

## NO Reply

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**From:** John Hooper <johndhooper@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 7:41 PM  
**To:** NO Reply  
**Cc:** Ncapp; John H  
**Subject:** supervision 21 NCAC 54 .2008 input

Hello, I am John Hooper, MA, LPA. I have been in practice for a few decades, and meet with my supervising psychologist as mandated.

I used to tell people that asked about the field of psychology that this is an area worth considering, not anymore...

While I have continued to provide services, I have absolutely struggled due to the perpetual supervision requirement. My ability to bill insurance is significantly hindered compared to every other masters trained provider, including pastoral counselors, LPCs, marriage and family counselors, masters trained social workers, etc.

I continue to provide services, but can not provide services to most individuals covered under insurance plans reimbursing for independent masters trained practitioners only. I routinely receive calls asking that I provide services for various individuals covered under most health insurance carriers, but always have to respond to individuals and referral sources that I can not participate with many insurance plans, "in network", because I can not be credentialed due to perpetual supervision (again, LPAs are the only discipline with this requirement). This has always resulted in individuals having to change to a new provider due to their ability to be considered independent practitioners.

I have always thought that LPAs have lost motivation to practice, while feeling that we are more educated and trained than other providers offering independent practitioner services to the population we all serve. I also strongly believe that many individuals go "untreated" due to a lack of providers in many areas that can offer services as independent practitioners, due to a lack of providers, financial concerns, etc.

Should the NC Psychology Board allow LPAs to practice independently, after a length of supervision, this will put the profession of psychology "in line" with all other psychotherapy and other providers, will offer affordable services to many, and will allow LPAs the same level provider status as other mainstream mental health providers.

I am hopeful that the North Carolina Psychology Board will support and pass current perpetual supervision mandate, allowing parity within the discipline, allow cost effective services, and recognize that Licensed Psychological Associates are trained at a level consistent with other masters trained disciplines that have provided services over the past decades.

John Hooper, MA, Licensed Psychological Associate

Sent from my iPad