



CHAPTER 90
ARTICLE 18G - PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE ACT

N.C.G.S. § 90-270.145.

Licensure; examination; foreign graduates.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-37, s. 3(b) — seventeenth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:09 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 6e2d03c012ad73686f24a335 - a512ad65af03c32537080854 - cece84c1badc83bb
--	--	---	--

§ 90-270.145(a) Licensed Psychologist. - The Board shall issue a permanent license to practice psychology to any applicant who pays an application fee and any applicable examination fee as specified in G.S. 90-270.151(b), who passes an examination in psychology as prescribed by the Board, and who submits evidence verified by oath and satisfactory to the Board that he or she:

- (1) Is at least 18 years of age;
- (2) Is of good moral character;
- (3) Has received a doctoral degree based on a planned and directed program of studies in psychology from an institution of higher education. The degree program, wherever administratively housed, must be publicly identified and clearly labeled as a psychology program. The Board shall adopt rules implementing and defining these provisions, including, but not limited to, such factors as residence in the educational program, internship and related field experiences, number of course credits, course content, numbers and qualifications of faculty, and program identification and identity.
- (4) Has had at least two years of acceptable and appropriate supervised experience germane to his or her training and intended area of practice as a psychologist as specified in G.S. 90-270.139(d).

§ 90-270.145(b) Licensed Psychological Associate. -

- (1) The Board shall issue a permanent license to practice psychology to any applicant who pays an application fee and any applicable examination fee as specified in G.S. 90-270.151(b), who passes an examination in psychology as prescribed by the Board, and who submits evidence verified by oath and satisfactory to the Board that he or she:
 - a. Is at least 18 years of age;
 - b. Is of good moral character;
 - c. Has received a master's degree in psychology or a specialist degree in psychology from an institution of higher education. The degree program, wherever administratively housed, must be publicly identified and clearly labeled as a psychology program. The Board shall adopt rules implementing and defining these provisions, including, but not limited to, such factors as residence in the program, internship and related field experiences, number of course credits, course content, numbers and qualifications of faculty, and program identification and identity.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a licensed psychologist applicant who has met all requirements for licensure except passing the examination at the licensed psychologist level, may be issued a license as a licensed psychological associate without having a master's degree or specialist degree in psychology if the applicant passes the examination at the licensed psychological associate level.
- (3) No licensed psychological associate shall engage in the practice of neuropsychology or forensic psychology without first demonstrating specialized education and training to practice in those areas as the Board may determine by rule. In considering whether the licensed psychological associate has sufficient specialized education and training to engage in the practice of neuropsychology or forensic psychology, the Board may consider the licensed psychological associate's graduate level course work, continuing education, supervised training experience, or any other factors the Board deems appropriate. For purposes of this subdivision, "neuropsychology" is defined as "the branch of science that studies the physiological processes of the nervous system and relates them to behavior and cognition" and "forensic psychology" is defined as "the application of psychological principles and techniques to situations that are involved in the civil and criminal legal systems, including, but not limited to, psychological assessments and expert testimony."

§ 90-270.145(c)

Foreign Graduates. - Applicants trained in institutions outside the United States, applying for licensure at either the licensed psychologist or licensed psychological associate level, must show satisfactory evidence of training and degrees substantially equivalent to those required of applicants trained within the United States, pursuant to Board rules and regulations.

§ 90-270.145(d)

Prior Licensure. - A person who is licensed in good standing as a licensed practicing psychologist or psychological associate under the provisions of the Practicing Psychologist Licensing Act in effect immediately prior to the ratification of this Psychology Practice Act shall be deemed, as of October 1, 1993 to have met all requirements for licensure under this act and shall be eligible for renewal of licensure in accordance with the provisions of this act.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I 17 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1967		1996	2025
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1967	c. 910, s. 11	ENACTED
02	1971	c. 889, ss. 2, 3	AMENDED
03	1975	c. 675, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
04	1977	c. 670, s. 7	AMENDED
05	1979	c. 670, ss. 5, 6	AMENDED
06	1979	2nd Sess., c. 1176	AMENDED
07	1981	c. 738, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
08	1983	c. 37, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
09	1983	c. 82, s. 4	AMENDED
10	1985	c. 734, s. 7	AMENDED
11	1987	c. 326, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED

12	1987	c. 500, s. 1	AMENDED
13	1989	c. 554	AMENDED
14	1993	c. 375, s. 1	AMENDED
15	1995	c. 509, s. 45	AMENDED
16	2020	S.L. 2020-82, s. 1(a)	AMENDED
17	2025	S.L. 2025-37, s. 3(b)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 90-270.151(b)	(a)	"applicable examination fee as specified in"
G.S. 90-270.139(d)	(a)(4)	"as a psychologist as specified in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-270.145 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-270.145(a) (2025).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1967, c. 910, s. 11; 1971, c. 889, ss. 2, 3; 1975, c. 675, ss. 1, 2; 1977, c. 670, s. 7; 1979, c. 670, ss. 5, 6; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1176; 1981, c. 738, ss. 1, 2; 1983, c. 37, ss. 1, 2; c. 82, s. 4; 1985, c. 734, s. 7; 1987, c. 326, ss. 1, 2; c. 500, s. 1; 1989, c. 554; 1993, c. 375, s. 1; 1995, c. 509, s. 45; 2020-82, s. 1(a); 2025-37, s. 3(b).)

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

