

Dear Members and Colleagues,

We at ASPPB have heard from many in the psychology community regarding the challenges and issues they are facing during these trying times of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of our support, ASPPB has created an information page to assist during the short term until we can all go back to normal. That resource page is located at <https://www.asppb.net/page/covid19>. Please send any corrections or additions to Janet Orwig at [jorwig@asppb.org](mailto:jorwig@asppb.org). We welcome your assistance in helping to keep this page as current as possible.

The State Executive Orders are shared as part of the ASPPB COVID-19 resource page. The solutions offered in those orders are the current way to allow psychological services across state lines. These orders are temporary and will expire. As a part of this crisis, the value and necessity of telepsychology has been seen and will be needed long after this crisis is over.

Once this crisis is over, psychologists will again need to follow pre COVID-19 state regulatory requirements. The Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) was created to address the long-term solution for legal and ethical telepsychological services across state lines. PSYPACT allows psychologists to provide electronic telepsychological services from one compact state where the psychologist is located into the receiving compact state where the patient is located. It also allows for temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology from one compact state into the distant compact state. Currently, there are 12 states which have enacted PSYPACT. There is active pending legislation in 15 additional states.

ASPPB and the PSYPACT Commission are working to ensure that PSYPACT will be ready to take applications by July 1st. Currently we are still on schedule. It is important to note that in these uncertain times, the timeline may change. We will keep updating the PSYPACT ([www.psycompact.org](http://www.psycompact.org)) and ASPPB ([www.asppb.org](http://www.asppb.org)) websites regarding this timeline so keep checking there for the latest updates. Also, regular updates are sent out via the PSYPACT listserv. A psychologist can join that listserv at <https://psycompact.org/page/Listserv>.

In the meantime, in order to shorten the E.Passport and Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) application processing times, a psychologist can start their complimentary ASPPB Credentials Bank record. The ASPPB Credentials Bank is an electronic storage system where the psychologist's professional credentials are primary source verified, electronically stored and ready to use for licensure applications, job applications, insurance verifications, etc. Once the E.Passport and IPC applications are open, the Credentials Bank information can be imported speeding up the application process. When completing the Credentials Bank info, only the demographics, education, examination and licensure sections need to be completed. An official transcript is a required component of the application, we recommend requesting the official transcript be sent directly to ASPPB from the institution as early as possible.

The included resource materials provide a more detailed view of PSYPACT and why it is important for the psychology profession. For more information regarding the E.Passport and IPC, please contact [psypro@asppb.org](mailto:psypro@asppb.org). For more information about PSYPACT, please contact [jorwig@asppb.org](mailto:jorwig@asppb.org).



## MENTAL HEALTH CARE CRISIS

Published studies report that about 25% of all U.S. adults have a mental illness and that nearly 50% of U.S. adults will develop at least one mental illness during their lifetime.

PSYPACT can increase a patient's access to mental health care from qualified licensed psychologists and can change the way in which patients are able to receive mental health care through telepsychology.

*Source: CDC, 2016*



## OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Drug overdose deaths and opioid-involved deaths continue to increase in the United States. On average, 115 Americans die everyday from an opioid overdose.

PSYPACT allows for access to licensed psychologists that have specific training in addictions even though they may not be located in a patient's state.

*Source: CDC, 2017*



## IMPORTANCE OF TELEHEALTH

Telehealth procedures for psychological treatment has been repeatedly demonstrated to be effective and provides several advantages over traditional treatment methods such as accessibility, versatility and affordability.

PSYPACT allows for the provision of psychological services via telecommunications technologies across state lines by licensed psychologists.

*Sources: Barak, Hen, Boniel-Nissim & Shapira, 2008; Epstein, 2011; Wencesalo, 2012*

# WHY PSYPACT IS IMPORTANT

In the midst of an ongoing mental health care crisis in the United States, there is an increasing need for accessible and continuous care from qualified mental health care professionals like licensed psychologists. The Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact, or PSYPACT, is an interstate compact designed to increase access to mental health care services through telepsychology.



## ACCESS TO CARE

Access to mental health care services continues to be a challenge for many people seeking care. PSYPACT can increase the number of qualified licensed psychologists available to provide care as well provide a different delivery method of care via telepsychology.

For example, PSYPACT can benefit individuals in those in rural areas, those who lack specialty care (e.g. autism spectrum disorder, child treatment, opioid addiction) or those afraid to seek treatment due to the stigma of mental health care.



## CONTINUITY OF CARE

One of the primary benefits of PSYPACT is continuity of care. With the population becoming increasingly mobile, there is an increased need for continuity of service across state lines.

It can be challenging for a patient to find a psychologist that meets their specific needs. Once that therapeutic relationship is established, patients often desire to continue that service if they move or relocate. PSYPACT can ensure that patients can continue to see their psychologists as they move or relocate.



## COORDINATION OF CARE

Patients and their care coordinating family members often live in different states. Although family members do not require licenses to coordinate care across state lines, there may be rules regarding the ability for out-of-state family members to be able to participate in care coordination efforts.

PSYPACT can assist in facilitating the coordination of care by allowing family members who may not be local to the patient's area to participate in their treatment and provide additional support for the patient.



# Reducing Regulatory Barriers. Increasing Access to Mental Health Care.

Created by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) is an interstate compact that facilitates the practice of psychology using telecommunications technologies (telepsychology) and/or temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological practice.

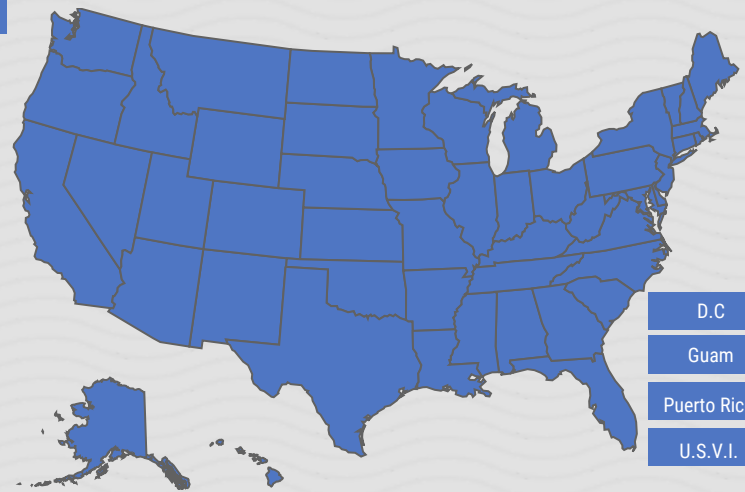
## ABOUT PSYPACT

PSYPACT is a cooperative agreement enacted into law by participating states

Addresses increased demand to provide/receive psychological services via electronic means (telepsychology)

Authorizes both telepsychology and temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology across state lines in PSYPACT states

PSYPACT states have the ability to regulate telepsychology and temporary in-person, face-to-face practice



## HOW PSYPACT WORKS



PSYPACT must be enacted by a state legislature. Once enacted, a state joins the PSYPACT Commission, the governing body of PSYPACT.



Psychologists licensed in a PSYPACT state can practice under PSYPACT via two different methods:

### Telepsychology:

Psychologists obtain an Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology from the PSYPACT Commission, which requires an active ASPPB E.Passport.

### Temporary Practice:

Psychologists obtain a Temporary Authorization to Practice from the PSYPACT Commission, which requires an active ASPPB IPC.



PSYPACT states communicate and exchange information including verification of licensure and disciplinary sanctions.

## BENEFITS OF PSYPACT

- Increases client/patient access to care
- Facilitates continuity of care when client/patient relocates, travels, etc.
- Certifies that psychologists have met acceptable standards of practice
- Promotes cooperation between PSYPACT states in the areas of licensure and regulation
- Offers a higher degree of consumer protection across state lines

## HOW PSYPACT IMPACTS PSYCHOLOGISTS

- Allows licensed psychologists to practice telepsychology and/or conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice across state lines without having to become licensed in additional PSYPACT states
- Permits psychologists to provide services to populations currently underserved or geographically isolated
- Standardizes time allowances for temporary practice regulations in PSYPACT states

# UNDERSTANDING

# HOW PSYPACT WORKS



## 1 STATES ENACT PSYPACT

PSYPACT legislation is enacted by a state legislature. Upon enactment, the state officially joins PSYPACT.



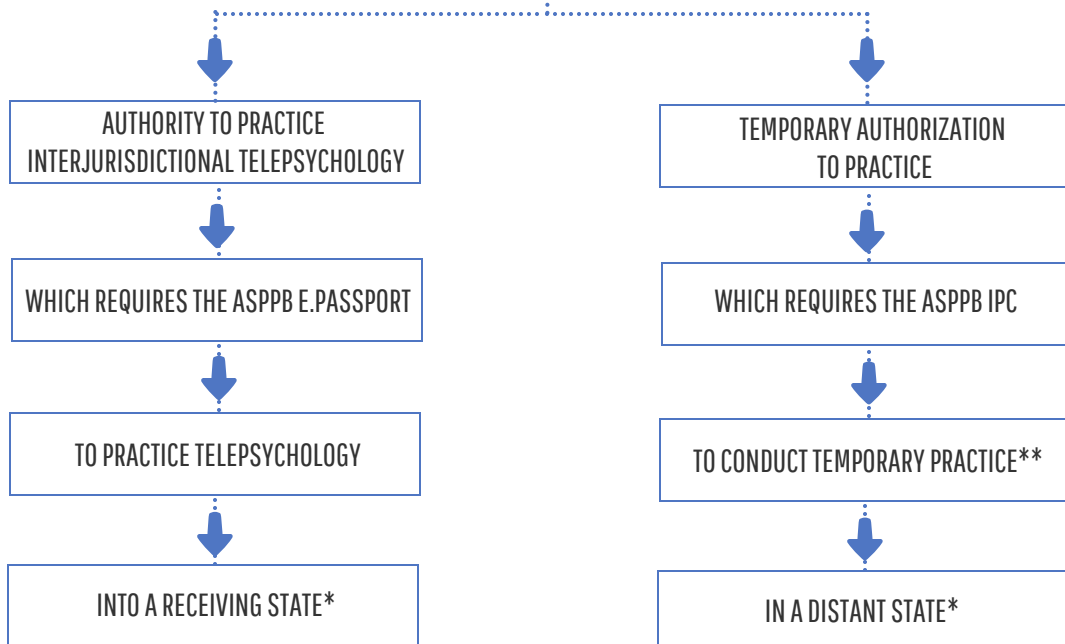
## 2 STATES JOIN THE PSYPACT COMMISSION

Each state appoints a representative to serve as that state's Commissioner. The PSYPACT Commission is the governing body of PSYPACT and is responsible for writing the Bylaws and Rules of PSYPACT.



## 3 PSYCHOLOGISTS PRACTICE UNDER PSYPACT

Psychologists licensed in their Home State\* can obtain authorization to practice under PSYPACT from the PSYPACT Commission:



\* Indicates must be a Compact State that has enacted PSYPACT legislation

\*\* Indicates temporary practice must be in-person, face-to-face

# THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO PRACTICE UNDER PSYPACT

As a psychologist licensed in a PSYPACT state, you will soon be eligible to apply to practice telepsychology and/or conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in PSYPACT states.

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

## TO PRACTICE



# TELEPSYCHOLOGY



### PSYPACT Commission Requirements

- In order to practice telepsychology under the authority of PSYPACT, the PSYPACT Commission requires that a psychologist obtain an Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT).



### Authority to Practice Telepsychology Requirements

- Possess an active ASPPB E.Passport (see requirements below)
- Hold a full, unrestricted license to practice psychology in a PSYPACT state
- Provide attestations



### ASPPB E.Passport Requirements

- Have a current, active psychology license based on a doctoral degree in at least one PSYPACT state
- No disciplinary action listed on any psychology license
- Have a doctoral degree in psychology from a program that was accredited by APA/CPA or designated as a psychology program by the ASPPB/ National Register Joint Designation Committee at time of conferral; or deemed to be equivalent by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service
- Official transcripts must be sent to ASPPB from institution granting degree
- Successful completion of the Examination for Professional Practice (EPPP) with a score that meets or exceeds the established ASPPB recommended passing score at the time of application
- Annual renewal with three (3) hours of continuing education relevant to the use of technology in psychology



### Fees

- APIT Fee: \$40 (one time fee)
- ASPPB E.Passport Application Fee: \$400 (one time fee)
- ASPPB E.Passport Renewal Fee: \$100 (annual fee)



### Time Limit

- Unlimited



### Scope of Practice

- Subject to the Receiving State's scope of practice



### Initiation and Provision of Psychological Services

- When treating a client/patient in a Receiving State, a psychologist must initiate a client/patient contact while physically located in a psychologist's Home State via telecommunications technologies.

## TO CONDUCT



# TEMPORARY PRACTICE



### PSYPACT Commission Requirements

- In order to conduct temporary practice under the authority of PSYPACT, the PSYPACT Commission requires that a psychologist obtain a Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP).



### Temporary Authorization to Practice Requirements

- Possess an active ASPPB Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) (see requirements below)
- Hold a full, unrestricted license to practice psychology in a PSYPACT state
- Provide attestations



### ASPPB IPC Requirements

- Have a current, active psychology license based on a doctoral degree in at least one PSYPACT state
- No disciplinary action listed on any psychology license
- Have a doctoral degree in psychology from a program that was accredited by APA/CPA or designated as a psychology program by the ASPPB/ National Register Joint Designation Committee at time of conferral; or deemed to be equivalent by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.
- Official transcripts must be sent to ASPPB from institution granting degree
- Annual renewal



### Fees

- TAP Fee: \$40 (one time fee)
- ASPPB IPC Application Fee: \$200 (one time fee)
- ASPPB IPC Renewal Fee: \$50 (annual fee)



### Time Limit

- 30 days per calendar year per PSYPACT state



### Scope of Practice

- Subject to the Distant State's scope of practice



### Authority and Law

- A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the TAP will be subject to the Distant State's authority and law.

# STEP-1



## APPLICATION

ASPPB E.Passport

Start the E.Passport application by visiting ASPPB's credentials management system, PSY|PRO, at [www.psypro.org](http://www.psypro.org) and log in. Select "Practicing Telepsychology" from the left menu. Work through the application checklist and submit for review. For an application quick guide, click [HERE](#). Once your application has been reviewed, Step 2- Authorization, will automatically begin.

# STEP-2



## AUTHORIZATION

Authority to Practice  
Interjurisdictional Telepsychology  
(APIT) from the  
PSYPACT Commission

In addition to the E.Passport, you must obtain an Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT) from the PSYPACT Commission. Once your E.Passport application review is complete, your APIT application will automatically begin in PSY|PRO. Once you are notified via email, you will only need to log in to PSY|PRO to declare your Home State. for the E.Passport/APIT, Home State is the PSYPACT participating state where you are licensed and physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered.

# STEP-3



## UPDATE & ABIDE

Update Home State & Abide by  
Scope of Practice

You can use the E.Passport/APIT to practice telepsychology in any PSYPACT participating state without obtaining an additional license. You are responsible for keeping your declared Home State updated in PSY|PRO. You will be subject to the scope of practice of the Receiving State. Receiving State is the PSYPACT participating state where the client/patient is physically located when the telepsychological services are delivered.

# STEP-4



## CE & RENEW

Complete Continuing Education (CE)  
Requirements & Annual Renewal

In order to maintain the E.Passport, you will need to complete the required 3 credit hours of CE relevant to the use technology in psychology annually. You will also need to complete the annual renewal process. Renewal reminders are sent via email so please keep your contact information updated. Renewals are completed in PSY|PRO.

# STEP-1



## APPLICATION

ASPPB Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC)

Start the IPC application by visiting ASPPB's credentials management system, PSY|PRO, at [www.psypro.org](http://www.psypro.org) and log in. Select "Practicing Temporarily" from the left menu. Work through the application checklist and submit for review. For an application quick guide, click [HERE](#). Once your application has been reviewed, Step 2- Authorization, will automatically begin.

# STEP-2



## AUTHORIZATION

Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP) from the PSYPACT Commission

In addition to the IPC, you must obtain Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP) from the PSYPACT Commission. Once your IPC application review is complete, your TAP application will automatically begin in PSY|PRO. Once you are notified via email, you will only need to log in to PSY|PRO and declare your Home State. For the purposes of the IPC/TAP, Home State is the PSYPACT participating state where you are licensed.

# STEP-3



## UPDATE, TRACK & ABIDE

Update Home State, Track Days & Abide by Scope of Practice

You can use the IPC/TAP to practice temporarily for up to 30 days per calendar year in each compact state without obtaining an additional license. You are responsible for tracking the number of days worked and updating your declared Home State in PSY|PRO. You will be subject to the scope of practice of the Distant State. Distant State is the PSYPACT participating state where you are physically present when providing temporary, in-person face-to-face psychological services.

# STEP-4



## RENEW

Complete Annual Renewal

.In order to maintain the IPC, you will need to complete the annual renewal process. Renewal reminders are sent via email so please keep your contact information updated. Renewals are completed in PSY|PRO.



# PSYPACT WHAT'S NEW WITH

## THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT

### PSYPACT STATES

### PSYPACT COMMISSION

The PSYPACT Commission is the governing body of PSYPACT responsible for oversight of the compact and for writing the Bylaws and Rules that govern PSYPACT. Each PSYPACT state has appointed a representative to serve as their state's Commissioner.

Since its formation, the PSYPACT Commission has convened for five meetings. For more information about the meetings as well as future meeting dates, please visit the Scheduled Meetings page at [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org).

### RULES

The PSYPACT Commission voted on the following proposed rules at the PSYPACT Commission Public Hearing on February 27, 2020. To view all rules please visit [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org).

- Rule on Additional Authority Vested in State Psychology Regulatory Authorities
- Rule on Conditions of Telepsychology Practice into a Receiving State
- Rule on Adverse Action
- Rule on Coordinated Licensure Information System
- Rule on Compact Privilege to Practice Telepsychology
- Rule on Definitions
- Rule on Compact Temporary Authorization to Practice
- Rule on Oversight Dispute Resolution and Enforcement
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- Rule on PSYPACT Commission

### FEES FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

TELEPSYCHOLOGY	FEE	TEMPORARY IN-PERSON, FACE-TO-FACE PRACTICE	FEE
Authorization to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology	\$40	Temporary Authorization to Practice	\$40
E.Passport Application Fee	\$400	Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) Application Fee	\$200
E.Passport Annual Renewal Fee	\$100	Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) Annual Renewal Fee	\$50

### PSYPACT COMMISSION TIMELINE

- July 22-23, 2019** Inaugural PSYPACT Commission Meeting held (in-person)
- October 9, 2019** PSYPACT Commission Meeting held for Proposed Rules from July 2019 Meeting (via teleconference)
- November 21-22, 2019** PSYPACT Commission Meeting (in-person)
- January 28, 2020** PSYPACT Commission Meeting Scheduled (via teleconference)
- February 27, 2020** PSYPACT Commission Meeting held for Proposed Rules from November 2019 Meeting (via teleconference)
- November 19-20, 2020** PSYPACT Commission Meeting (in-person)



# 5 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH



## 1 Join our Grassroots Advocacy Platform

- Text "**Psychology**" to **52886** to Take Action
- Visit the Take Action at [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org) to sign up for updates and show your support

## 2 Contact your Legislator

- Visit the Take Action page at [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org) to contact your legislator and tell them why you think PSYPACT is important

## 3 Follow PSYPACT on Social Media

- Follow @PSYPACT on Twitter
- Like the PSYPACT Facebook Page

## 4 Join the PSYPACT Listserv

- Email [info@psypact.org](mailto:info@psypact.org) to join the PSYPACT Listserv and to receive updates regarding the progress of PSYPACT

## 5 Find your Officials & Register to Vote

- Visit the Take Action page at [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org) to find your legislator and register to vote