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JAMAICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY


SCOPE OF PRACTICE

FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS AND COUNSELLORS IN JAMAICA

DOCUMENT HISTORY

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		community psychology		Committee
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Definition of Psychologist and Counsellor

A **psychologist** in Jamaica is defined as one who renders / offers to render, to individuals, groups, organizations or the public, any psychological service involving the application of psychological knowledge, principles, methods and procedures of understanding, predicting, ameliorating, or influencing behaviour, affect or cognition.

A **counsellor** in Jamaica is a mental health practitioner who offers guidance and expertise in the areas of human growth and development, career, adjustment problems, diversity, and multicultural issues through the use of systemic intervention strategies that address wellness, personal growth, career development and pathology.


Such practice is undertaken within a psychologist's and counsellor's area and level of expertise and with due regard to ethical and training standards outlined by the Jamaican Psychological Society (JamPsych) and its code of ethics, the laws of Jamaica, as well as standards prescribed by the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine (CPAM).

1.2 The Organization of Psychologists and Counsellors

The Jamaican Psychological Society (JamPsych) is the registry for psychologists and counsellors practicing in Jamaica. It is recognized by the CPAM to represent psychologists and counsellors and their attending issues, however this excludes School Guidance Counsellors who are represented by a different body.

1.3 Categories of Psychologists and Counsellors

CPAM licenses psychological professionals based on 4 categories of Psychologists: **Clinical psychologists, Counselling psychologists, Applied-Social psychologists and Educational OR School psychologists.** Within these categories, psychologists operate at 2 different levels:

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- i. **Masters (Licensed Associate Psychologists)** or
- ii. **Doctoral level (Licensed Psychologists)**

CPAM licenses counselling professionals based on 1 category of Counsellor (Licensed Professional Counsellor) at 2 different levels:

- i. **Masters** (Licensed Associate Professional Counsellor)
- ii. **Doctoral level** (Licensed Professional Counsellor)

At each level psychologists and counsellors may practice independently based on their training and supervised experience or practice as either an Associate Psychologist (Supervised Practice) or Psychologist (Supervised Practice) until the requisite hours are obtained and an upgrade is requested to any of the other relevant categories. (proposed, but not yet approved/ratified)

Please note that this Scope of Practice covers all psychological and counselling practitioners that deal directly with the public and conduct interventions, including but not limited to counselling, psychotherapy, organization-related intervention, and/or testing, measurement and assessments and **NOT** for example, experimental psychologists, research psychologists or lecturers whose sole function is to conduct experiments, research, lecture and other non-interventional functions.


1.4 Application for Licensure

First-time applicants for licensure as a psychologist or counsellor in any category or applicants trying to change their licensure status must submit to the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine, Ministry of Health the following documentation:

- a) Completed application form
- b) Two character references one of which should be written by a professional psychologist in good standing
- c) Proof of degree (including practicum) requirements from a programme accredited by the University Council of Jamaica or for persons studying outside of Jamaica, accreditation by the recognized accrediting body in that country to include:
 - Certified copy of diploma / degree / certification
 - Certified copy of Masters or Doctoral transcripts

NB: Persons may be required to have their qualifications validated by the University Council of Jamaica or other accrediting body

- d) For Psychologists:
 - Proof of supervision requirements post degree conferment (2,500 hours for doctoral level; 2,500 hours for Masters level applicants) which may include pre-doctoral internship hours and Masters practicum hours.


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- Documents (e.g. log sheets, evaluation forms, letters) signed by a Licensed Associate Psychologist or a Licensed Associate Professional Counsellor (for Masters level applicants only) a Licensed Psychologist or a Licensed Professional Counsellor.
 - For applicants seeking licensure who conduct psychological testing & measurement, their transcripts and / or continuing education units (CEUs) should show evidence of significant training in psychological assessments and at least 30% of their supervised logged hours should be in psychological assessments and clearly documented in evidence provided.
- e) For Counsellors:
- Proof of supervision requirements post degree conferment (2,500 hours for doctoral level; 2,500 hours for Masters level applicants) which may include pre-doctoral internship hours and Masters practica hours:
 - Documents (e.g. log sheets, evaluation forms, letters) signed by a Licensed Associate Counsellor or a Licensed Associate Psychologist (for Masters level applicants only), a Licensed Professional Counsellor, Clinical or Counselling Psychologist.
 - For applicants seeking licensure who conduct psychological testing & measurement, their transcripts and / or continuing education units (CEUs) should show evidence of significant training in psychological assessments and at least 30% of their supervised logged hours should be in psychological assessments and clearly documented in evidence provided.
- f) For foreign nationals, who met the requirements for licensure in a country outside of Jamaica, a supervision log indicating at least 500 supervised hours in Jamaica will be required
- g) Non-refundable application fee of \$4,000 submitted to the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine (CPAM) (subject to change by CPAM)

These documents will be reviewed by the JamPsych representative that sits on the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine, further reviewed by the Licensure Committee of JamPsych and then finally approved by the Council which will issue the license.

Although membership in JamPsych is not a mandatory requirement, we highly recommend that psychologists and counsellors cultivate active membership in our professional association in order to remain current, access pertinent information, to aid your professional development, be apprised of matters related to licensure and to access the many member benefits.


1.5 Licensure Renewal

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Licensure renewal is required every year. Applicants for renewal in the same category of licensure will only be required to furnish the following documents:

- Completed application form
- Proof of 18 hours of CEUs, over the past year, which should include ethics, and trauma-related course as evidenced by certificates from completed courses, or workshops or seminars
 - **CEUs are NOT required upon first-time renewal of registration**
 - **NOTE: For Applied-Social category, the trauma-related courses are not mandatory.**
- Non-refundable renewal fee of \$2,500 (subject to change by CPAM)



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2.0 THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The Scope of Practice for the categories of psychologists and counsellors is as follows:


2.1 Clinical Psychology

The Practice of **Clinical Psychology** has several sub-specialty areas (e.g. **Clinical Health, Neuropsychology, Forensic Psychology, Child Psychology**) and includes:

1. **Testing and measurement**, which consists of the psychological evaluation or assessment of personal characteristics such as intelligence, abilities, interests, aptitudes, achievements, motives, personality dynamics, and psycho-educational processes. Clinical Psychologist are able to conduct assessments at Levels A, B and C according to their training (see section on Psychometric Competence).
2. **Diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders**, which consists of the appropriate diagnosis of mental disorders according to standards of the profession and the ordering or providing of treatments according to need. Treatment can include providing counselling, psychotherapy, marital and family therapy, group therapy, behaviour therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnosis, biofeedback, and other psychological interventions with the objective of modification of perception, adjustment, attitudes, feelings, values, self-concept, personality or personal goals, the treatment of alcoholism and substance abuse, disorders of habit or conduct, as well as of the psychological aspects of physical illness, pain, injury or disability.
3. **Psychological consulting**, which consists of interpreting or reporting on scientific theory or research in psychology, evaluation, or engaging in Applied-Social psychological research, programme or organizational development, administration, supervision or evaluation of psychological services.
4. The **evaluation or assessment of neuropsychological functioning** and treatment of neuropsychological disorders.
5. The rendering of **expert psychological opinion and testimony**.

NB: Associate Clinical Psychologists are competent to independently administer therapeutic care, counselling, provide consultation services for individuals or families, in non-specialty areas so long as their training and supervised experience allows for same.

However, Associate Clinical Psychologists do **not** perform psychological consulting to agencies, or organizations, give expert witness testimony, or perform psychological testing and measurement unless they are supervised by a Licensed Clinical or Counselling Psychologist with relevant training and experience.

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Persons may also maintain particular sub-specialties in their training, such as Forensic Psychologist, Neuropsychologist and Clinical Health Psychologist. At this time, the CPAM does not license at the subspecialty levels but all these individuals will be eligible for licensure as Clinical Psychologists and will be eligible to perform their subspecialty duties in these areas according to their competencies.

2.2 Counselling Psychology


The Practice of **Counselling Psychology** includes:

1. **Diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders**, which consists of the appropriate diagnosis of mental disorders according to standards of the profession and the ordering or providing of treatments according to need. Treatment can include providing counselling, psychotherapy, marital and family therapy, group therapy, behaviour therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnosis, biofeedback, and other psychological interventions with the objective of modification of perception, adjustment, attitudes, feelings, values, self-concept, personality or personal goals, the treatment of alcoholism and substance abuse, disorders of habit or conduct, as well as of the psychological aspects of physical illness, pain, injury or disability.
2. **Psychological consulting**, which consists of interpreting or reporting on scientific theory or research in psychology, evaluation, or engaging in Applied-Social psychological research, programme or organizational development, administration, supervision or evaluation of psychological services.
3. The rendering of **expert psychological opinion and testimony**

NB¹: Depending on the applicant's programme of study and relevant supervised experience, some Counselling Psychologists, with training in psychometrics may be permitted to engage in psychological **testing and measurement**. Based on evaluations of transcripts, CEUs and supervised log hours, counselling psychologists may be granted a license to conduct psychological **testing & measurement**.

NB²: Associate Counselling Psychologists are competent to independently administer therapeutic care, counselling, provide consultation services for individuals or families, in non-specialty areas so long as their training and supervised experience allows for same.

However, Associate Counselling Psychologists do **not** perform psychological consulting to agencies, or organizations, give expert witness testimony, or perform psychological testing and measurement unless they are supervised by a Licensed Clinical or Counselling Psychologist with relevant training and experience.

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2.3 Educational OR School Psychology

The Practice of **Educational OR School Psychology** includes:

1. **Testing and measurement** which consists of psychological assessment of children, adolescents and adults in terms of intellectual ability, aptitudes, achievement, adjustment, motivation, personality or any other psychological attributes that directly relates to learning or behavioural problems that impact education. Education/ School Psychologist are able to conduct assessments according to their training (see section on Psychometric Competence).
2. **Counselling**, which consists of professional advisement and interpretive services with children, adolescents and adults for amelioration or prevention of problems that impact education.
3. **Consultation**, which consists of educational or vocational consultation or direct educational services to schools, agencies, organizations or individuals. Psychological consulting as herein defined is directly related to problems that impact education.
4. **Development of programmes**, such as designing more efficient and psychologically sound classroom situations and acting as a catalyst for teacher involvement in adaptations and innovations.


NB: Associate Educational OR School Psychologists are competent to work within an educational setting providing counselling.

However, Associate Educational OR School Psychologists do **not** perform testing and measurement, unless they are supervised by a Licensed Psychologist with relevant training and experience.

2.4 Applied-Social Psychology

The Practice of **Applied-Social Psychology** includes application of the principles and methods of psychology in several sub-specialty areas such as community psychology, **sport psychology**, **health psychology** and **industrial-organizational psychology** for the general purpose of:

1. Understanding of social and practical problems
2. Program planning
3. The development and implementation of intervention strategies for improving the functioning of individuals, groups, organizations, communities, teams, and societies with respect to social and practical problems
4. Evaluating intervention strategies using advanced methods of Applied-Social research such as participatory action research;
5. Consultation on the development and application of these principles, skills, and methods.

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2.4.1 Industrial-Organizational Psychology


Industrial & Organizational Psychology incorporates the areas of Industrial Psychology, Organizational Psychology, Business Psychology, and Consulting Psychology, and includes the application of the principles and methods of psychology to:

- a) **Work Motivation:** Conditions within the individual and his or her environment that influence the direction, strength, and persistence of individual behaviours that have implications for performance
- b) **Organizational Diagnosis and Intervention:** An understanding of the complex nature of organizations, which allows for diagnosis of organizational problems and design and implementation of appropriate interventions.
- c) **Understanding Jobs and Job Performance:** Job analysis, criterion development, and performance management (i.e., methods of supporting, measuring and evaluating individuals as they perform organizational tasks)
- d) **Testing and measurement,** which consists of the psychological evaluation or assessment of personal characteristics such as intelligence, abilities, interests, aptitudes, achievements, motives, personality dynamics, and psycho-educational processes. I-O psychologists are able to conduct assessments according to their training (see section on Psychometric Competence).
- e) **Evaluating Psychological Interventions:** Conducting personnel selection research, assessing the effectiveness of training, and evaluating other interventions
- f) **Consultation** on the development and application of these principles, skills, and methods.
- g) **Executive Coaching and mentoring,** which includes the provision of individualized performance-related services that address psychological issues, life skills, and work-related competencies
- h) **Program planning, development, implementation and evaluation;**

2.4.2 Sports Psychology

The Practice of Applied **Sport Psychology** refers to “the application of psychological principles of human performance in helping athletes consistently perform in the upper range of their capabilities” and includes the following:

1. Personality profiling,
2. Assessing strengths and weaknesses in current mental approaches of individuals in the goal of refinement for optimal performance,
3. Helping key stakeholders such as managers and coaches promote an optimal environment for maximum team enjoyment,
4. Stress management,

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5. Weight and health management,
6. Assisting with life management strategies,
7. Teaching mental skills such as imagery and competition planning,
8. Offering individual consultations, as well as facilitating interactive workshops,
9. General mental health and performance counselling
10. Teaching, coaching and consulting

2.4.3 Health Psychology


The practice of Health Psychology refers to the exploration of factors that affect an individual's well-being, including biological, psychological and social impacts. Health psychologists study the various reactions of individuals when diagnosed with a particular disease, as well as factors that affect their treatment choices. They assist patients through chronic disease care, such as diabetes or substance abuse, and encourage a healthy lifestyle. Health psychologists perform assessments and conduct interviews, as well as develop and implement specialized client care programs in pain management, oncology and women's health. Therefore their role includes:

1. Conduct surveys, personality tests, interviews in order to assess individuals or group of clients
2. Conduct intervention which can pertain to chronic disease management, relaxation therapy or stress relief, with a goal of improving coping mechanisms and increasing social support.
3. Conduct research activity which is usually focuses on illness development and prevention, pain reduction and recovery factors.

2.4.4 Community Psychology

The practice of Community Psychology goes beyond an individual focus and integrates social, cultural, economic, political, environmental, and international influences to promote positive change, health, and empowerment at individual and systemic levels

- Teaching and supervising undergraduate and/or graduate students (as a professor)
- Conducting research. In the realm of community psychology, research may be qualified as “action-oriented,” “community-based” or an “ecological method”, characterized by interacting with members of a particular community
- Developing and implementing programs that benefit the health and wellness of a sector of the community, such as an employment program for single mothers or a crime prevention strategy in a particular neighborhood
- Evaluating the performance of or providing consultation services to agencies, services, workplaces and institutions that are serving a sector of the public

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- Communicating research results and expertise via presentations, reports, academic papers and other publications
- Analyzing and advancing public policy
- Advocating for disempowered groups
- Determining the immediate and long term needs of a particular community or organization.
- Collaborating with all relevant stakeholders, from scientists, social workers, faculty members and hospital specialists to psychiatrists, statisticians, service agencies, legal professionals and members of the community

NB¹: Associate Applied-Social Psychologists are competent to engage in individual and group interventions for the purpose of enhancing performance in organizations and schools, including coaching, teaching, life management, mental health counselling (**if so trained**), and performance counselling.


However, Associate Applied-Social Psychologists do not conduct testing and measurement unless they are supervised by a Licensed Psychologist with relevant training and experience.

NB²: Persons may also maintain particular sub-specialties in their training, such as Industrial-Organizational (I-O) Psychologist, Sport Psychologist, Community Psychologist, and Health Psychologist. At this time, the CPAM only licenses as an Applied-Social psychologist and not at any other subspecialty level, but all these individuals will be eligible for licensure as Applied-Social Psychologists and will be eligible to perform their subspecialty duties in these areas according to their competencies.

2.5 Professional Counselling

The Practice of Professional **Counselling** includes:

1. **Diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders**, which consists of the appropriate diagnosis of mental disorders according to standards of the profession and the ordering or providing of treatments according to need. Treatment can include providing counselling, marital and family therapy, group therapy, behaviour therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnosis, biofeedback, and other counselling interventions with the objective of modification of perception, adjustment, attitudes, feelings, values, self-concept, personality or personal goals, the treatment of alcoholism and substance abuse, disorders of habit or conduct, as well as of the psychological aspects of physical illness, pain, injury or disability.

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2. **Consulting**, which consists of interpreting or reporting on scientific theory or research in psychology, evaluation, or engaging in Applied-Social psychological research, programme or organizational development, administration, supervision or evaluation of psychological services.
3. The rendering of **expert counselling opinion and testimony**

NB¹: Depending on the applicant's programme of study and relevant supervised experience, some Counsellors, with training in psychometrics may be permitted to engage in psychological **testing and measurement**. Based on evaluations of transcripts, CEUs and supervised log hours, counsellors may be granted a license to conduct psychological **testing & measurement**. (See section on Psychometric Competence)

NB²: Professional Counsellors are competent to independently administer therapeutic care, counselling, provide consultation services for individuals, families or organizations so long as their training and supervised experience allows for same.


However, Associate Professional Counsellors do **not** perform psychological consulting to agencies, or organizations, or treat severe emotional or mental disorders (e.g. Schizophrenia, Bipolar, other psychotic disorder, complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) or perform psychological testing and measurement unless they are supervised by a Licensed Professional Counsellor, Clinical or Counselling Psychologist with relevant training and experience.

NB³: Specialties in Counselling include aspects of counselling that relate to either mental health or human development principles with specific education and experiential requirements. Examples of specialties include, marriage and family counselling, school or college counselling, mental health counselling, career counselling, clinical counseling, addiction counselling, rehabilitational counselling.

At this time, the CPAM does not license at the subspecialty levels but all these individuals will be eligible for licensure as Professional Counsellors and will be eligible to perform their subspecialty duties in these areas according to their competencies.

3.0 PSYCHOMETRIC COMPETENCE (LEVELS A, B, & C)

Level A tests are tests which can be adequately administered, scored, interpreted and reported with the aid of a manual, a familiarity with the client population, an orientation to the kind of

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setting within which the testing is done, and a general knowledge of measurement principles and of the limitations of test interpretation. Their misuse results in bad advice and, in the case of employment proficiency tests, lost job opportunity or inappropriate job placement. These tests are generally “transparent” in that it is easy for the client to ascertain how his or her responses to individual items will affect the overall results. For example, Beck Depression Inventory-II, and other basic scales/inventories,


Level B tests are complex tests and require at least graduate level training for selection, administration, scoring and interpretation. The outcome from these tests can also have influence on the course of one’s life. Level B tests are generally “opaque”, that is they are designed so that clients are unable to determine how their responses affect the outcome. Because the results cannot be distorted, the interpretation to the client can be very confrontational. It must be done by a Psychologist or Counsellor trained in test interpretation to avoid any harm that may come from information the client was psychologically unprepared to receive. Examples of Level B tests would include: Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT)

Level C tests are more complex than Level A and B tests. They are developed using the most sophisticated test construction methods because the outcome from these tests often has a significant impact on the course of a person’s life. Level C tests are tests which require graduate level training in such areas as psychopathology, personality, psychometrics, assessment and statistics, in order to be able to appropriately select, administer and provide interpretation in the specific professional field to which the tests apply. Examples of Level C tests include: Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scales, the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, the Rorschach Inkblot Test, and all Neuropsychological Batteries.

(adapted from Appendix D, Psychologist’s Scope of Practice, Ministry of Health, British Columbia, 1999)

4.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUs)

A Licensed professional in any category above must obtain at least 18 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) every year when they renew their license. Continuing education means a variety of forms of learning experiences, including, but not limited to, lectures, conferences, seminars, webinars, workshops, grand rounds, video conferencing, guided reading, and distance learning courses. You can accrue up to 100% of CEUs through online media / independent learning for each renewal cycle. Independent learning means the variety of forms of organized and directed learning experiences that occur when the instructor and the student are not in direct visual or auditory contact. These include, but are not limited to, courses delivered via the Internet, CD-ROM, satellite downlink, correspondence and home study. Independent learning courses must meet all standards of an approved continuing education course. Persons who are engaged in the teaching of psychology may also gain up to 4 CEUs for newly taught courses only, once the relevant educational institution verifies the courses taught.

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Approved CEUs are those approved by the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine (CPAM), or provided by the Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Associations (CANPA), Jamaican Psychological Society (JamPsych) or other mental health organizations or individual professionals or groups (e.g. American Psychological Association (APA) or American Psychiatric Association or state-approved CEUs in the USA or Canada or the UK) or Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses specifically applicable and pertinent to the practice of psychology and that are accredited by the Medical Association of Jamaica (MAJ) or the Ministry of Health (MOH).

Psychologists and counsellors will be responsible for keeping their own continuing education (CE) certificates and will submit these certificates with the license renewal forms to the CPAM.

Please take note that of the 18 CEUs required for renewal of Licensure, 9 must be discipline-specific (directly a psychological/counselling topical area), 2 of which must be in Ethics, and 2 in Trauma, the remaining 9 can be non-disciplinary specific.


Please note as well that all hours gained for Continuing Education may not be approved depending on the nature and content of the workshop, seminar, lecture etc. For example, you may attend a 20 hour workshop, but the psychological content only permits 10 Continuing Education Units. This is why pre-approval is important as the CEUs can be confirmed prior to your attendance.

If documentation of the continuing education requirement is improper or inadequate, the license is ineligible for renewal until any deficiency is corrected. Continued practice without a valid license constitutes grounds for appropriate disciplinary action. Misrepresentation of compliance constitutes grounds for disciplinary action or denial of licensure.

4.1 Ethical Requirements

All psychologists and counsellors renewing his or her license must take a course in Ethics for at least 2 hours approved by CPAM, the Jamaican Psychological Society (JamPsych), Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Associations (CANPA), or its affiliates / sponsors. The training shall include recent changes/updates on the laws and regulations related to the practice of psychology, recent changes/updates in the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct published by the CANPA or the JamPsych, accepted standards of practice, and other applications of laws and ethics as they affect the licensee's ability to practice psychology with safety to the public. Training in this area may be obtained in one or more of the following ways:

- Formal coursework in laws and ethics taken from an accredited educational institution;

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- Approved continuing education course in laws and ethics;
- Workshops in laws and ethics;
- Other experience which provide direction and education in laws and ethics including, but not limited to, grand rounds or professional association presentation.

4.2 Trauma Training Requirements

Additionally, psychologists and counsellors renewing their licenses are required to take a CE course in traumatology for a minimum of 2 hours such as in: trauma therapy, disaster mental health, sexual abuse, spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection and intervention strategies.

NB: Applied-Social Psychologists are not required to meet the stipulation for Trauma-Related courses.

5.0 SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS


All activities involving the practice and training of psychology and counselling are subject to review by a supervisor. Any category of professional in training will be required to obtain a number of hours after their academic degree has been completed.

For the Psychologist:

A Psychologist in training must obtain 2,500 hours of supervised practice to include pre-doctoral internship hours. For the Associate Psychologist in training, he or she must obtain 2,500 hours of supervised practice to include Masters practica hours. At least 30% of these hours should be in testing and measurement if one requires to be licensed to conduct same.

Once an individual has been licensed as an Associate Psychologist and he or she decides to complete a doctoral degree, he or she will have a reduced number of supervisory hours (i.e. 250, not inclusive of pre-doctoral internship) if he or she decides to complete a doctoral degree and requires licensure at that level.

Only a Licensed Psychologist or Licensed Professional Counsellor in the relevant category and with the requisite training can supervise the work of a Psychologist (Supervised Practice) who is an individual in the process of completing supervision requirements. Once hours are achieved, this person should apply for an upgrade to the relevant category. Either a Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Professional Counsellor or a Licensed Associate Psychologist in the relevant category can supervise the work of an Associate Psychologist (Supervised Practice), consistent with the supervision guidelines described above. However, a Clinical Psychologist can also supervise a Counselling Psychologist (Supervised Practice) and a Counselling Psychologist (Supervised Practice)

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with Levels A, B & C testing can also supervise a Clinical Psychologist (Supervised Practice). To serve as a supervisor, the Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Professional Counsellor and Licensed Associate Psychologist must be certified as a supervisor (with at least 20 hours of supervisory training) and have at least 5 years of experience in the field.

For the Counsellor:

He or she must obtain 2,500 hours of supervised practice to include pre-doctoral internship hours. For the Licensed Associate Professional Counsellor, he or she must obtain 2,500 hours of supervised practice to include Masters practica hours.

Once an individual has been licensed as an Associate Professional Counsellor and he or she decides to complete a doctoral degree, he or she will have a reduced number of supervisory hours (i.e. 250 for counsellors) if he or she decides to complete a doctoral degree and requires licensure at that level.

Only a Licensed Professional Counsellor, Clinical Psychologist or Counselling Psychologist, in the relevant category can supervise the work of a Licensed Professional Counsellor (Supervised Practice) (individual in the process of completing doctoral level supervision requirements). Either a Licensed Professional Counsellor, Licensed Associate Counsellor, Licensed Psychologist or Associate Psychologist in the relevant category can supervise the work of an Associate Counsellor (Supervised Practice), consistent with the supervision guidelines described above.

To serve as a supervisor, the Licensed Professional Counsellor or and Licensed Associate Counsellor must be certified with at least 20 hours of supervisory training and have at least 5 years of experience practicing independently in the field.

All foreign nationals seeking to practice psychology in Jamaica as a Licensed Psychologist or Licensed Associate Psychologist, and have already met the requirements for licensure in a country outside of Jamaica, will be required to obtain supervision from a Licensed Associate Psychologist or Licensed Psychologist for at least 500 hours in order to acquire cultural understanding and relevance in the application of psychological principles. They will be required to submit supervised log hours indicating same to facilitate the establishment of their license. They will then present their supervisory log with the requisite hours to the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine for licensure as an Associate Psychologist, Associate Professional Counsellor, Psychologist or Professional Counsellor.

An individual in the process of completing supervision requirements at the Masters or Doctoral level in ANY category does **NOT** operate without the requisite supervision in accordance with the Jamaican Psychological Society's Ethics codes and the laws of Jamaica as recognized by the Council for Professions Allied to Medicine and any violation of same may affect one's ability to obtain licensure in the future.