available and may influence the resources that applicants or licensees can access to obtain education, continuing education or to test. (*IDAPA [24.12.01.402.07](#), online education, see Section F*)
 - ✓ Criminal History – What barriers or additional obstacles do applicants/licensees face who have a criminal conviction? Do our laws consider the relevance or proximity in time of a conviction to the individuals applying for licensure or for those currently in practice? (*I.C. [§ 54-2309](#)*)
 - ✓ Early Examination – What can be addressed in the timing of processes to eliminate unnecessary delays? (*See Section F*)
 - ✓ CE Hardship – Is there an allowance for extenuating circumstances? (*IDAPA [24.12.01.401.06](#), carryover hours; [24.12.01.401.07](#), hardship exemption*)
 - ✓ Temporary Permits – Are there opportunities to work while minimum requirements are being met? (*IDAPA [24.12.01.300](#), temporary license*)