



# HOUSE BILL 933: Reciprocity/School Psychologist Licensure.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Health	<b>Date:</b>	May 16, 2018
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Dobson, Torbett, Lewis, Lucas	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jason Moran-Bates
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Filed Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 933 would require the State Board of Education to issue a school psychologist license to any individual who holds the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential issued by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). It would also make some technical changes to the licensing statute for school support personnel.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under current law, individuals who are already licensed as school psychologists in other states must follow the same process and meet the same criteria as North Carolina residents seeking initial licensure. First, they must complete an approved program in school psychology at the sixth-year level (about 75 semester hours). Secondly, they must pass the school psychology Praxis test. Finally, they must have a professional educator's continuing license issued by the Department of Public Instruction. In order to obtain that license, individuals fully licensed in other states must have at least three years of experience in addition to meeting the North Carolina State Board of Education's approved licensure exam requirements, or have a national board certification

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 933 would require the State Board of Education to issue a school psychologist license to any individual who holds an NCSP credential issued by the NASP.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill would be effective when it becomes law and apply to applications for licensure submitted on or after that date.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to obtain the NCSP, individuals must 1) complete at least 60 semester hours of graduate-level coursework in a school psychology program of study, 2) complete a series of supervised practicum experiences, 3) complete 1,200 hours of school psychology internship, at least 600 of which must be in a school setting, and 4) pass the school psychologist Praxis test. Currently, 32 states, including Florida, Georgia, Maryland, South Carolina, and Virginia, recognize NASP certification as meeting or partially meeting the requirements for licensure as a school psychologist.

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



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919-733-2578