

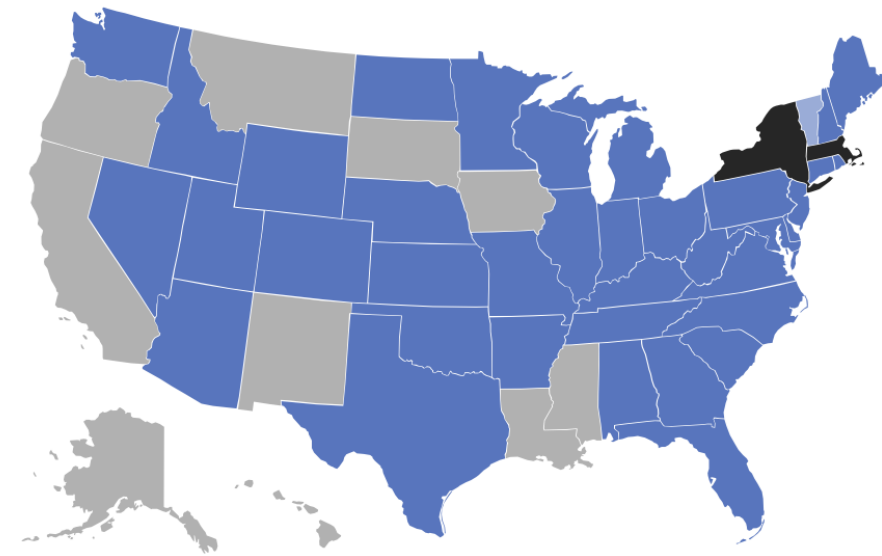
PSYPACT & SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Psychological Association - 2023/2024

PsyPact is an interstate “license” to practice telehealth &/or temporary in-person practice.

- PSYPACT is:
- A product of the ASPPB = Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards
- A cooperative structure involving 40 states currently allowing two types of practice within the member states.
- You can apply for telemedicine practice
- You can apply for in-person temporary practice, limited to 30 days or less per year
- You can apply for both - note that it is two separate applications and sets of fees

Which states are in PSYPACT currently? (2023)



CNMI

DC

Guam

Puerto Rico

U.S. Virgin Islands

Map Key

- PSYPACT Participating State
- Enacted PSYPACT Legislation - practice under PSYPACT not permitted
- PSYPACT Legislation introduced

Does joining PSYPACT eliminate the need to keep my South Dakota Psychologist license?

NO

Does joining PSYPACT mean that I have an unrestricted license to provide services in any PSYPACT state?

NO

If South Dakota joins the PSYPACT compact, am I automatically a PSYPACT provider?

NO

If SD joins PSYPACT and I become a PSYPACT credentialed Psychologist, does this then mandate that insurance companies in other PSYPACT states have to pay me?

NO

PSYPACT has no formal agreement with any insurance company and has nothing to do with billing issues at all. It is the Psychologist's responsibility to contact insurance companies regarding their policies and to become credentialed with each applicable insurance company if needed, just as it is now. PSYPACT does not change that.

If SD joins PSYPACT and I want to become credentialed with PSYPACT, how many applications do I have to complete?

IT DEPENDS

- ON WHETHER YOU WANT TO BECOME
CREDENTIALLED TO PROVIDE TELEHEALTH ONLY
TO PSYPACT STATES

OR

- WHETHER YOU WANT TO PROVIDE
TEMPORARY IN-PERSON SERVICES IN PSYPACT
STATES

OR

BOTH

The two PSYPACT practice types:

02. Choosing your Practice Type

You can apply to practice **telepsychology** and/or to conduct **temporary in-person, face-to-face practice** under the authority PSYPACT. You can choose to practice one or both but each practice type requires a separate application. To practice telepsychology, you will need to obtain two credentials - the *ASPPB E.Passport* and the *Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT)* from the PSYPACT Commission. To practice temporarily, you will need to obtain two credentials - the *ASPPB Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC)* and the *Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP)* from the PSYPACT Commission.



How much will it cost me?

\$680 to obtain both PSYPACT credentials

03. Starting your Application(s)

Before starting your applications, visit www.psypact.org to review application information and requirements! To start your application(s), visit PSY|PRO (www.psypro.org) and login or create an account. After logging in, select either "Practicing Telepsychology under PSYPACT" or "Practicing Temporarily under PSYPACT" (depending on your practice type above) from the Select an Activity on the right navigation panel of your My Activity Summary homepage. You will then be taken to an informational page followed by a payment page. The E.Passport has a \$400 application and \$100 annual renewal fee and the APIT has a one-time \$40 application fee. The IPC has a \$200 application fee and \$50 annual renewal fee and the TAP has a one-time \$40 application fee. After paying, you will receive a welcome email with specific instructions for completing your application(s). An E.Passport

If you want to provide telehealth:



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

What is this E-Passport?

- Essentially verification of licensure and that you haven't been in trouble with your board, and that your graduate school meets their credentials.



Fees

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



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.

Temporary in person practice/TAP:

Fees

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



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

What's the IPC?

Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate

- Pretty much the same thing as an E-Passport – it's a credentials verification process.
- I can't figure out why it exists separate from the E-Passport process but it is another \$200 to apply for the IPC (in addition to the \$400 for the E-Passport if you want to do both telehealth and in-person services)

Fees

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

APIT= Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology

- Three hours of telepsychology CE's per year required.
- You must be physically sitting in your HOME STATE when providing telehealth services to clients located in other states.
- You can't provide telehealth under PSYPACT if YOU are sitting in any other state while doing it.

Which licensing board has to deal with complaints?

You must follow the rules of the licensing board in the state where you are providing services, whether telehealth or in person, but your HOME state is responsible for the investigation of any complaints made in the RECEIVING or DISTANT state.

Basically the DISTANT or RECEIVING state can take adverse action against your PSYPACT credentials but the HOME state can take action against your license.

If your HOME state takes action against your license, it is reported to PSYPACT and you lose PSYPACT credentials.

Pursuant to Article VII, the Home State shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the Home State. A Distant and/or Receiving State shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's authority to practice under the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT).

If there is a complaint in any PSYPACT state, your “home” state is designated to investigate. PSYPACT states can share info about investigations and do joint investigations.

You lose PSYPACT approval to practice if there is any discipline from a licensing board against you.

An adverse action against a psychologist's license that is disciplinary in nature shall result in the psychologist no longer being eligible for the Authority for Interjurisdictional Telepsychology and/or Temporary Authorization to Practice.

Who has the burden to investigate complaints?

7.3 Joint Investigations: Compact States may collaborate in investigating alleged misconduct. When participating with other Compact States in joint investigations, the Compact State that the psychologist has declared as their home state will take the lead on any investigation.

If you want to offer telehealth under PSYPACT and be physically located in another state than your home state then you also have to be licensed in those states.

(K) “Home State” means: a Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and is practicing under the Authorization to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology, the Home State is the Compact State where the psychologist is physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and is practicing under the Temporary

Authorization to Practice, the Home State is any Compact State where the psychologist is licensed.

South Dakota legislative session Jan – Mar 2024

- In a few weeks a bill is being introduced into the legislature to, among other things, support the multistate licensing compacts for nurses, psychologists, counselors and social workers.
- This bill is being introduced regardless of what we think of it as the state psychological association.
- It is part of the work product of the Interim Committee on Sustainable Models for Long Term Care which is working to increase access to multiple kinds of care within South Dakota.

Money, Money, Money

- 1. PSYPACT charges each state \$10 per licensed psychologist each year to join PSYPACT
- 2. The licensing board may increase our license costs to make up the lost revenue to the licensing board from some Psychologists not renewing their SD licenses if SD joins PSYPACT.
- 3. I have discussed this with the sponsor of the SD bill and requested that they include in their bill funding from the state of South Dakota to the SD Licensing Board to offset this anticipated loss of licensing revenue. That way there should not be a reason to increase our licensing costs. It is unknown whether this fiscal support to the board will occur.
- 4. South Dakota would have to appoint a representative to PSYPACT. The funding for any cost to participate in that (ie for meetings) would be at the expense of South Dakota (who pays for it? IDK)
- 5. There is up to \$680 in personal costs to each psychologist for credentialing with PSYPACT and annual renewal fees – up to approximately \$100/yr on top of existing license cost in SD.

SDPA concerns about implementing PSYPACT:

Implementing PSYPACT in this state may have unintended, negative effects on South Dakota Psychologists due to:

- 1) Increased licensing costs which already are significant (\$300/yr)
- 2) Significant start up costs to become a PSYPACT provider (estimated \$680 in application and credentialing fees)
- 3) Negative impact on the Psychology Licensing Board due to decreased funding

What we can advocate for:

- We can contact our legislators and advocate for ongoing funding from the state of South Dakota to the Psychologist Licensing Board to offset the anticipated decline in revenue, thereby preventing a possibly significant increase in annual licensure fees to South Dakota psychologists.

SDPA should support PSYPACT

- 1. It will increase access to follow-up with specialty mental health care for those of us who live in SD (and are used to travelling to specialty medical clinics in MN, CO, and NE).
- 2. PSYPACT will be introduced in this legislative session in South Dakota.
- 3. Individual Psychologists do not have to become credentialed; it is voluntary (although licensing fees may increase which is not voluntary).
- PSYPACT would allow South Dakota Psychologists flexibility to continue to provide services to clients who move to or live in other PSYPACT states via the telehealth credential & allows for limited in-person practice which is relevant to those of us who practice on the borders between SD and surrounding states.
- 4. We should participate in the dominant interstate practice compact for Psychologists. There are no competing interstate/multistate compacts in development for psychologists to consider.
- 5. The other national mental health and medical practitioner groups in the country have similar, yet not identical, interstate compacts so this concept of multistate credentialing is becoming the national standard.

Please email your constructive comments and suggestions to:

- SDPA President - Laura Hughes Psy.D.
- lhughes@bhneuropsych.org

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STATUS AND WHETHER YOU SUPPORT SOUTH DAKOTA JOINING PSYPACT - WHY/WHY NOT.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS BEFORE DECEMBER 24, 2023.

THANK YOU!!