

***Health Professions Act***  
**PSYCHOLOGISTS REGULATION**

**PROPOSED**

**TO REPLACE**  
**B.C. REG. 289/2008**

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*PROPOSED AMENDMENT - PSYCHOLOGISTS REGULATION*

**Definitions**

**1** In this regulation:

**"Act"** means the *Health Professions Act*;

**"psychology"** means the health profession in which a person provides the following services:

- (a) the prevention and treatment of mental conditions and disorders;
- (b) the assessment, management and enhancement of an individual's developmental, behavioural, cognitive, emotional, intellectual and interpersonal functioning, primarily by using psychological assessment and intervention strategies such as psychometric testing and psychotherapy;

~~**"practice of psychology"** includes, for a fee or reward, monetary or otherwise,~~

- ~~(a) the provision, to individuals, groups, organizations or the public, of any service involving the application of principles, methods and procedures of understanding, predicting and influencing behaviour, including the principles of learning, perception, motivation, thinking, emotion and interpersonal relationships;~~
- ~~(b) the application of methods and procedures of interviewing, counselling, psychotherapy, behaviour therapy, behaviour modification, hypnosis or research, or~~
- ~~(c) the construction, administration and interpretation of tests of mental abilities, aptitudes, interests, opinions, attitudes, emotions, personality characteristics, motivations and psychophysiological characteristics, and the assessment or diagnosis of behavioural, emotional and mental disorder.~~

**"psychology diagnosis"** means the following:

- (a) a clinical judgement of an individual's mental condition or disorder made for one or more of the following purposes:
  - (i) to determine whether the condition or disorder can be ameliorated or resolved by appropriate interventions of the registrant to achieve outcomes for which the registrant is accountable;

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- (ii) to determine whether the individual should be referred to another person who practises a designated health profession or social work;
  - (iii) to report findings to be used as evidence, including by a person responsible for determining the individual's eligibility for a benefit or service or in a legal proceeding;
  - (iv) any other purpose related to a service a registrant is authorized to provide;
- (b) a school psychology diagnosis

**"school psychology"** means the health profession in which a person provides the following services:

- (a) the use of the theories and principles of psychology for the purpose of understanding and assessing an individual's developmental, behavioural, cognitive, emotional, intellectual and interpersonal needs as those needs relate to the individual's ability to learn and function in a learning environment;
- (b) the creation, protection and promotion of learning environments that facilitate learning and intellectual health;

**"school psychology diagnosis"** means a clinical judgement of an individual's mental condition or disorder as it relates to learning and intellectual health for a purpose referred to in paragraph (a) of the definition of "psychology diagnosis".

**College name**

2 The name "College of Psychologists of British Columbia" is the name of the college established under section 15 (1) of the Act for psychology.

**Reserved titles**

- 3 (1) The following titles are reserved for exclusive use by registrants:
- (a) psychologist
  - (b) school psychologist

- ~~(1) The following titles are reserved for exclusive use by registrants:~~
- ~~(a) registered psychological associate;~~
  - ~~(b) psychological associate;~~

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- ~~(c) registered psychologist;~~
- ~~(d) psychologist.~~

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person who is not a registrant may use the title "psychologist", and a society whose members are not registrants may incorporate the words "psychology", "psychological" or "psychologist" in their title or designation, if that person is, or the members of that society are,

- ~~(a) practising the profession in the course of the person's employment with a board or council under the *Health Authorities Act* or with a community health services society, designated by the minister for the purposes of this paragraph, incorporated under the *Society Act*;~~
- (a) teaching, lecturing or engaging in research as a psychologist if those activities are carried out by reason of, and in the course of, duties under an academic appointment or program in a university as defined by the *University Act*, or
- ~~(c) acting in the course of employment by
  - ~~(i) a provincial, federal or municipal government or government agency;~~
  - ~~(ii) an authority as defined in the *Independent School Act*;~~
  - ~~(iii) a francophone education authority as defined in the *School Act*; or~~
  - ~~(iv) a board of school trustees constituted under the *School Act*;~~if qualifications in psychology are a condition of such employment.~~

**Comment [BCH1]:**

Upon deposit the current wording would be repealed and come into force as:

(1) The title "psychologist" is reserved for exclusive use by registrants.

On September 1, 2020 this wording would be repealed and replaced with the wording as outlined in this redline of proposed changes.

(1) The following titles are reserved for

exclusive use by registrants:

(a) psychologist

(b) school psychologist

**Scope of practice**

4 A registrant may practise psychology.

**Patient relations program**

5 The College is designated for the purposes of section 16 (2) (f) of the Act.

**Restricted activities**

**Comment [BCH2]:**

Repeal of 3(2)(c) would come into force effective September 1, 2020.

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- 6** (1) A registrant who is a psychologist may, in the course of practising psychology, make a psychology diagnosis identifying a mental condition or disorder as the cause of the signs or symptoms of an individual.
- (2) A registrant who is a school psychologist may, in the course of practising school psychology within a learning environment, make a school psychology diagnosis identifying a mental condition or disorder as it relates to learning and intellectual health as the cause of the signs or symptoms of an individual within that environment.
- (3) Only a registrant may provide a service that includes the performance of an activity set out in subsection (1) or (2).