



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2016-39A

Teanne Rose, Executive Officer
State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
421 NW 13th Street, Ste. 180
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

January 22, 2016

Dear Executive Officer Teanne Rose:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action that the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists intends to take. The proposed action is to deny the application for licensure of Dr. Lidwina Wijtenburg. The applicant has a degree from a doctoral program that is not accredited by the American Psychological Association and that is not designated as a psychology program by the Designation Committee of the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology.

The Psychologists Licensing Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2015, §§ 1351–1376, requires that applicants for licensure to practice psychology in Oklahoma have a doctoral degree accredited by the American Psychological Association or one “that meets recognized acceptable professional standards as determined by the Board,” 59 O.S.2011, § 1362(1). To meet the alternative standard under the Board’s administrative rules, a doctoral program must first be recognized by the Designation Committee of the National Register of Health Services Providers in Psychology and the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards unless the program has been accredited by the American Psychological Association or the Canadian Psychological Association. OAC 575:10-1-2(c). Second, the rules require the doctoral program to meet several quality criteria, including being “an integrated, organized sequence of study” and having “an identifiable psychology faculty.” OAC 575:10-1-2(c)(4), (5). The action seeks to enforce the educational standards embodied in the Act and in the Board’s administrative rules by denying an application for licensure.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State of Oklahoma’s policy that psychologists have academic qualifications that ensure their ability to provide psychology health services with a minimum level of competence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Pruitt", is written over a horizontal line.

E. SCOTT PRUITT
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA