

Angela J. Speck
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October 1, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I am an LPA Licensed by the NC Psychology Board since 2017 and have held a School Psychology licensure through the NC Department of Public Instruction since 2012. I completed my graduate work at Edinboro University in Edinboro, PA, graduating with a Master of Education in Educational Psychology in 2011 and an Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology in 2012. I passed the EPPP above the doctoral level threshold, on my first attempt.

I am writing this letter in support of the NC Psychology Board proposed rule changes addressing supervision (21 NCAC 54 .2008). These rule changes would 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 Medicare. Independently licensed LPAs would provide an expansion of psychological services to the public.

Although I am a relatively new LPA, I have been a practicing School Psychologist for approximately seven years. Additionally, my graduate program required a minimum of a 1200-hour internship, prior to graduation, during which I received supervision in all areas of my practice. While working for a local board of education in North Carolina, I am not required to obtain supervision. However, to do that same work as a contracted employee with a local board of education, I am currently required to obtain one hour of supervision each week. I find it hard to believe that my professional competence changes based on who employs me. Living in a rural area, with limited resources, it is difficult to find willing and able supervisors to provide the required face-to-face supervision. Additionally, the cost and time associated with career-long supervision is an unnecessary burden.

I trust that the benefits of adopting the proposed changes to supervision are realized.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela J. Speck', with a stylized, cursive script.

Angela J. Speck, Ed.S.
Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA # 5138)
Health Services Provider (HSP-PA)