

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
LICENSED SPECIALIST IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: March 7, 2017**

Final Approved: June 6, 2017

The Licensed Specialist in School Psychology Advisory Committee [herein Committee] of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists [Board] was noticed and agenda posted March 6, 2017. Dr. Steven Welsh, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. at 8706 Jefferson Highway, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Present were Committee Members, Dr. Steven Welsh, Dr. Amy Childress Morvant, and Ex Officio Member, Ms. Jaime Monic. Dr. Carmen Broussard was absent from this meeting

Dr. Welsh noted Dr. Carmen Broussard was absent because she was a nominee for a women's achievement award at Nichols.

Dr. Morvant moved to approve the meeting agenda, the motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the minutes from December 13, 2016. Dr. Morvant moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION:

1. Status Report and Discussion: LSBEP Opinion on Definition of School System (Post-Secondary Education) and EarlySteps program (W. Lyna Jackson email 11/21/16) – Ms. Monic reported that Drs. Welsh and Broussard attended the LSBEP Board meeting on February 10, 2017. At that time, the Board agreed that Post-Secondary Education Institutions would meet the definition of school system. Dr. Koren Boggs (LSBEP Board Member) is working on a draft opinion for clarification.

Dr. Broussard was following up on EarlySteps for additional information, and had provided a report to the LSSP Committee for discussion. The Committee discussed the report and particularly the Provider Qualifications matrix from EarlySteps, noting that many qualifications were in need of updating. The Committee discussed recommending that Licensed Specialist in School Psychology be added, clarifying services that could be provided under supervision and those that could be provided independently. Particularly under "Evaluation and Assessment Provider" and "School Psychologist". Information obtained through Dr. Broussard's report indicates that the intent of the Provider Qualifications list is to align with LSBEP requirements.

Additionally, there are currently two ways that psychological services are provided to EarlySteps: a) a licensed professional via contract, or b) a school district can enroll as a "provider" and bill for services that their staff provides. Where an assessment or intervention need is identified and there is no contracted psychologist, these services are referred out of EarlySteps.

This led to a conversation regarding obtaining competency/special population training information from LSSP Applicants, and investigating mechanisms of obtaining early childhood training for those who would like to practice with these populations (i.e. Continuing Education, Supervised Practice Experiences, Didactic Training through Universities).

In reviewing the information gathered by Dr. Broussard, the Committee agreed to continue to gather information for presentation to the LSBEP. Dr. Welsh agreed to obtain information on how a school district bills for provider services through their district.

2. LSSP Medicaid Billing – Also related to the EarlySteps program, discussion regarding Medicaid billing for services for certain age groups was discussed. EarlySteps is funded through Medicaid Funds and the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – Federal and State Part C funds which covers ages birth to 3 years. Part B of the IDEA covers special education and related services for children ages 3 through 21 (the primary population served by school psychologists in the public, private and pre-kindergarten sector). The Committee discussed this inquiry, also from Ms. W. Lyna Jackson, however without a resolution from the LSBEP concerning the EarlySteps Program, this information could not be determined at a committee level.

Dr. Morvant moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:00p.m. The motion passed unanimously.