
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PSYCHOLOGY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

PART I

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that properly licensed school psychologists provide effective services to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally by providing direct educational and mental health services for children and youth, as well as working with parents, educators, and other professionals to create supportive learning and social environments for all children.

Currently, Hawaii is the only state without certification or licensure for school psychologists. Without licensing, the State cannot ensure that functioning school psychologists are properly qualified and delivering appropriate services. In addition, the State's failure to properly license school psychologists means that, by law, the State is unable to seek reimbursements from the federal medicaid program for the use of school psychologists in an educational setting. Consequently, it is necessary to establish a licensure program to ensure the



1 employment of qualified school psychologists and to allow
2 schools using school psychologists to properly seek available
3 federal medicaid funds.

4 The legislature further finds that a proper licensing
5 program requires establishing meaningful criteria and guidelines
6 for the licensure of school psychologists. The National
7 Association of School Psychologists' Standards for the
8 Credentialing of School Psychologists provides a model upon
9 which these guidelines may in part be based. The National
10 Association of School Psychologists' Standards create a set of
11 national standards that can serve to regulate the credentialing
12 of school psychologists. School psychologists who hold a
13 National Association of School Psychologists credential have met
14 these national standards.

15 The legislature finds that accredited school psychologists
16 should be licensed by, and registered with, the board of
17 psychology to ensure the delivery of quality services to
18 students and the community. The legislature additionally finds
19 that school psychologists and the practice of school psychology
20 should be subject to regulation and control to protect the
21 public from the unqualified practice of school psychology and



1 from unprofessional conduct by persons licensed to practice
2 school psychology.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Establish the recommended criteria for the interim
5 licensure of school psychologists, including graduate
6 coursework, practica, and internship requirements
7 based in part on the National Association of School
8 Psychologists' Standards; and
- 9 (2) Require the board of psychology and the department of
10 education to collaborate to develop a permanent
11 licensing scheme for school psychologists in the State
12 and to submit a report to the legislature of their
13 findings and recommendations.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 465, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
16 to read as follows:

17 **"PART . SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

18 **§465- Findings and declaration of necessity.** It is the
19 intent of the legislature to establish standards for the
20 licensing of school psychologists to address the present and
21 critical need for ensuring that individuals requiring the



1 services of a licensed school psychologist receive appropriate
2 services by highly qualified and licensed professionals. The
3 special state interest for creating this part is recognized,
4 notwithstanding the requirements of section 26H-6.

5 **§465- Definitions.** As used in this part:

6 "Accredited educational institution" means a university or
7 college accredited by the Western Association of Schools and
8 Colleges or a comparable regional body.

9 "Approved private school" means any educational institution
10 that is licensed or accredited by the Hawaii Association of
11 Independent Schools.

12 "Developmental center" means any facility that offers
13 developmentally appropriate psychological, educational, social,
14 adaptive, language, or motor skills training or
15 psychoeducational and multidisciplinary diagnostic services to
16 special needs children or developmentally disabled adults.

17 "Practice of school psychology" means the application of
18 principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, prediction,
19 evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation, and instruction
20 related to, and consistent with, the national standards
21 articulated by the most current Model for Comprehensive and



1 Integrated School Psychological Services, as published by the
2 National Association of School Psychologists or its successor,
3 in a school setting. "Practice of school psychology" does not
4 include private practice.

5 "School psychologist" means a person licensed by the board
6 who engages in the practice of school psychology consistent with
7 the national standards articulated by the most current Model for
8 Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services as
9 published by the National Association of School Psychologists or
10 its successor. "School psychologist" includes a school
11 psychologist-doctorate and a school psychologist-specialist.

12 **§465- School psychologists; regulation; qualifications.**

13 (a) Notwithstanding any other law, school psychologists in the
14 State shall be licensed by the board and regulated pursuant to
15 this part.

16 (b) No applicant shall be licensed to engage in the
17 practice of school psychology unless the applicant meets the
18 following qualifications:

- 19 (1) Has received a specialist-level degree or doctoral
20 degree from an organized program of study in school
21 psychology within an accredited educational



1 institution, consisting of a minimum of sixty semester
2 hours consistent with the National Association of
3 School Psychologists' standards for graduate
4 preparation of school psychologists, and:

5 (A) Has completed one thousand two hundred hours of
6 supervised internship in school psychology with
7 not less than six hundred hours completed within
8 a school setting; and

9 (B) Has passed the School Psychology Praxis
10 examination with a minimum score of one hundred
11 forty-seven or the most current standard of the
12 National Association of School Psychologists; or

13 (2) Holds a current, unencumbered certificate as a
14 nationally certified school psychologist or a valid
15 license or credential in school psychology in another
16 state or United States territory prior to January 1,
17 2023; provided that for those employed as a school
18 psychologist in Hawaii as of January 1, 2023, an out-
19 of-state license or credential that has been expired
20 for not more than ten years from January 1, 2023,
21 shall also be accepted.



(c) Before any applicant shall be eligible for licensure under this part, the applicant shall file an application in a form prescribed by the board and pay an application fee and all other applicable fees.

\$465- Fees; disposition. (a) Upon application for a new license and at each biennial renewal, each applicant shall pay a license fee of \$ and a compliance resolution fund fee of \$. Application fees paid pursuant to this part shall not be refundable. Fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the compliance resolution fund established pursuant to section 26-9(o).

(b) Every school psychologist holding a license under this part shall renew the license with the board no later than June 30 of each even-numbered year. Every school psychologist shall pay a renewal fee and comply with the continuing education requirements provided in rules adopted by the board pursuant to chapter 91.

(c) A school psychologist shall meet the continuing education requirements by obtaining twenty-five credit hours, with not less than ten of those hours accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists annually, as provided in the



1 board's rules. To determine compliance, the board may conduct a
2 random audit. A school psychologist selected for audit shall be
3 notified by the board. Within sixty days of notification, the
4 school psychologist shall provide to the board documentation to
5 verify compliance with the continuing education requirements.

6 (d) Failure to renew, pay the renewal fee, or provide
7 documentation of compliance in the case of an audit shall
8 constitute a forfeiture of license, which may be restored only
9 upon the submission of written application therefor, payment to
10 the board of a restoration fee, and, in the case of audited
11 school psychologists, documentation of compliance.

12 **§465- Description of services.** (a) A person practices
13 as a school psychologist if the person delivers services to
14 children and students from birth through college who are
15 eligible to be enrolled in educational and intermediate
16 educational units, special education programs, universities and
17 colleges, early intervention programs, developmental centers,
18 and approved private schools. School psychologists are limited
19 to practicing within these settings, and licensure does not
20 allow for private practice.



1 (b) Services delivered pursuant to this section are
2 articulated under the domains of the National Association of
3 School Psychologists' Model for Comprehensive and Integrated
4 School Psychological Services, as may be amended, which
5 represents the National Association of School Psychologists'
6 official policy regarding the delivery of school psychological
7 services and the ethical standards developed and published by
8 the National Association of School Psychologists.

9 **§465- Practice of school psychology; interim license**
10 **required.** (a) Beginning on January 1, 2023, no person shall
11 engage in the practice of school psychology or represent,
12 announce, or advertise oneself, publicly or privately, as a
13 "licensed school psychologist" or "school psychologist" or affix
14 any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia to the
15 person's name indicating or implying that the person is engaged
16 in the practice of school psychology, without having first
17 obtained an interim license as provided in this part; provided
18 that all school psychologists employed by the department of
19 education shall be licensed under this part by January 1, 2025.

20 (b) A person who is a student in an accredited school
21 psychology program may use a title of "school psychology intern"



1 or "school psychology practicum student" that indicates the
2 person's training status; provided that the person shall not
3 identify the person's self as a "licensed school psychologist"
4 or "school psychologist" or imply that the person is licensed to
5 practice school psychology.

6 (c) Any person who violates this section shall be subject
7 to a fine of not more than \$1,000 for each separate offense.
8 Each day of each violation shall constitute a separate offense.

9 **§465- Advising the board of psychology.** The board shall
10 receive advice and review proposals from the Hawaii Association
11 of School Psychologists regarding issues relating to school
12 psychologists and the practice of school psychology.

13 **§465- Grounds for refusal to renew, reinstate, or**
14 **restore a license and for denial, revocation, suspension, or**
15 **condition of licenses.** (a) In addition to other acts or
16 conditions provided by law, the board may refuse to renew,
17 reinstate, or restore, and may deny, revoke, suspend, or
18 condition in any manner any license for any one or more of the
19 following acts or conditions on the part of a licensee or an
20 applicant for a license:



- 1 (1) Failing to meet or maintain the conditions and
2 requirements necessary to qualify for the granting of
3 a license;
- 4 (2) Engaging in false, fraudulent, or deceptive
5 advertising, or making untruthful or improbable
6 statements;
- 7 (3) Engaging in the practice of school psychology while
8 the ability to do so is impaired by alcohol, drugs,
9 physical disability, or mental instability;
- 10 (4) Procuring a license for the practice of school
11 psychology through fraud, misrepresentation, or
12 deceit;
- 13 (5) Aiding and abetting an unlicensed person to directly
14 or indirectly perform activities requiring a license;
- 15 (6) Engaging in professional misconduct, incompetence,
16 gross negligence, or manifest incapacity in the
17 practice of school psychology;
- 18 (7) Engaging in conduct or practice contrary to recognized
19 standards of ethics for the practice of school
20 psychology;



- 1 (8) Violating any condition or limitation imposed on a
2 license for the practice of school psychology by the
3 board;
- 4 (9) Engaging in the practice of school psychology in a
5 manner that causes injury to one or more members of
6 the public;
- 7 (10) Failing to comply with, observe, or adhere to any law
8 in a manner such that the board deems the applicant or
9 holder to be an unfit or improper person to hold a
10 license;
- 11 (11) Revocation, suspension, or other disciplinary action
12 by another state or federal agency against a licensee
13 or applicant for any reason provided by the licensing
14 laws or this section;
- 15 (12) Criminal conviction, whether by nolo contendere or
16 otherwise, of a penal crime directly related to the
17 qualifications, functions, or duties of school
18 psychology, notwithstanding any statutory provision to
19 the contrary;
- 20 (13) Failing to report to the board, in writing, any
21 disciplinary decision issued against the licensee or



1 the applicant in another jurisdiction within thirty
2 days after the disciplinary decision is issued;

3 (14) Employing, using, or attempting to employ or use at
4 any time any person not licensed under this chapter
5 where licensure is required; or

6 (15) Violating this part, chapter 436B, or any rule or
7 order of the board.

8 (b) Any licensee or applicant who violates this section
9 may also be fined not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000.

10 **§465- Exemption.** This part is not intended to restrict
11 the practice of other licensed or credentialed practitioners
12 practicing within their own recognized scopes of practice in
13 educational settings. This part shall not apply to any person
14 working within the scope of practice or duties of another
15 licensed profession that overlaps with the practice of school
16 psychology; provided that the person does not use the title
17 "school psychologist" or "licensed school psychologist".

18 SECTION 3. Chapter 465, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by designating sections 465-1 to 465-15 as part I and
20 inserting a title before section 465-1 to read as follows:

21 **"PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS"**



1 SECTION 4. Section 465-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) This chapter shall not apply to:

4 (1) Any person teaching, lecturing, consulting, or
5 engaging in research in psychology insofar as the
6 activities are performed as part of or are dependent
7 upon employment in a college or university; provided
8 that the person shall not engage in the practice of
9 psychology outside the responsibilities of the
10 person's employment;

11 (2) Any person who performs any, or any combination of the
12 professional services defined as the practice of
13 psychology under the direction of a licensed
14 psychologist in accordance with rules adopted by the
15 board; provided that the person may use the term
16 "psychological assistant", but shall not identify the
17 person's self as a psychologist or imply that the
18 person is licensed to practice psychology;

19 (3) Any person employed by a local, state, or federal
20 government agency in a [~~school psychologist or~~]
21 psychological examiner position, or a position that



1 does not involve diagnostic or treatment services, but
2 only at those times when that person is carrying out
3 the functions of such government employment;

- 4 (4) Any person who is a student of psychology, a
5 psychological intern, or a resident in psychology
6 preparing for the profession of psychology under
7 supervision in a training institution or facility and
8 who is designated by a title as "psychology trainee",
9 "psychology student", "psychology intern", or
10 "psychology resident", that indicates the person's
11 training status; provided that the person shall not
12 identify the person's self as a psychologist or imply
13 that the person is licensed to practice psychology;
- 14 (5) Any person who is a member of another profession
15 licensed under the laws of this jurisdiction to render
16 or advertise services, including psychotherapy, within
17 the scope of practice as defined in the statutes or
18 rules regulating the person's professional practice;
19 provided that, notwithstanding section 465-1, the
20 person does not represent the person's self to be a



1 psychologist or does not represent that the person is
2 licensed to practice psychology;

3 (6) Any person who is a member of a mental health
4 profession not requiring licensure; provided that the
5 person functions only within the person's professional
6 capacities; and provided further that the person does
7 not represent the person to be a psychologist, or the
8 person's services as psychological;

9 (7) Any person who is a duly recognized member of the
10 clergy; provided that the person functions only within
11 the person's capacities as a member of the clergy; and
12 provided further that the person does not represent
13 the person to be a psychologist, or the person's
14 services as psychological;

15 (8) Any psychologist employed by the United States
16 Department of Defense, while engaged in the discharge
17 of the psychologist's official duty and providing
18 direct telehealth support or services, as defined in
19 section 431:10A-116.3, to neighbor island
20 beneficiaries within a Hawaii National Guard armory on
21 the island of Kauai, Hawaii, Molokai, or Maui;



1 provided that the psychologist employed by the United
2 States Department of Defense is credentialed by
3 Tripler Army Medical Center; or

4 (9) Any supervisee of a licensed psychologist as defined
5 in section 465D-7."

6 SECTION 5. Section 465-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 **"§465-4 Board of psychology; appointment, qualifications,**
9 **term, expenses.** There is created a board of psychology
10 consisting of [~~seven~~] nine members. There shall be five members
11 representing varied specialties of the profession, each of whom
12 shall be licensed to practice psychology under this chapter and
13 have a minimum of five years of post-doctoral professional
14 experience, two members who are licensed to practice school
15 psychology under part _____, and two lay members from the
16 community at large[-]; provided that, of the initial licensed
17 school psychologist appointees, one shall be appointed for a
18 three-year term. A lay member shall not be a psychologist, an
19 applicant, or former applicant for licensure as a psychologist."

20 PART II



SECTION 6. Section 26H-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§26H-4 Repeal dates for newly enacted professional and vocational regulatory programs. (a) Any professional or vocational regulatory program enacted after January 1, 1994, and listed in this section shall be repealed as specified in this section. The auditor shall perform an evaluation of the program, pursuant to section 26H-5, prior to its repeal date.

(b) Chapter 466L (appraisal management companies) shall be repealed on June 30, 2023.

(c) Chapter 457J (midwives) shall be repealed on June 30, 2025.

(d) Part of chapter 465 (school psychologists) shall be repealed on June 30, 2030."

PART III

SECTION 7. (a) The Hawaii board of psychology and the department of education shall collaborate to develop a permanent licensing scheme for school psychologists in the State. The board of psychology and the department of education shall further consider whether school psychologists shall be regulated under a new board, or whether the existing board of psychology



1 shall be expanded to include membership of both clinical
2 psychologists and school psychologists.

3 (b) The Hawaii board of psychology and the department of
4 education shall submit a report of its findings and
5 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
6 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
7 the regular session of 2023.

8 PART IV

9 SECTION 8. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
10 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
11 begun before its effective date.

12 SECTION 9. If any provision of this Act, or the
13 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
14 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
15 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
16 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
17 of this Act are severable.

18 SECTION 10. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

School Psychologists; Licensure; Board of Psychology;
Composition; Requirements

Description:

Establishes interim licensure requirements for school psychologists to be administered by the Board of Psychology. Requires all school psychologists to be licensed by January 1, 2023. Increases the composition of the Board of Psychology to include two school psychologists. Requires the Board of Psychology and the Department of Education to collaborate to determine a permanent licensing scheme for school psychologists in the State and to submit a report of their findings and recommendations to the Legislature. (SD2)

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