

Call for Task Force Members
The Board of Educational Affairs (BEA)/Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) Task Force to Delineate Competencies for Students Completing Master's Level Programs in Health Service Psychology

Task Force Charge:

The Task Force shall be charged with delineating a set of professional competencies for students completing a master's level program in health service psychology (HSP) and distinguishing such from those of individuals trained at the doctoral level. Comprising this Task Force for this purpose addresses one of the recommendations of the BEA Task Force to Develop a Blueprint for APA Accreditation of Master's Programs in Health Service Psychology.

Once the Task Force membership is approved, work is planned to begin immediately, in anticipation of a progress report due to the APA Council of Representatives in August 2019. The Task Force will conduct its initial work virtually (via monthly 90-minute calls and electronic mail.) We anticipate a face-to-face meeting of the Task Force to be held at the APA headquarters in Washington, DC, in the fall of 2019. Task Force member expenses related to this meeting will be covered by the APA.

Background:

APA has discussed the role of master's training in psychology through numerous initiatives dating as far back as 70 years. However, in August 2017 the APA Council of Representative voted that:

“Current issues and developments have risen to the level that APA should consider options related to master's level training and/or practice and that staff and governance should identify and explore options for APA to consider.”

In March 2018, Council voted to approve pursuing accreditation of master's level programs in areas where APA already accredits (clinical, counseling, school). APA's policy remains that the doctorate is the minimum educational requirement for entry into professional practice under the title of a psychologist.

Following Council's actions, the Board of Educational Affairs appointed a Task Force charged with developing a blueprint for APA to pursue accreditation of master's programs in health service psychology. The Task Force was specifically asked to:

- Develop a statement that broadly delineates the scope of accreditation for training at the master's level as contrasted with the current scope at the doctoral level
- Prioritize possible pathways for APA to establish accreditation of master's programs in psychology, and
- Identify the necessary expertise to comprise the accreditation decision making body.

The Task Force was convened in the summer of 2018 and worked via monthly conference calls and one in-person meeting on November 30 – December 2, 2018, where they finalized their recommendations for Council’s consideration. The Task Force agreed that accredited master’s programs in HSP must meet a set of standards leading to a specific set of professional competencies that students would develop. The Task Force recommended that a separate Task Force be convened to bring together key stakeholders to reach consensus on core competencies for individuals trained at the master’s level in HSP. In February 2019, the Council of Representatives received the report.

At the same time the BEA Task Force to Develop the Blueprint was completing its work, a virtual work group was convened by the Board of Professional Affairs (BPA), the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice and BEA), to discuss considerations related to the competencies needed by graduates of master’s level HSP programs. That work group also recommended that an official Task Force be convened to articulate competencies for HSP students at the master’s level.

Proposed Membership:

BEA and BPA will appoint 8 members (including a Chair), to the Task Force from those that apply. The Task Force shall represent individuals with the following areas of expertise:

- Health Psychology or Integrated Care
- Under-served, under-represented populations
- State psychological association
- State licensing in psychology at both the doctoral and master’s level
- Independent practice
- Psychological assessment
- Graduate education, at the master’s and/or doctoral level, in clinical, counseling, or school psychology
- Master’s level training council or organization
- Current member of the APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA) appointed by the CoA
- A member of the BEA Task Force to Develop a Blueprint for APA Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Health Service Psychology
- Current student in a doctoral program that obtained a terminal master’s degree in psychology prior to admission into a doctoral program
- Public Member from a profession that has practitioners at different educational levels

Individuals with multiple areas of experience and expertise and candidates from diverse groups will receive precedence and are strongly encouraged to apply.

Those interested in serving on the Task Force should submit:

- A CV or resume documenting experience and knowledge related to the charge of this Task Force
- A one-page (maximum) letter specifically articulating how qualifications relate to the areas of expertise outlined above and any aspects of diversity that you represent and choose to make

known.

- Completed Matrix for the BEA/BPA Task Force to Delineate Competencies for Students Completing Master's Level Programs in Health Service Psychology.

Self-nominations are strongly encouraged. By nominating, individuals are indicating willingness to prioritize their availability for scheduling conference calls and an in-person meeting in the fall. Questions and nomination materials should be emailed to [Jessica Andrade](#) by **May 29, 2019**. If you would like to mail in your materials, please send them to the address below:

Jessica Andrade
Associate Director, Governance
Education Directorate
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE
Washington DC 20002-4242

MATRIX TEMPLATE

Nominee:		
Nominated By:		
Subject Matter Expertise: Individuals with multiple areas of experience and expertise will receive precedence and are strongly encouraged to apply.		
	Check all that apply	Notes
Health Psychology or Integrated Care		
Under-Served, Under-Represented Populations		
State Psychological Association		
State Licensing in Psychology at both the Doctoral and Master's Level		
Independent Practice		
Psychological Assessment		
Graduate Education, at the Master's and/or Doctoral Level, in Clinical, Counseling, or School Psychology		
Master's Level Training Council or Organization		
Current Member of the APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA) Appointed by the CoA		
A Member of the BEA Task Force to Develop a Blueprint for APA Accreditation of Master's Programs in Health Service Psychology		
Current Student in A Doctoral Program that Obtained a Terminal Master's Degree in Psychology Prior to Admission into a Doctoral Program		
Public Member from a Profession that has Practitioners at Different Educational Levels		
Diversity of Work Setting		
	Check all that apply	Notes
Independent/Institutional Practice		
Education		
Science		
Public Interest		
Other (specify)		
Diversity of Career Stage		
	Check all that apply	Notes
Student		
Early Career		
Mid-Career		
Late-Career		
Demographic Diversity		
	Check all that apply	Notes
Race/Ethnicity (specify)		
Gender		
LGBTQ		

Disability		
Religion		
Additional Considerations or Other Types of Diversity		
	Check all that apply	Notes
Non-Psychologist		
Psychologist: Non-APA Member		
Geographical Diversity		
Other (please specify)		