

# TAPA

---

---

## Texas Association of Psychological Associates

---

---

P.O. Box 601374, Dallas, Texas 75360-1374  
txapa@att.net ★ www.txapa.net

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Email: txapa@att.net

Dallas, Texas, (December 1, 2017) --

### **TSBEP Addresses the Need for More Psychological Service Providers**

With great foresight, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (TSBEP) has acted to address the growing mental health crisis in Texas. On November 9, 2017, the TSBEP passed rules to allow qualified Licensed Psychological Associates (LPAs) to practice independently. LPAs have historically practiced in state agencies or were dually licensed to provide psychological services in public schools. The recent rule changes will allow experienced LPAs to serve patients without unnecessary administrative oversight that increases costs and decreases providers. The new rules will treat LPAs like other mental health providers and empower them to serve patients in a new way.

The rule changes ensure that future licensed LPAs are prepared to serve Texans. The new rules call for increased education and experience requirements for masters in psychology programs comparable to other recent changes by similar mental health providers. LPAs will focus on the application of the science of psychology to help people with a variety of mental disorders. This will give students entering the mental health field additional programs of study and options for employment.

###

The Texas Association of Psychological Associates (TAPA) is a not-for-profit professional association founded in 1991 to represent masters-degreed practitioners in psychology. TAPA is associated with the Northamerican Association of Masters in Psychology (NAMPP) and the Council of Applied Masters Programs in Psychology (CAMPP).