



Kernersville Psychological Evaluation Services, PLLC

Dana M. Truman-Schram
851 Old Winston Road, Suite 107
Kernersville, NC 27284
(336) 480-1955

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am an LPA licensed by the NC Psychology Board since 1997. I graduated with an M.A. from UNCC's Clinical/Community Psychology program. I was licensed as an LPA in Texas from 2001-2006. I passed the EPPP above the doctoral level threshold. I have been supervised for 22 years of practice at this point in my career.

I am writing this letter in emphatic support of the NC Psychology Board proposed rule changes addressing supervision (21 NCAC 54 .2008). These rule changes would finally allow LPAs more parity with other master's level clinicians in the state (e.g., LPCs, LCSWs, LMFTs).

Due to supervision status, individually practicing LPAs are ineligible for several insurance panels such as United Healthcare, Aetna, TriCare and even Medicare. LPAs are also excluded from volunteer opportunities such as disaster relief with the Red Cross because we are not considered independently licensed. This is extremely frustrating for the qualified, competent LPAs, not to mention a waste of untapped resources for the public.

Independently licensed LPAs would be an amazing expansion of psychological therapy and evaluation resources to the public. Consumers struggle to find quality psychological services, especially psychological testing. Imagine how many more citizens of N.C. could access these desperately needed services in a timely fashion when access to independently licensed psychological associates becomes a reality.

I think it is important to point out to those who for some reason are hesitant to adopt these changes (or even vocally oppose them) that even when these revisions are approved, LPAs will still have more stringent supervision criteria to work through than any other master's level licensing requirements in NC (i.e., LPC, LCSW, LMFT). There will still be a tiered supervision progression and LPAs would have to demonstrate competency at level 3 before being considered for independent licensure.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or expansion on my thoughts outlined here.

Respectfully,

Dana M. Truman-Schram, M.A.
Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA#2150)
Health Services Provider (HSP-PA)