

PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY  
Board Resolution No. 03  
Series of 2012



**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10029, KNOWN AS THE "PSYCHOLOGY ACT OF 2009"**

Pursuant to Section 7(b), Article IV, and Section 38, Article IX of Republic Act No. 10029, "**AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE A PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,**" the Professional Regulatory Board of Psychology, hereinafter called the Board, after review and approval of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter called the Commission, hereby adopts, issues, and promulgates this Resolution embodying these Rules and Regulations to carry out, administer, and enforce the provisions of R.A. No. 10029.

**RULE I**

**TITLE**

**SECTION 1. Title** – The Rules shall be known as **THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10029**, known as the "Philippine Psychology Act of 2009"; for brevity, it may be cited as the "IRR of R.A. No. 10029", or the IRR.

**RULE II**

**STATEMENT OF POLICY**

**SEC. 2. Statement of Policy.** – The State recognizes that psychologists have an important role in nation-building and development. It also acknowledges the diverse specializations of psychologists and the diverse functions specific to the varied specializations. In particular, it recognizes the significance of the psychological services that practicing psychologists provide to diverse types of clients, as well as the need to protect the public by preventing inexperienced or untrained individuals from offering psychological services. Hence, it shall nurture competent, upright and assiduous psychologists whose standards of practice and service shall be excellent and globally competitive through the administration of inviolable, effective and credible licensure examinations and the imposition and promotion of regulatory measures, programs and activities that enhance their professional growth and well-being.

The IRR shall be interpreted, construed, and carried out in the light of the above statement which embodies the legislative intent in enacting R.A. No. 10029.

**RULE III**

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** - As used in the Rules, the following terms shall mean as follows:

**(a) Psychology** - the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. It involves the application of scientific methods to inquire into the biological, cognitive, affective,

*in force*

*Enacted by the Board*

developmental, personality, social, cultural, and individual difference dimensions of human behavior.

**(b) Practice of Psychology** – consists of the delivery of psychological services that involve the application of psychological principles and procedures for the purpose of describing, understanding, predicting and influencing the behavior of individuals or groups, in order to assist in the attainment of optimal human growth and functioning.

The delivery of psychological services includes, but is not limited to:

(1) **Psychological Interventions:** psychological counseling, psychotherapy, psychosocial support, life coaching, psychological debriefing, group processes, and all other psychological interventions that involve the application of psychological principles and methods to improve the psychological functioning of individuals, families, groups, and organizations.

(2) **Psychological Assessment:** gathering and integration of psychology-related data for the purpose of: (a) making a psychological evaluation accomplished through a variety of tools including individual tests, projective tests, clinical interviews and other psychological assessment tools, or (b) assessing diverse psychological functions including cognitive abilities, aptitudes, personality characteristics, attitudes, values, interests, emotions and motivations, among others, in support of psychological counseling, psychotherapy and other psychological interventions;

(3) **Psychological Programs:** development, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of psychological treatment programs and other psychological intervention programs for individuals and/or groups.

The term "other psychological interventions" shall be deemed to include:

- (a) preventive and therapeutic measures like play and expressive arts therapy, music therapy and trauma healing, as well as correctional, rehabilitative and behavioral modification measures;
- (b) consultation, that is, providing extensive knowledge, specialized technical assistance and expertise in an advisory capacity to consultees in regard to mental and behavioral concerns, emotional distress, personality disorders and other neuropsychological dysfunctions.

"Psychological evaluation" shall include the making of diagnostic interpretations, reports, and recommendations (a) as part of a case study, or (b) in support of diagnostic screening, placement, management decisions, psychiatric evaluation, legal action, psychological counseling, psychotherapy or change intervention.

"Assessing diverse psychological functions" shall include the development, standardization, and publication of psychological tests which measure adjustment and psychopathology, and/or the creation of assessment tools primarily for psycho-diagnostic purposes.

The term "other psychological intervention programs" shall include:

- (a) addiction rehabilitation and treatment programs, behavioral management and intervention programs in correctional facilities, psychological training programs which involve inner processing, and mental health programs in disaster and emergency situations, either for individuals and/or communities;
- (b) clinical supervision: the direction, guidance, mentoring, and cliniquing of psychology practitioners and interns, psychometricians, and other trainees for psychology-related work to meet the standards of quality and excellence in professional practice.

**(c) Psychologist** - a natural person who is duly registered and holds a valid Certificate of Registration and a valid Professional Identification Card as Professional Psychologist, issued by

the Board and the Commission pursuant to Section 3(c), Article III, of R.A. No. 10029, for the purpose of delivering the different psychological services defined under this IRR.

**(d) Psychometrician** - a natural person who has been registered and issued a valid Certificate of Registration and a valid Professional Identification Card as psychometrician by the Board and the Commission in accordance with Sec. 3 (d), Article III of R.A. No. 10029, and is authorized to do any of the following activities:

- (1) administering and scoring objective personality tests, structured personality tests, excluding projective tests and other higher level forms of psychological tests;
- (2) interpreting the results of these tests and preparing a written report on these results, and
- (3) conducting preparatory intake interviews of clients for psychological intervention sessions.

Provided, that these activities shall at all times be conducted under the supervision of a licensed professional psychologist. All the assessment reports prepared and done by the psychometrician shall always bear the signature of the supervising psychologist who shall take full responsibility for the integrity of the report.

**(e) IPO** - refers to the Interim Professional Organization, the Psychological Association of the Philippines, Inc. (PAP) which has been granted by the Commission a Certificate of Registration prior to the registration and licensure of Psychologists and Psychometricians.

**(f) AIPO** - refers to the Accredited Integrated Professional Organization of licensed and registered Psychologists and Psychometricians.

#### RULE IV

#### PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

**SEC. 4. Creation and Composition of Professional Regulatory Board of Psychology.**

- There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Psychology, a collegial body under the administrative control and supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission, which shall be composed of a chairperson, and two (2) members to be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of three (3) nominees for each position recommended by the Commission. The list of nominees shall be submitted to the Commission by the integrated and accredited national organization of psychologists.

The new Board shall be constituted not later than sixty (60) days from the effectivity of R.A. No. 10029.

**SEC. 5. Qualifications of the Chairperson and the Members of the Professional Regulatory Board of Psychology.** - The Chairperson and Members of the Board shall, at the time of their appointment and for the course of their term, be:

- (a) A natural born citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- (b) At least thirty-five (35) years of age;
- (c) Of good moral character.

(d) A holder of a doctorate degree in psychology conferred by a university, college or school in the Philippines or abroad duly recognized and/or accredited by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);

(e) A practitioner with at least ten (10) years of practice in psychology and psychometrics in a duly recognized institution, clinic or center, and at least five (5) years of teaching experience in the field of psychology;

(f) A registered and licensed psychologist, except in the case of the first members of the Board who shall automatically be conferred a valid certificate of registration and a valid professional identification card in psychology and psychometrics upon appointment to the Board;

(g) Neither an officer, trustee nor member of the faculty of any university, college, institute or school where a regular course in psychology is offered or taught or review classes conducted nor have any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any such institution;

(h) Neither an officer, nor holder of any position other than being a member of the integrated and accredited national organization of psychologists; and

(i) Not convicted by final judgment of any crime involving moral turpitude.

**SEC. 6. Terms of Office.** – The members of the Board shall have a term of office of three (3) years or until their successors shall have been duly qualified and appointed. Each member of the Board may be reappointed for one (1) full term of three (3) years. The first members of the Board shall hold office for the following terms: the Chairperson for three (3) years; one (1) member for two (2) years; and the other member for one (1) year, which shall be specified in their respective appointments. Any vacancy occurring within the term of a member shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath prior to the performance of his/her duties.

**SEC. 7. Powers and Duties.** – The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) Administer and Implement the provisions of R.A. No. 10029 and promulgate as well as revise or update, as necessary, rules and regulations, resolutions and guidelines hereto: *Provided*, that the policies, resolutions, rules and regulations issued or promulgated by the Board shall be subject to review and approval by the Commission.

(b) Supervise and monitor the registration, licensure and practice of psychologists and psychometricians in the Philippines;

(c) Administer oaths in connection with the administration of R.A. No. 10029;

(d) Issue, and upon compliance with due process requirements, suspend or revoke, and reinstate, the certificate of registration and professional identification card for psychologists and psychometricians;

(e) Adopt an official seal of the Board;

(f) Monitor the conditions and circumstances affecting the practice of psychology and psychometrics in the Philippines and adopt such measures as may be deemed lawful and proper for the enhancement and maintenance of high professional, ethical and technical standards of the profession;

(g) Issue permits to and exercise visitatorial powers over agencies, institutions, associations, corporations and partnerships to verify that the person practicing psychology and psychometrics therein are psychologists and psychometricians with valid certificates of registration and valid

professional identification cards, and that they possess the necessary accreditation, skills and/or facilities to competently carry out their functions;

(h) Assist the Commission in the formulation and implementation of the guidelines on continuing professional education for psychologists and psychometricians.

(i) Ensure, in coordination with the CHED, that all educational institutions offering the course/program of psychology strictly comply with the policies, standards and requirements prescribed by the CHED for such course/program, especially in the areas of administration, curriculum, faculty, library and facilities;

(j) Prepare, adopt, issue, and amend, in consultation with the CHED, syllabi for the licensure examination subjects;

(k) Investigate and, when warranted, hear administrative cases involving violations of R.A. No. 10029, this IRR, and any applicable code of ethics and/or code of professional standards, warranting issuance of subpoena testificandum and subpoena duces tecum to secure the appearance of witnesses and the production of document in connection therewith. Provided, That the Board's decision, resolution or orders rendered in administrative cases shall be subject to review only on appeal, and

(l) Perform such other functions and duties as may be lawfully delegated to it, or as it may deem necessary to carry out the objectives of R.A No. 10029.

The Board in the performance of the above-mentioned powers and duties shall seek the assistance of the offices, divisions, sections, and units of the Commission.

**SEC. 8. Compensation and Allowances.** – The Chairperson and Members of the Board shall receive the same compensation and allowances as those received by the Chairperson and Members of the existing regulatory boards under the Commission, as provided in the Charter of the Commission.

**SEC. 9. Removal or Suspension of the Members of the Professional Regulatory Board of Psychology.** – Any member of the Board may, upon the recommendation of the Commission, after observance of due process and completion of the proper investigation, be suspended or removed by the President from office for cause, such as gross neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice, behavior unbecoming of a psychology professional, immorality, unethical or dishonorable conduct, final conviction of any crime involving moral turpitude, any act of graft and corruption, and participation in the manipulation of or any dishonesty relative to the licensure and/or the registration process.

**SEC. 10. Administrative Supervision over the Board, Custodian of its Records, Secretariat and Support Services.** – The Board shall be under the administrative supervision and control of the Commission. All records of the Board, including documents relative to the licensure examinations as well as administrative and other investigative cases conducted by the Board, shall be kept in the custody of the Commission. The Commission shall designate the Secretary of the Board and shall provide the secretariat with necessary support services to effectively implement the provisions of R.A. No. 10029.

#### RULE V

#### LICENSURE EXAMINATION

**SEC.11. Examinations Required.** – All applicants for registration to practice psychology and psychometrics shall be required to pass a licensure examination for psychologists and

psychometricians to be conducted by the Board in such places and dates, and subject to such requirements prescribed by the Commission.

The Commission's Master Schedule for the year's Licensure Examinations shall include the dates and places for the examinations for Psychologists and Psychometricians.

**SEC.12. Qualifications of Applicants for the Licensure Examination for Psychologists. -**

Any person may apply to take the examinations as a psychologist after furnishing evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:

- (a) Is a Filipino citizen, or a permanent resident or a citizen of a foreign state/country which extends reciprocity to the Philippines relative to the practice of the profession;
- (b) Holds at least a master's degree in psychology conferred by a university, college or school in the Philippines or abroad recognized/ accredited by the CHED and has obtained sufficient credits for the subjects covered in the examination;
- (c) Has undergone a minimum of two hundred (200) hours of supervised practicum / internship / clinical experience related to services enumerated in paragraph (b) of Section 3 of R. A. No. 10029 and under auspices of a license psychologist or other licensed mental health professional;
- (d) Is of good moral character; and
- (e) Has not been convicted by final judgment of an offense involving moral turpitude.

**Sec.12-A. Documentary Requirements to the Licensure Examination of Psychologists. -** All applications shall be filed in the Application Division of the Commission and the qualified examinees shall be issued with notices of admission to take such examination upon submission of the following documents:

- (a) Original and photocopy of Certificate of Live Birth in NSO security paper in case of a Filipino citizen; or in case of a foreign citizen, a copy of the law of the state or country which permits Filipino Psychologists to practice on the same basis as its subjects or citizens, duly authenticated by the Philippine embassy or consulate therein;
- (b) Marriage Contract in NSO security paper for married female applicants;
- (c) Original and photocopy of transcript of records (with scanned picture); indicating the Special Order (S.O.) number; and where school is exempted from the issuance of an S.O., a Certificate of Authentication and Validation (CAV) from the CHED;
- (d) Certified true-copy of certificate of practicum training, clinical internship or work experience, specifying the institution where this internship training was spent, and the detailed activities or psychological services and number of hours rendered, under the auspices or supervision of a licensed Psychologist, or any other licensed Mental Health Professional. This certification must be signed and issued by the same authority or superior, and duly notarized under oath;
- (e) Original and photocopy of valid NBI Clearance;
- (f) Three (3) certificates of good moral character, preferably from school, employer, church, barangay captain, duly signed by the issuing authority and notarized under oath;
- (g) Original certificate of Mental Health and Mental Fitness from a Psychiatrist or from a Registered/Certified Clinical Psychologist, duly signed and notarized under oath;

- (h) Two (2) colored passport size pictures with white background and complete name tag;
- and
- (i) Community Tax Certificate.

**SEC. 13. Qualifications of Applicants to the Licensure Examination of Psychometricians.** - Any person may apply to take the examinations as a psychometrician after furnishing evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:

- (a) Is a Filipino citizen, or a permanent resident or a citizen of a foreign state/country which extends reciprocity to the Philippines relative to the practice of the profession;
- (b) Holds at least a bachelor's degree in psychology conferred by a university, college or school in the Philippines or abroad recognized/ accredited by the CHED and has obtained sufficient credits for the subjects covered in the examination;
- (c) Is of good moral character; and
- (d) Has not been convicted by final judgment of an offense involving moral turpitude.

**SEC. 13-A. Documentary Requirements to the Licensure Examination of Psychometricians** - All applications shall be filed in the Application Division of the Commission and the qualified examinees shall be issued with notices of admission to take such examination upon submission of the following documents:

- (a) Original and photocopy of Certificate of Live Birth in NSO security paper in case of Filipino citizen, or in case of a foreign citizen, a ~~copy~~ of the law of the state or country which permits Filipino Psychometrician to practice on the same basis as its subject or citizens, duly authenticated by the Philippine embassy or consulate therein;
- (b) Marriage Contract in NSO security paper for married female applicants;
- (c) Original and photocopy of transcript of records (with scanned picture) indicating the Special Order (S.O.) number, and where school is exempted from the issuance of an S.O., a Certificate of Authentication and Validation (CAV) from the CHED;
- (d) Original and photocopy of valid NBI Clearance;
- (e) Three (3) Certificates of good moral character, preferably from school, employer, church, barangay captain, duly signed by the issuing authority and duly notarized under oath;
- (f) Two (2) colored passport size pictures with white background and complete name tag;
- and
- (g) Community Tax Certificate.

**SEC. 14. Examination Subjects for Psychologists** - The licensure examination for psychologists shall cover the following subjects:

- (a) Advanced Theories of Personality;
- (b) Advanced Abnormal Psychology;
- (c) Advanced Psychological Assessment; and
- (d) Psychological Counseling and Psychotherapy.

The Board may recluster, rearrange, modify, add or exclude and prescribe subjects for the licensure examination of psychologists as the need arises. The Board subject to approval of the Commission shall issue a Resolution on the implementation of this provision.

**SEC. 15. Examination Subjects for Psychometricians.** – The licensure examination for psychometricians shall cover the following subjects:

- (a) Theories of Personality
- (b) Abnormal Psychology;
- (c) Industrial Psychology; and
- (d) Psychological Assessment

The Board may recluster, rearrange, modify, add or exclude and prescribe subjects for the licensure examination of psychometricians as the need arises. The Board subject to approval of the Commission shall issue a Resolution on the implementation of this provision.

**SEC. 16. Registration Without Examination for Psychologists.** – A person who possesses the qualifications required to take the licensure examination as a psychologist pursuant to the provisions of R.A. No. 10029 may be registered without examination, Provided, that the applicant files with the Board within three (3) years after its creation, or until May 21, 2015, an application for registration and issuance of a certificate of registration and a professional identification card.

To qualify, the applicant must submit credentials satisfactory to the Board that on or prior to June 2, 2010, the effectivity of R.A. No. 10029, he/she has fulfilled any of the following conditions:

- (a) Obtained a doctoral degree in psychology conferred by a university, college or school in the Philippines or abroad, duly recognized/accredited by the CHED; and has accumulated a minimum of three (3) years work experience in the practice of psychology;
- (b) Obtained a master's degree in psychology conferred by a university, college or school in the Philippines or abroad recognized/accredited by the CHED; and must have accumulated a minimum of five (5) years work experience in the practice of psychology;
- (c) Psychologists or employees holding positions as Psychologists presently employed in various government and private agencies, who have a bachelor's degree in psychology, accumulated a minimum of ten (10) years work experience in the practice of psychology as a psychologist, and have updated their professional education in various psychology-related functions.

"Professional education in various psychology-related functions" shall mean completion of at least 100 hours of updating workshops and training programs across various areas and specialties in psychology conducted by duly established national or international organizations of psychologists, psychiatrists and other allied mental health professionals, in the last five (5) years immediately preceding the effectivity of R.A. 10029.

In addition to the documentary requirements specified under Rule V, Section 12-A, except (d), applicants for registration without examination for Psychologists shall submit their employment certificate or certificate of relevant work experience, specifying the position title and job description, and the specific period of assignment / engagement, duly signed under oath by any two (2) of the following: immediate superior, head of the human resource department or general manager of the employing institution or organization.



For those who are self-employed, such certification, specifying the nature, scope and duration of practice and/or psychological services rendered, shall be issued by at least any two (2) professional partners (psychologists, psychiatrists and guidance counselors), and/or institutional clients and colleagues in the practice of the profession, who shall sign such certification under oath.

The following additional documents shall be submitted by self-employed practitioners:

- (a) Duly notarized work contracts, specifying the nature of one's engagement and project duration; and/or sworn statement of the practitioner specifying the nature, scope and duration of psychological services rendered, including the regularity of practice/service delivery, or number of hours spent each day, with an undertaking that he/she shall produce evidence thereof when required by the Board; and
- (b) Certified true copy of Business permit and DTI registration.

**SEC.17. Registration Without Examination for Psychometricians.** - A person who possesses the qualifications required to take the examination for registration as a psychometrician may be registered without examination. Provided, that the applicant files with the Board within three (3) years, that is, until May 21, 2015, an application for registration and issuance of a certificate of registration and a professional identification card by submitting credentials satisfactory to the Board that the applicant before June 2, 2010, had obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology from a CHED-accredited institution or an internationally-recognized institution, and has accumulated a minimum of two (2) years full-time work experience in the practice of psychometrics.

The documentary requirements specified for applicants to the licensure examination for psychometricians under Sec.13, Rule V shall apply. In addition, applicants shall submit their employment certificate or certificate of work experience, specifying the position title of psychometrician and the corresponding job description during the period of such employment, duly signed under oath by the immediate superior.

**SEC.18. Ratings in the Examination.** - To be qualified as having passed the licensure examination for psychologists and psychometricians, a candidate must have obtained a weighted general average of at least seventy-five percent (75%) for all subjects, with no grade lower than sixty percent (60%) in any given subject. An examinee who obtains a weighted general average of seventy-five (75%) or higher but obtains a rating below sixty percent (60%) in any given subject may retake such subject or subjects within the next two (2) years, and upon obtaining a rating of at least seventy-five percent (75%) in each such subject, shall then be deemed to have passed the licensure examination.

**SEC.19. Report of Ratings.** - The Board shall submit to the Commission an official report detailing the ratings obtained by each examinee within ten (10) calendar days after the examination, unless such period is extended for just cause.

## RULE VI

### REGISTRATION

**SEC.20. Oath of Psychologists and Psychometricians.** - All successful examinees qualified for registration and all qualified applicants for registration without examination shall be required to take an oath to uphold the profession before any member of the Board or any officer of

the Commission authorized to administer oaths, prior to entering into the practice of psychology or psychometrics in the Philippines.

**SEC. 21. Issuance of Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card.**

- A certificate of registration and a professional identification card shall be issued to all successful examinees and registrants without examination upon compliance with all the legal requirements, including payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. The certificate of registration shall bear the signature of the Chairperson of the Commission and of the chairman and members of the Board, stamped with the official seal of the Commission and of the Board, certifying that the person named therein is entitled to the practice of the profession with all the privileges appurtenant thereto. The said certificate shall remain in full force and effect until suspended or revoked in accordance with R.A. No. 10029.

A professional identification card bearing the registration number and date, and validity term of three (3) years, duly signed by the Chairperson of the Commission shall likewise be issued to every registrant who has paid the prescribed fees. Upon expiration of the professional identification card, the psychologist or the psychometrician may renew the same upon proof of compliance with continuing education requirements prescribed by the Board and/or the Commission.

**SEC. 22. Disclosure of Registration Information.** - The Psychologist or Psychometrician shall be required to indicate his/her registration and professional identification card number, the date of ID issuance and its duration of validity, and the professional tax receipt number (PTR) on each official document signed or issued in connection with the practice of the profession.

**SEC. 23. Non-issuance of Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card** - The Board shall not register nor issue a certificate of registration or professional identification card to any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense involving moral turpitude, found guilty by a judicial or other duly constituted tribunal of immoral or dishonorable conduct, or medically diagnosed by a psychiatrist to be of unsound mind. In the event of non-issuance of the certificate for any reason, the Board shall furnish the applicant a written statement setting forth the reasons for such denial, which statement shall be incorporated in the records of the Board.

**SEC.24. Foreign reciprocity.** - No foreigner shall be admitted to the psychology or psychometrics licensure examinations unless he/she proves that the country of which he/she is a citizen, either:

- (a) Admits Filipino citizens to the practice of psychology or psychometrics without need for registration and issuance of a certificate of registration/ professional identification card;
- (b) Allows Filipino citizens to practice psychology or psychometrics without restriction; or
- (c) Allows Filipino citizens to practice the same after an examination on terms of strict and absolute equality with nationals of said country.

**SEC. 25. Practice through Special/Temporary Permit**- Special/temporary permits may be issued by the Board subject to the approval by the Commission and payment of the appropriate fees, to the following persons:

- (a) Licensed psychologists or psychometricians from foreign countries/states who are internationally acknowledged as specialists or outstanding experts in psychology or psychometrics; Provided that their services are important and necessary either due to the lack of, or inadequacy of available local specialists or experts, or in recognition of their potential contribution to the

promotion and advancement of the practice of psychology or psychometrics through the transfer of technology;

(b) Licensed psychologists or psychometricians from foreign countries/states whose services shall be free and offered exclusively to indigent patients in a particular hospital, center or clinic, and

(c) Licensed psychologists or psychometricians from foreign countries/states employed as exchange professors to teach psychology or psychometrics in schools, colleges, universities offering psychology or psychometrics courses or programs.

The permit shall detail the conditions thereof which shall, among other things, include the effectivity period of not more than one (1) year subject to renewal and the specific place of practice such as the clinic, hospital, center, school, college, or university offering the course of psychology or psychometrics. The Board subject to the approval by the Commission shall prescribe rules and regulations on the implementation of this particular section.

**SEC.26. Suspension or Revocation of Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card or Cancellation of a Special/ Temporary Permit.** – The Board shall have the power, after notice and hearing, to suspend or revoke the certificate of registration and professional identification card or to cancel special/ temporary permits granted pursuant to any ground set forth in Section 33 of R.A. No. 10029, or any of the instances hereunder:

(a) Procurement of a Certificate of Registration and/or Professional Identification Card or special/temporary permit by fraud or deceit;

(b) Allowing an unqualified person to advertise or to practice the profession by using one's certificate of registration or professional identification card or special/temporary permit;

(c) Violating or conspiring to violate any provision in any section or article of R.A. No. 10029 or this IRR;

(d) Manifest physical or mental incompetence to render psychological services with reasonable skills and safety to his/her clients/patients;

(e) Professional misconduct or negligence in the performance of duties as a psychologist or psychometrician; and

(f) Engaging in the practice of the profession during the period of one's suspension.

**SEC.27. Reinstatement.**- A psychologist or psychometrician whose certificate of registration has been revoked may apply to the Board for reinstatement at any time after two (2) years from the date of revocation of said certificate. The application in writing shall include the following:

(a) Acknowledgement of one's offense;

(b) A promise not to commit the same or similar offense in the future or any violation of the provisions of R.A. No. 10029 and this IRR;

(c) A declaration that he/she did not violate any provision of R.A. No. 10029 or this IRR during the suspension and

(d) Clearances from the NBI, Barangay, and Court's issued within the last six (6) months prior to the application for reinstatement.

No certificate of registration or professional identification card or special/temporary permit shall be reinstated unless the Board is satisfied that a good cause exists to warrant such reinstatement. Where a valid cause is established to warrant such reinstatement, the Board shall issue a resolution subject to approval by the Commission for reinstatement of the concerned professional to the practice of Psychology and/or Psychometrics.

Issuance of a new certificate of registration or professional identification card or special/temporary permit in lieu of one that has been lost, destroyed or mutilated shall be subject to applicable rules prescribed by the Commission.

**SEC. 28. Appeal from Judgment.** – The decision of the Board shall *ipso facto* become final fifteen (15) days from receipt of the final decision by the respondent unless an appeal has been filed with the Commission within the same period. The Commission's decision on appeal may be further appealed before the Court of Appeals within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof.

**SEC. 29. Rights of the Respondent.** – The respondent psychologist or psychometrician shall have the right to be represented by counsel at all stages of the proceedings as well as to speedy disposition of his/her case. He/she shall have the right to confront witnesses against him/her in addition to such other rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

## RULE VII

### PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION

**SEC. 30. Rights to Privileged Communication for Psychologists and Psychometricians.** – A psychologist or psychometrician cannot, without the consent of the client/patient, be examined on any communication or information disclosed and/or acquired in the course of giving psychological services to such client/patient. The protection accorded herein shall extend to all pertinent records available to the secretary, clerk or other staff of the licensed psychologist or psychometrician. Any evidence obtained in violation of this provision shall be inadmissible for any purpose in any proceeding.

**SEC. 31. Integration of the Profession.** – The profession shall hereinafter be integrated into one (1) consolidated national organization of registered and licensed psychologists and psychometricians, which shall be recognized and accredited by the Board, subject to the approval of the Commission. A psychologist or psychometrician duly registered and licensed by the Board and the Commission shall automatically become a member of said organization, and shall receive the benefits and privileges, as well as be subject to all responsibilities and obligations appurtenant thereto upon payment of the required fees and dues. Membership in the integrated organization shall not be a bar to membership in any other association of psychologists and/or psychometricians.

**SEC. 32. Code of Ethics and Code of Practice for Psychologists and Psychometricians.** – The Board shall adopt and promulgate the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Practice for Psychologists and Psychometricians prescribed and issued by the accredited professional organization of psychologists and psychometricians; *Provided that* all provisions thereof are in harmony with R.A. No. 10029 and this IRR.

The Board shall issue a resolution for the promulgation thereof subject to approval by the Commission and publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation for the effectivity thereof.

## RULE VIII

### PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT OF R.A. NO. 10029 AND THE RULES

#### SEC. 33. *Prohibited Acts.* -

(a) No person shall:

(1) Engage in the professional practice of psychology or psychometrics nor represent himself/herself as a professional psychologist or psychometrician to the public or third person without a valid certificate of registration or a valid professional identification card, or a valid special/temporary permit granted by the Board pursuant to R.A. No. 10029.

(2) Represent himself/herself to be a licensed and authorized practicing psychologist or psychometrician during the time his/her certificate of registration has been suspended or revoked, or at the time his/her professional identification card has expired, or at any instance his/her special/temporary permit has been cancelled.

(3) Allow any other person to use his/her certificate of registration and professional identification card or special/temporary permit for any purpose, whether or not such act actually enables the unqualified individual to engage in the practice of psychology or psychometrics.

(4) Use, exhibit and/or misrepresent as his/her own the certificate of registration and/or professional identification card or special/temporary permit of another, and

(5) Give any false, inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information to the Board in order to obtain a certificate of registration or professional identification card or special/temporary permit.

(b) No corporation, partnership, association or entity shall operate a psychology or psychometrics office, center, or clinic, or otherwise engage in the practice or allow the practice of psychology or psychometrics within its premises without securing a permit therefor from the Board. Such permit shall be issued only after the Board is satisfied that such establishment is competently staffed by a psychologist and equipped with sufficient and adequate psychology-related instruments and facilities.

A violation of any provision of R.A. No. 10029 or of its IRR shall be penalized accordingly.

**SEC. 34. Penalties.** - Any person who violates any provision of R.A. No. 10029 or this IRR shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than three (3) years, or a fine of not less than ten thousand pesos (P10, 000.00) but not more than one hundred thousand pesos (P100, 000.00) or both, at the discretion of the court.

**SEC. 35. Injunction.** - The Board may initiate action or file a petition before the regular courts of law having jurisdiction of the same, for the issuance of a writ of injunction, to enjoin, restrain, and/or prosecute any individual, corporation, association, partnership or entity engaging in the practice of psychology and psychometrics in violation of R.A. No. 10029 or its IRR.

**SEC. 36. Enforcement.** - It shall be the duty of all duly constituted law enforcement agencies and officers of national, provincial, city or municipal governments to uphold and enforce the provisions of R.A. No. 10029 and to investigate and prosecute or cause the investigation and prosecution of any person violating the same.

RULE IX

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**SEC. 37. Applicability of Laws and Issuances.** - The provisions of existing laws and related issuances shall be applied *suppletorily* to this IRR.

**SEC. 38. Funding Provision.** - The Chairperson of the Commission shall immediately include in its program the implementation of this IRR, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.


**SEC. 39. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this IRR shall at any time be found to be unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 40. Repealing Clause.** - Any rules or regulations, orders, measures or policies inconsistent with this IRR are hereby repealed, or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 41. Effectivity.** - This IRR shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its full and complete publication in the Official Gazette or any two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Done in the City of Manila this 28th day of November, 2012.

  
MIRIAM P. CUE  
Acting Chairperson

  
IMELDA VIRGINIA G. VILLAR  
Member

VACANT  
Member

ATTESTED BY:


  
CARLOS G. ALMELOR  
Secretary, Professional Regulatory Boards

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE : 12-29-12  
DATE OF EFFECTIVITY : 01-08-13

APPROVED :

TERESITA R. MANZALA  
Chairperson

  
ALFREDO Y. PO  
Commissioner

  
JENNIFER JARDIN-MANALILI  
Commissioner