GOOD NEWS ON THE NATIONAL BOARD EXAMINATIONS FOR PSYCHOLOGY

The Professional Board of Psychology has great pleasure to confirm to examination applicants that following various interaction with Board structures, the Board will be able to facilitate the National Board Examination on a virtual platform, namely Microsoft Teams during 25-29 June 2020.

The examination will only be applicable to approved examination applications and this is also done due to the increased demand for psychological support and need for psychological intervention, as a result of the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Applicants who were not able to qualify for the June 2020 Examination, could be considered for another Board Examination possibly in July/August 2020 or later but that will be depending on the availability of members following the inauguration of the new Boards in 2020 and the number of candidates.

National Board Examinations will be facilitated virtually, of no more than 1 hour per candidate by Examination panels appointed for the different categories to be facilitated by members of the Board and existing experienced examiners in order to have the examination results finalised soon after the examination.

The key focus of the assessment will be on whether candidates can practise ethically while strictly adhering to patient/client confidentiality and adhering to the legislative principles. Candidates should also be able to demonstrate the ability to do a diagnosis and apply interventions and be familiar with the choice of appropriate assessment tools. The questions would assess ethical and basic competencies;

No percentage allocations would be done for the examination due to the nature and format of the Examination, the Panel should reach a consensus on the outcome of the Examination which would either be a Pass or Fail. A pass would be awarded if the candidate “met the minimum standard” a Fail would reflect that the candidate did not meet minimum standard” as outlined in the Examination template.

A variety of case studies may be used to assess candidates to avoid duplication of case studies, depending on the availability of past papers. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate their ability to apply relevant principles during the assessment.

Each panel will consist of three Examiners of which one must be a Board Member who will the Convenor of the session. The Convenor will be expected to lead the Examination session, monitor adherence to time allocated and ensure a fair and transparent assessment.

The Examiners are aware of the anxiety associated with examinations and will support and accommodate students and interns to manage the stress levels and to reduce anxiety during the examination offered virtually.

Convenors of each panel will be provided with an Examination Report template for daily completion and submission to the Education and Training Division. Assessment criteria had been developed as well as a marking grid. Panels will also have developed Memoranda.

Protecting the public and guiding the professions

President: Dr. TKS Letlapa, Vice President: Mr AL Malotana, Acting Registrar/CEO: Dr MA Kwinda
All examination candidates will be required to sign a Declaration of Confidentiality Form to protect the integrity of the assessment and deal with possible conflict of interest issues.

Staff from the IT Department will be on standby and assist with IT and other connectivity issues.