NASP Professional Standards/Training

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NASP Program Approval

The National Association of School Psychologists is pleased to provide a review and approval service to graduate programs in school psychology. This service can be accessed via NASP's affiliation with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Programs in NCATE institutions and programs not in NCATE institutions may submit for consideration for NASP-approved status.

NASP program review and approval is part of the association's commitment to serving the mental health and educational interests of all children and youth by promoting the preparation of competent professionals in accordance with national standards of quality.

NASP approval confers multiple advantages to programs and program graduates. Such approval provides recognition for programs that meet national standards for the graduate education of professional service providers in school psychology. Program approval is an important indicator of quality training, comprehensive content, and extensive, properly supervised field experiences as judged by trained national reviewers.

Another advantage of program approval, especially for program graduates, is its link to National Certification in School Psychology. Graduates of approved programs are assured eligibility for the National Certificate in School Psychology (NCSP), pending the completion of an internship consistent with NASP standards and the attainment of a passing score on the National School Psychology Examination administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) as part of the Praxis II Series. The graduates of non-NASP approved programs also are eligible to apply for national certification but must submit extensive documentation that their training is consistent with NCSP requirements.

Please note that reviews are conducted during fall and spring cycles. A program's submission of materials must be received by **September 15th** for the fall review cycle. A program's submission of materials must be received by **February 1st** for the spring review cycle.   NASP will notify the program director or other contact person listed on the cover page of the submission when the submission materials have been received. Typically, fall cycle review reports are sent to programs by January 15th; spring cycle review reports typically are sent by July 15th.

NASP is committed to assisting training programs in the process of self-evaluation and development as well as in preparing and submitting materials for program review and approval. Various documents and support materials are available to assist in this process, including the following:

BEGINNING IN 2007, all programs submitting full reviews for consideration for initial approval or re-approval must use an online submission process to correspond to NCATE's online submission requirements:

- **Update Fall 2007 -** Instructions for NASP Online Program Submissions
- **NEW SPRING 2007 -** Online Report Form for NASP Program Approval

Additional helpful resources include:

- NASP Standards for Training and Field Placement Programs in School Psychology (2000)
- **NEW OCTOBER 2006   -** A Guide for Performance-Based Assessment, Accountability, and Program Development in School Psychology Training Programs (2nd edition, 2006)

- [Submission Deadlines for NASP Program Approval](#)
- [Fee Payment Form](#) (the $500 fee is required for programs that are not in units accredited or undergoing review by NCATE)
- **NEW SPRING 2007 -** [NASP Online Submission Samples](#)
- **NEW SPRING 2007 -** [NASP Assessment Samples Handbook (2nd edition)](#)
- [Notice for APA Accredited Doctoral Programs](#) (abbreviated review process)
- [NASP-Supported Consultation Mini-Grants to School Psychology Programs in Historically Black and Other High Minority Enrollment Institutions](#)

The following materials were used for paper folio submissions for NASP approval, a process that was used previously. However, please note that, beginning in 2007, all programs submitting a full review for initial approval or re-approval will submit their program materials ONLINE, using the procedures described above. Programs currently holding conditional approval or 3 year approval should follow the instructions for their next submissions found in the most recent decision letter sent to them by the NASP Program Approval Board. If your most recent decision letter instructs you to submit a PAPER folio for a conditional rejoinder of three year review, you will find the following materials useful:

- [Program Approval Board Policies and Procedures](#) (2004)
- [Preparing Program Materials for NASP Review: Some Questions and Answers](#) (2001)
- [NASP/NCATE Program Review Cover Sheet](#)
- [NASP Matrix](#) (optional tool for program responses to standards)
- [A Guide for Performance-Based Assessment, Accountability, and Program Development in School Psychology Training Programs](#) (1st edition, 2001)
- [NASP Checklist for Performance Assessment](#)
- [Sample Folio I](#)
- [Sample Folio II](#)

I am happy to assist programs via telephone or e-mail, and/or to refer programs to individuals who are willing to provide more extensive consultation to programs for a fee. Such consultants would not officially represent NASP in this capacity, nor would they be involved in any subsequent NASP review of the program.

I hope the information about applying for NASP program approval is helpful. Please feel free to contact Dr. Joan Bohmann, Director, NASP Professional Standards and Continuing Professional Development (phone: 301-657-0270; e-mail: jbohmann@naspweb.org) or Dr. Pat Harrison, Chair of NASP Program Approval Board (phone: 205-348-7583; e-mail: nasppab@bamaed.ua.edu) if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Patti L. Harrison, Ph.D., NCSP
Chair, Program Approval Board

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