



# Saskatchewan College of Psychologists

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## Assessment Process and Rating Form for Authorized Practice Endorsement (APE) under the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)

### **A Description of Policy and Related SCP Endorsed Procedures for the Judgment of Knowledge, Skill and Ability for Authorized Practice Endorsement (APE) under the Psychologists Act 1997**

The following material provides guidance for supervisors/assessors and applicants regarding APE requirements.

- 1) Direction regarding applying for the APE qualification under the MRA.
- 2) Section 12 of the Regulatory Bylaws of the Psychologists Act 1997, which identifies the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to perform APE are described.
- 3) The **Rating Form for Supervisors or Assessors - Appraisal of APE Competence of MRA Applicants** Psychologist.

#### **Who should use this form?**

Supervising or assessing Psychologists dealing with applicants

- at the end of a period of “supervised practice,” or
- Qualified Psychologists from the home jurisdiction who are assessing the diagnostic competence of the APE applicant who is licensed as a Full Practice Psychologist or equivalent in that jurisdiction.

#### **Note for Applicants**

The applicant must be eligible for or have been granted Full Practice status in this jurisdiction to apply for the APE endorsement. The Registration Committee of the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists (SCP) reserves the right to require examination of the applicant in the area of diagnostics, regardless of the applicant’s MRA status.

If an applicant does not qualify for consideration of the APE under the MRA they may apply for the endorsement as a new applicant which will require examination. Until such time as the APE is awarded all applicants providing diagnostic services must be under the supervision and co-signature of a Full Practice member of the SCP who has the APE on their license or a qualified medical practitioner.

## Eligibility to Recommend Applicants for APE to the College

The supervising/assessing Psychologist shall be:

- a) A Full Practice Psychologist within the home jurisdiction and qualified to provide diagnoses, and
- b) demonstrated to share the same declared area(s) of practice competence as those identified by the applicant for APE.

## General Comments about APE Competency

The knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) listed below were identified within the MRA by the National regulators of Psychology as necessary for the independent practice of Psychology. For new registrants to the SCP, the KSAs are expected to be part of a coherent supervision process identified in an SCP approved Supervision Plan. Many of the necessary KSA areas have been identified as universal for all applicants for Full Practice of psychology nationally.

APE qualification is unique to Saskatchewan. Diagnostic competence is a controlled act within the legislation governing the profession in Saskatchewan and therefore there must be a separate process for application and endorsement. Only those individuals who have been awarded Full Practice membership are eligible to apply for, and to receive, the endorsement.

## PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION UNDER THE MRA

1. Acquire access to a Full Practice member of the home jurisdiction who is qualified to formulate and convey diagnoses within their practice, who shares the same claimed areas of practice competence as the applicant, and who is willing to provide an assessment.
2. The assessing Psychologist is to complete a written detailed summary of already acquired knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for the APE, using as a guide the rating categories identified below in the SCP document ***Rating Form for Supervisors or Assessors - Appraisal of APE Competence of MRA Applicants***. (Copy to be signed by candidate and assessor and filed with SCP).
3. The applicant must complete and submit the ***Application Form for the Authorized Practice Endorsement (APE) under the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)*** and the ***Self Report of APE Competence*** form.
4. Submit a \$100 application and processing fee to the SCP, or any such fee which the Council may declare, when submitting the ***Rating Form for Supervisors or Assessors - Appraisal of APE Competence of MRA Applicants*** and the ***Application for the Authorized Practice Endorsement (APE) Under the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)*** and the ***Self Report of APE Competence*** forms.

5. If the applicant has not previously acquired the complete set of KSAs necessary for APE, the Registration Committee has within its authority to require a period of supervision under an approved Supervision Plan and supervisor and/or an oral examination. **An applicant may still be awarded a Full Practice license without the APE if they are not eligible for the APE under the terms and agreements outlined within the MRA.**
6. The endorsing Psychologist is responsible for the competence of the Full Practice member who is endorsed. It is important to note that inadequate diagnostic performance by the recommended applicant may create liability for the endorsing member.
7. In the event the APE is not awarded, any written communication of a diagnosis by a member of the SCP, unless previously established by a qualified member or a licensed physician, must be co-signed by a qualified Full Practice Psychologist, as only a member qualified with APE may communicate a diagnosis.
8. When the supervising/qualified Full Practice Psychologist and the applicant concur that the KSAs for APE have been acquired, the supervising/qualified Full Practice Psychologist shall again complete and submit the **Rating Form for Supervisors or Assessors - Appraisal of APE Competence of MRA Applicants** and the applicant shall again complete and submit the **Application for the Authorized Practice Endorsement (APE) Under the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)** and **Self Report of APE Competence** forms. An acceptable final appraisal shall occur when all KSAs are rated acceptable or better, and the APE appraising Psychologist is prepared to endorse and affirm the applicants overall competence to perform APE.
9. The re-submitted application materials will again be reviewed by the Registration Committee of the SCP for either endorsement of eligibility for examination or in rare cases for the awarding of the APE outright.

## AUTHORIZED PRACTICE

(Bylaw 12(1) of the Regulatory Bylaws made under the Psychologists Act 1997)

### Authorized Practice

12(1) A member who wishes to perform an authorized practice, as defined in section 23 of the Act, shall:

- (a) apply for an Authorized Practice Endorsement on his or her license;
- (b) pay the prescribed application fee; and
- (c) meet the following requirements:
  - (i) knowledge of:
    - (A) psychopathology or abnormal psychology;
    - (B) personality and Individual differences;
    - (C) psychological assessment; and
    - (D) psychodiagnostics;
  - (ii) skill in:
    - (A) establishing therapeutic rapport;
    - (B) eliciting information through interviewing
    - (C) assessing fundamental psychological processes such as mental state, cognition, emotions and behaviours;
    - (D) formulating and testing diagnostic hypotheses;
    - (E) communicating diagnostic Information clearly and sensitively; and
    - (F) assessment of change in relevant psychological processes;
  - (iii) formal training that includes:
    - (A) course work and supervised experience in administering and interpreting assessment materials for a diverse range of problems;
    - (B) either course work or supervised experience, or a combination of the two, in interviewing techniques;
    - (C) training in formulating and testing diagnostic hypotheses in a practice setting;
    - (D) supervised expedience in communicating sensitive Information; and
    - (E) either course work or supervised experience, or a combination of the two, in assessment of change in order to evaluate the effectiveness of Interventions.

(2) For the purposes of clause (1)(c):

- (a) the knowledge component set out in paragraph (A) Is understood to encompass knowledge of problems of learning, behaviour and mental ability;
- (b) the knowledge component set out In paragraph (B) Is understood to encompass knowledge of psycho-social and life-span development;
- (c) the knowledge component set out in paragraph (D) is understood to encompass knowledge of psycho-educational diagnostic techniques and Interventions.

## Rating Form for Supervisors or Assessors

### Appraisal of APE Competence of MRA Applicants

*Instruction for assessors/supervisors:* For each required area of knowledge below, please place an X in the rating grid immediate below for the judgment that applies. This Rating Form is to accompany the relevant APE application form co-signed by the applicant and you. This form also requires an overall judgment and both signatures on the final page.

#### Knowledge of:

- **Psychopathology or abnormal psychology**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Personality and Individual differences**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Psychological assessment**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Psychodiagnostics**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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#### OVERALL APPRAISAL OF STATE OF KNOWLEDGE:

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT acceptable
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#### Skill in:

- **Establishing therapeutic rapport**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Eliciting Information through interviewing**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Assessing fundamental psychological processes such as mental state, cognition, emotions and behaviours**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Formulating and testing diagnostic hypotheses**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Communicating diagnostic information clearly and sensitively**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- **Assessment of change in relevant psychological processes**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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#### OVERALL APPRAISAL OF DEGREE OF SKILL:

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT acceptable
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**Formal training that includes:**

- Course work and supervised experience in administering and interpreting assessment materials for a diverse range of problems

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- Either course work or supervised experience, or a combination of the two, in interviewing techniques

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- Training in formulating and testing diagnostic hypotheses in a practice setting

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- Supervised experience in communicating sensitive information

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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- Either course work or supervised experience, or a combination of the two, in assessment of change in order to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT adequate
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**OVERALL APPRAISAL OF ADEQUACY OF FORMAL TRAINING:**

Very Good	Good	Acceptable	NOT acceptable
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**SUMMARY JUDGMENT OF PREPARATION FOR INDEPENDENT APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND ABILITY NECESSARY FOR SAFE AND JUDICIOUS AUTHORIZED PRACTICE (Assessor to place X and his or her initials in the appropriate box below)**

<p>It is my considered judgement and knowledge that the applicant is capable of performing competently and has performed Authorized Practice independently in their practice as a Psychologist in accordance with the description given in the APE Policy and Procedures Guidelines.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____</p>	<p>The applicant is capable of performing, and has performed competently under my supervision, the Authorized Practice in accordance with the description given in the APE Policy and Procedures Guidelines. It is my considered judgement that the applicant is capable of practising the Authorized Practice competently and independently</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____</p>	<p>It is my considered judgement that the applicant is NOT capable of practising the Authorized Practice competently and independently and SHOULD NOT PRACTICE INDEPENDENTLY AT THIS TIME.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____</p>
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Assessor's Name (printed)

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Applicant's Name (printed)

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Assessor's Signature

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Applicant's Signature