

Ontario Psychologists:

“DO NOT SACRIFICE QUALITY IN THE NAME OF ACCESS”

CPBAO's Changes to Licensing Requirements for Psychologists Drastically Reduce Psychologists' Training

DRASTIC TRAINING CUTS

- Removes entire 4-year supervised work requirement for master's-level registrants
- Hands-on clinical training standards reduced from an average of 4 years to just 1 year (i.e., 5000-7500 hours to as little as 1900 hours)
- Replacing well-established CPA accreditation norms with council-approved criteria
- Psychologists make life-changing diagnoses and inform high-stakes decisions - **no shortcuts to experience**

75% reduction
in real-world training

FEWER CHECKS

- No ethics/legislation exam (no-fail module instead)
- No oral exam assessing clinical competency
- Unlimited attempts on psychology knowledge exam (EPPP)

COLLAPSE PRACTICE AREAS

- Removes formal recognition of key practice areas like forensics and neuropsychology
- Psychologists' expertise should be publicly displayed. Expertise should be checked by the College to ensure public safety

THIS WOULD MOVE ONTARIO TO HAVING SOME OF THE LOWEST STANDARDS IN THE COUNTRY AND GLOBALLY

Safe ways to increase access to psychological services include removing registration barriers for psychologists in other provinces or countries. This should be done without eroding training standards, consistent with Health Canada's ethical framework.

Better solutions exist, such as:

- Register psychologists faster, by making **thoughtful and gradual changes** and evaluating impact
- Create **national standards** for psychologists in Canada to address inconsistencies across provinces
- Increase **funded training programs** in Canada (e.g., PsyD).
- Increase psychologists in **public health** to improve access and secure training positions for future psychologists

We wouldn't try to get more medical doctors by slashing training—why is it okay for psychologists?

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