

**APA Ethics and Ohio Psychology Board regulations:
Sections which address psychologist health, impairment and reporting by colleagues**

American Psychological Association
Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct
2002

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Principle A: Beneficence and Nonmaleficence

Psychologists strive to benefit those with whom they work and take care to do no harm.....
Psychologists strive to be aware of the possible effect of their own physical and mental health on their ability to help those with whom they work.

Principle B: Fidelity and Responsibility

Psychologists establish relationships of trust with whom they work. .. Psychologists uphold professional standards of conduct, ...accept appropriate responsibility for their behavior...
They are concerned about the ethical compliance of their colleague's scientific and professional conduct.

ETHICAL STANDARDS

Resolving Ethical Issues

1.04 Informal Resolution of Ethical Violations

When psychologists believe that there may have been an ethical violation by another psychologist, they attempt to resolve the issue by bringing it to the attention of that individual, if an informal resolution appears appropriate and the intervention does not violate any confidentiality rights that may be involved.

1.05 Reporting Ethical Violations

If an apparent ethical violation has substantially harmed or is likely to substantially harm a person or organization and is not appropriate for informal resolution under Standard 1.04, Informal Resolution of Ethical Violations, or is not resolved properly in that fashion, psychologists take further action appropriate to the situation. Such action might include referral to state or national committees on professional ethics, to state licensing boards, or to the appropriate institutional authorities. This standard does not apply when an intervention would violate confidentiality rights or when psychologists have been retained to review the work of another psychologist whose professional conduct is in question.

2. Competence

2.06 Personal Problems and Conflicts

(a) Psychologists refrain from initiating an activity when they know or should know that there is a substantial likelihood that their personal problems will prevent them from performing their work related activities in a competent manner.

(b) When psychologists become aware of personal problems that may interfere with their performing work-related duties adequately, they take appropriate measures, such as obtaining professional consultation or assistance, and determine whether they should limit, suspend, or terminate their work-related duties.

3. Human Relations

3.12 Interruption of Psychological Services.

Unless otherwise covered by contract, psychologists make reasonable efforts to plan for facilitating services in the event that psychological services are interrupted by factors such as the psychologist's illness, death, unavailability, relocation, or retirement or by the client's/patient's relocation or financial limitations.

Ohio Administrative Code
Chapter 4732: State Board of Psychology
(June 2012)

Chapter 4732-17-01 General Rules of Professional Conduct

(A) General Considerations

(2) Scope. The rules of professional conduct shall apply to the conduct of all psychology and school psychology licensees and applicants, including the applicant's conduct during the period of education, training, and employment that is required for licensure.

(4) Aids to interpretation. Ethics codes and standards for providers promulgated by the "American Psychological Association", the "Canadian Psychological Association", and other relevant professional groups shall be used as aids in resolving ambiguities that may arise in the interpretation of the rules of professional conduct, except that those rules of professional conduct shall prevail whenever any conflict exists between these rules and any professional association standard.

(C) Welfare of the Client

(11) (a) A psychologist or school psychologist makes reasonable efforts to plan for continuity of care in the event that psychological services are interrupted by factors such as the license holder's illness, unavailability, relocation, or death, ...

(12) Practicing while impaired. A psychologist or school psychologist shall not undertake or continue a professional psychological role when the judgment, competence, and/or objectivity of the psychologist or school psychologist is impaired due to mental, emotional, physiological, pharmacological, or substances abuse conditions. If impaired judgment, competence, and/or objectivity develops after a professional role has been initiated, the psychologist or school psychologist shall terminate the professional role in an appropriate manner, shall notify the client or other relevant parties of the termination in writing, and shall assist the client, supervisee, or evaluatee in obtaining appropriate services from another appropriate professional.

(K) Aiding Illegal practice

(4) Reporting of violations to Board. A psychologist or school psychologist who has substantial reason to believe that another licensee or psychological or school psychological supervisee has committed an apparent violation of the statutes or rules of the board that has substantially harmed or is likely to substantially harm a person or organization shall so inform the board in writing; however, when the information

regarding such violation is obtained in a professional relationship with a client, the psychologist or school psychologist shall report it only with the written permission of the client.

Chapter 4732-17-03 Bases and procedures for disciplinary actions

(A) In accordance with section 4732.17 of the Revised Code, after considering charges filed by the secretary and after providing a hearing in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board may refuse to issue a license to any applicant, including any person whose license was previously lapsed or revoked or suspended, or may issue a reprimand, or suspend or revoke the license of any licensed psychologist or licensed school psychologist, on any of the following grounds:

(5) Being negligent in the practice of psychology or school psychology;

(6) Using any controlled substance or alcoholic beverage to an extent that such use impairs his/her ability to perform the work of a psychologist or school psychologist with safety to the public

(7) Violating any rule of professional conduct promulgated by the Board