

# Commission on Accreditation Update (2020)

## **CoA Leadership**

- **Cindy L. Juntunen, PhD**  
**Chair**
- **Cami K. McBride, PhD**  
**Associate Chair,  
Program Review**
- **Georita M. Frierson, PhD**  
**Associate Chair,  
Quality Assurance**

## **Commissioners Representing Professional Education and Training in Psychology**

### **National Council of Schools of Professional Psychology**

- **William Hathaway, PhD**
- **Stephanie C. Wood, PhD**

### **BEA/NCSP**

- **Gilbert H. Newman, PhD**

# Agenda

- ☐ **The APA Commission on Accreditation**
- ☐ **Call for Site Visitors**
- ☐ **Current and Future Directions**
- ☐ **Questions**



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# The Commission on Accreditation

- ❑ **32-member body representing broad constituencies; accredits doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology.**
- ❑ **Reviews for consistency with the Standards of Accreditation in Health Service Psychology (SoA; HSP); sets policies and procedures for accreditation.**
- ❑ **As of November 20, 2019, 1,201 programs in HSP were accredited.**
  - **395 Doctoral Programs**
    - **240 Clinical**
    - **73 Counseling**
    - **68 School**
    - **14 Combined**
  - **642 Internship Programs**
  - **164 Postdoctoral Residency Programs**
    - **93 Clinical, 38 Neuropsychology, 13 Clinical Health, 7 Clinical Child, 9 Rehabilitation, 3 Geropsychology and 1 Forensic**

# Call for Site Visitors

- ☐ There is a need for a robust cadre of site visitors (SV), including generalist visitors, and HSPs at all levels of education and training.
- ☐ SV are vital to the accreditation process and benefits the profession.
- ☐ Upcoming site visitor workshops are listed on the Commission's [website](#). Those completing site visit training receive 7.5 CE credits.
- ☐ Completing a SV and submitting required materials awards 25 Continuing Education (CE) credits (25 CE hours for completion of 1 visit per year).
- ☐ Other methods of recognition are being explored and implemented – these include letters of recognition, which are now being sent to all SV.
- ☐ For more information on site visitor training or service, please contact the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation (202.336.5979).



# Current Information and Future Directions

**Public Disclosure of CoA Decisions  
(Accreditation Operating Procedures, § 5)**

**Implementing Regulations**

**MA Accreditation**



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# Disclosure of CoA Decisions\*

- ▶ Modifications to AOP (§ 5) – inclusion of deferrals in Executive Summary and reporting requirements in Program Search Tool
  - ▶ CoA decisions including accreditation actions, deferrals, and adverse actions, and a list of any standards to which a program is required to respond, will be disclosed in the directory of accredited programs on the accreditation website. (AOP, § 5)

\*Note: Changes made to comply with recognition standards.

# Executive Summary

- ▶ At its DATE meeting, the APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA) reviewed the (degree level, substantive area and type) program at (institution and location). The CoA had concerns about the program that in CoA's professional judgment could result in a decision to place the accredited program on probation. In accord with the Accreditation Operating Procedures (AOP), the Commission has deferred its final decision, and has given written notice to the program of the CoA concerns. The program is provided an opportunity to supplement its record before a decision is made by providing a written response to show cause why a probation decision should not be reached. The program is to submit additional information as noted in the standards listed below and is scheduled for review at the (DATE) meeting.

## Student Admissions, Outcomes and Other Data

[View Info](#)

## Standards for Reporting

**D.II.B.1.b:** Profession-wide competencies include certain competencies required for all students who graduate from programs accredited in health service psychology. Programs must provide opportunities for all of their students to achieve and demonstrate each required profession-wide competency. Although in general, the competencies appearing at or near the top of the following list serve as foundations upon which later competencies are built, each competency is considered critical for graduates in programs accredited in health service psychology. The specific requirements for each competency are articulated in Implementing Regulations. Because science is at the core of health service psychology, programs must demonstrate that they rely on the current evidence-base when training students in the following competency areas. Students must demonstrate competence in: i. Research ii. Ethical and legal standards iii. Individual and cultural diversity iv. Professional values, attitudes, and behaviors v. Communication and interpersonal skills vi. Assessment vii. Intervention viii. Supervision ix. Consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills



# Implementing Regulations of Interest

	Doctoral	Internship	Postdoctoral
Consortium		IR C- 28 I	IR C-24 P
Diversity	IR C-21 D	IR C-19 I	IR C-6 P
Trainee Admissions, Support, and Outcome Data – Employment Status		IR C-27 I	IR C-23 P
Interim Reporting	IR D-4.8 (a)	IR D-4.8 (b)	IR D-4.8 (c)
Profession Wide Competencies			IR C-9 P
Expected Internship Placements for Students in Accredited Doctoral Programs	IR C-17 D		



# MA Accreditation

- ▶ APA is pursuing accrediting programs in HSP at the Master's degree level
- ▶ CoA is preparing accreditation standards
  - ▶ When prepared, these standards will be presented through the public comment process
  - ▶ When developed will be submitted for APA CoR approval
- ▶ CoA will examine structure and processes of the accrediting body prior to standard adoption and implementation of program review

# Common Reasons Programs Receive Reporting Requirements

- ▶ **Recruitment and Retention Efforts  
Focused on Diversity**
  - ▶ **Proximal and Distal Data**
    - ▶ **Supervision**
- ▶ **These were reported on last year  
and have been included here if  
there are questions about them.**



QUESTIONS?

# OPCA Contact Information

- ▶ Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
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Washington, DC 20002-4242
  - ▶ Telephone: (202) 336-5979
- ▶ [apaaccred@apa.org](mailto:apaaccred@apa.org) (General Questions)  
[aro@apa.org](mailto:aro@apa.org) (Annual Report Online only)



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