

**Department of Health  
Office of Health Professions and Facilities  
Board of Psychology**

# **Interpretive Statement**

Revised – 10/18/11

<i>Title:</i>	Allowable coursework taken outside of the doctoral degree program	<i>Number:</i> WSR-12-08-020
<i>References:</i>	WAC 246-924-046	
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<i>Supercedes:</i>	N/A	
<i>Approved By:</i>	Christine Guzzardo, Ph.D., Chair	

The Examining Board of Psychology (Board) will consider an applicant’s supplemental coursework that has been completed outside of the applicant’s doctoral program to meet the requirements of WAC 246-924-046(3) under the conditions set out in this interpretive statement.

In some circumstances, specific courses may have been unavailable during an applicant’s doctoral program. This resulted in an applicant receiving a qualifying doctoral degree, but the requirements under WAC 246-924-046 (3) may not have been met because some courses were obtained outside of the doctoral program. Applicants may have taken pre or post doctoral courses that fulfill the course requirements.

Supplemental coursework may be used to satisfy the requirements described in WAC 246-924-046 if all of the following conditions are met:

- 1) The applicant meets all of the requirements in WAC 246-924-046, subsections (1), (2), and (4) but the doctoral program did not include courses described in (3);
- 2) The doctoral degree was granted without the supplemental course(s);
- 3) The supplemental courses were not taken as part of the doctoral program. The course may not appear on the doctoral transcript as a failed or withdrawn course;
- 4) Any supplemental course work must be taken for credit from a regionally accredited graduate program in psychology and must be documented on an official transcript;
- 5) If a supplemental course was taken prior to the doctoral degree in a graduate program:
  - a. the subsequent doctoral program waived the course requirements and recorded the waiver on the transcript, or
  - b. the predoctoral course was not required for the granted doctoral degree and meets all other requirements outlined in this policy; and

- 6) No more than two supplemental courses that meet the above conditions may be used to satisfy the coursework required under WAC 246-924-046(3).

This interpretive statement does not alter the recognition of APA (American Psychological Association) or CPA (Canadian Psychological Association) accredited doctoral programs whose compliance with curriculum standards are monitored by the accrediting body. This interpretive statement only applies to supplemental coursework taken outside of a single doctoral program. All supervised experience requirements listed under WAC 246-924-043 must be met.

This interpretive statement expresses the Board's intent to consider applicants who are graduates of doctoral programs; but completed one or two of the required courses outside of the doctoral study program. These applicants will be considered to have met the requirements of WAC 246-924-046 when the conditions described above are met.