

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE DIVISION[645]

Notice of Intended Action

**Proposing rulemaking related to discipline for psychologists
and providing an opportunity for public comment**

The Board of Psychology hereby proposes to rescind Chapter 242, “Discipline for Psychologists,” Iowa Administrative Code, and to adopt a new chapter with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 147.36, 147.76, 154B.13, 154B.14, 272C.3 and 272C.4.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapters 147, 154B, 272C and 17A.

Purpose and Summary

Proposed Chapter 242 provides protection to Iowans because it provides required professional standards for psychologists. This is important to both the public and to the licensee because it creates a shared understanding of what is and is not appropriate for certain types of licensed individuals in Iowa. When professional standards are not met, a licensee can be subject to discipline against the licensee’s license. Iowans have the ability to submit a complaint to the Board, which can then investigate the allegation. The Board has the ability to seek discipline against the licensee for those items outlined, ensuring that the public is protected.

The 19 boards in the legacy Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Bureau of Professional Licensure have similar disciplinary standards for all professions. For this reason, one shared disciplinary chapter has been created that applies to all professions. This chapter contains only those disciplinary grounds that are unique to the Board’s professions and are therefore excluded from the general disciplinary chapter.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Board for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 645—Chapter 18.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this proposed rulemaking. Written or oral comments in response to this rulemaking must be received by the Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 14, 2024. Comments should be directed to:

Tony Alden
Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Phone: 515.281.4401
Email: tony.alden@dia.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

Public hearings at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

February 13, 2024
9:20 to 9:40 a.m.

6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
Video call link:
meet.google.com/isb-pmab-qob
Phone numbers:
[tel.meet/isb-pmab-qob?pin=8352415222450](tel:meet/isb-pmab-qob?pin=8352415222450)

February 14, 2024
9:20 to 9:40 a.m.

6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
Video call link:
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Phone numbers:
[tel.meet/isb-pmab-qob?pin=8352415222450](tel:meet/isb-pmab-qob?pin=8352415222450)

Persons who wish to make oral comments at a public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rulemaking.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Board and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Rescind 645—Chapter 242 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 242
DISCIPLINE FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

645—242.1(147,272C) Grounds for discipline. The board may impose any of the disciplinary sanctions provided in Iowa Code section 272C.3 when the board determines that the licensee is guilty of any of the following acts or offenses or those listed in 645—Chapter 13:

Failure to comply with the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct of the American Psychological Association, as published in the December 2002 edition of American Psychologist and including amendments effective January 1, 2017, hereby adopted by reference. Copies of the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct may be obtained from the American Psychological Association's website at www.apa.org.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 147, 154B and 272C.