

# Ontario Psychological Association

## OPA Guidelines for Supervision of Masters Graduates Preparing for Registration as Psychological Associates

*In collaboration with OAPA*



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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ONTARIO  
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## Supervision of the Master's Graduate Preparing for Registration as a Psychological Associate

*The details provided below are intended to be an addendum to the **SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR BEST PRACTICES IN CLINICAL SUPERVISION**. The purpose of this section is to identify some of the unique demands of supervising for the purposes of registration as a Psychological Associate.*

The Psychological Associate (here on in referred to as *PA*) has a unique manner of training and related supervision requirements. Post-graduation, future *PA*'s are required to obtain 6000 hours (4 years) of additional training in what is in essence an apprenticeship model towards registration. These hours are required prior to consideration for the supervised practice registration year, during which the supervision demands of the *PA* and Psychologists do not significantly differ.

A Member of the College of Psychologists of Ontario (here on in referred to as a Member) choosing to supervise a Master's graduate (who intends to register with the College as a *PA*) has a responsibility to work with the supervisee in order to prepare the supervisee for registration. If the Member does not intend to hold this form of supervisory relationship, the Member is responsible to clearly state to the potential supervisee that the supervision being provided is not intended to move that individual towards registration.

### **A Member considering a supervisory relationship and potential supervisees should consider the following:**

- Does the supervisee's academic training sufficiently align with the Member's declared areas of competency and will the training setting be in keeping with the intended area of registration (e.g., a supervisor registered in neuropsychology and working in the head trauma sector should consider potential registration issues when supervising a graduate from a school psychology program).
- Does the Member feel sufficiently prepared to work with the supervisee for the purpose of supplemental training and skill acquisition and is not simply pursuing the supervisory relationship for the purposes of accessing an assistant.
- While the supervisee is not required to complete all 6000 hours under the supervision of a single Member, potential supervisors and supervisees should

consider whether they are able to commit the time necessary to complete the four year primary supervisory relationship and an additional year of supervised practice.

**Once a Member has chosen to supervise a Master's graduate for the purposes of registration as a *PA* the following considerations should be made:**

- The 6000 hour – 4-year training model is intended to build on and expand a supervisees educational and clinical training in a manner that prepares the supervisee for registration as a *PA*. As the Member is the best judge of what additional training and skills are necessary, the Member is responsible to evaluate a potential supervisees current preparation for practice and to identify which areas will require upgrading.
- While the Member will directly facilitate much of the training of the supervisee, Members may wish oversee other training opportunities through additional coursework, continuing education, and other education/skill-building outlets. The Member recognizes that this is also part of the supervisory relationship and is thus inclusive of the 6000 hour requirement.
- A Member holding a supervisory relationship will participate in ongoing evaluation of the supervisee for the purposes of identifying knowledge and skill acquisition and to identify areas of continued need.
- The Member and supervisee will discuss what type of activities that qualify for the 6000 hours of supervised work, who will keep track of the accumulated hours, and how those hours will be tracked. A Member and supervisee are reminded that all activities related to training and the completion of psychological duties are inclusive (e.g., supervision, training and education, related readings or study, direct client contact, scoring, and reporting all qualify; office administrative duties do not).