



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Health Professions Act 16 of 2024
section 95(10)

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration
of a Name to a Register**

Government Notice 33 of 2007

(GG 3795)

came into force on date of publication: 22 February 2007

These regulations were made in terms of section 56 read with sections 27 and 33 of the Social Work and Psychology Act 6 of 2004, which was repealed by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024. Pursuant to section 95(10) of the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024, they are deemed to have been made under that Act.

The Government Notice which publishes these regulations notes that they were made on the recommendation of the Interim Social Work and Psychology Council. It also withdraws the rules published in RSA Government Notice No. R 2330 of 3 December 1976 and the regulations published in RSA GN R.821 of 13 May 1977, RSA GN R.1859 of 16 September 1977, RSA GN R.1860 of 16 September 1977 and RSA GN R.1861 of 16 September 1977.

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

PART I
DEFINITIONS

1. Definitions

PART II
REGISTRATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

2. Application for registration as a psychologist
3. Additional examinations
4. Additional education, tuition and training

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

PART III
INTERN-PSYCHOLOGISTS

5. Registration and training of intern-psychologist before registration as psychologist
6. Period and manner of training by intern-psychologist and agreement of internship
7. Cancellation or cession of internship, and change of name
8. Completion of internship

PART IV
REGISTRATION OF SPECIALITIES

9. Registrable specialities
10. Registration of more than one speciality
11. Requirements for the registration of a speciality
12. Recognition of experience gained in certain circumstances
13. Conditions applicable to the practising of a speciality
14. Cessation of speciality practice

PART V
REGISTERS AND RESTORATION OF NAME TO REGISTER

15. Register of psychologists
16. Register of intern-psychologists
17. Restoration of name to register

PART VI
GENERAL

18. Language of forms and documents

ANNEXURES

PART I
DEFINITIONS

Definitions

1. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, a word or expression defined in the Act has the same meaning, and -

“approved facility” means any a hospital or health facility defined in section 1 of the Hospitals and Health Facilities Act, 1994 (Act No. 36 of 1994), or any other similar or appropriate facility, conducted under the full time direct supervision and control of a registered psychologist, and approved in writing by the Council for the purpose of the training of intern-psychologists;

“clinical psychologist” means any person registered as a clinical psychologist under the Act;

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

“Council” includes the Interim Social Work and Psychology Council of Namibia established under section 60 of the Act;

“educational psychologist” means any person registered as an educational psychologist under the Act;

“intern-psychologist” means an intern clinical psychologist, an intern educational psychologist or an intern psychological counsellor;

“psychologist” means a clinical psychologist, an educational psychologist or a psychological counsellor;

“psychological counsellor” means any person registered as a psychological counsellor under the Act;

“specialist” means a psychologist in whose name a speciality is registered and who confines his or her practice to such speciality;

“speciality” means one of the branches of psychology referred to in regulation 9;

“the Act” means the Social Work and Psychology Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004).

**[The Social Work and Psychology Act 6 of 2004 has been
replaced by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.]**

PART II
REGISTRATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Application for registration as a psychologist

2. (1) An application for the registration of a person as a psychologist under section 19 of the Act must be made in accordance with that section.

(2) An application referred to in subregulation (1) must be accompanied, in addition to the documents and particulars specified in section 19(2) of the Act, by -

- (a) a certificate, in such form as the Council may determine, by a psychologist or by a specialist, and such a certificate by one other person acceptable to the Council, confirming the identity and the good character of the applicant; and
- (b) if the qualification upon which the applicant relies for registration as a psychologist is a qualification referred to in section 23(1)(a) of the Act, the original certificate of registration to practise as a psychologist in the country where the applicant obtained the qualification, issued by the relevant registration authority of such country.

(3) If the applicant referred to in subregulation (2)(b) is not registered with the registration authority referred to in that subregulation, the applicant must submit -

- (a) a certificate, issued by such registration authority, certifying that the qualification or qualifications of which the applicant is the holder, entitles the applicant to registration as a psychologist in the country where that applicant obtained such qualification or qualifications; or

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (b) if he or she had been so registered previously, a certificate issued by such registration authority, specifying the reasons why the applicant is not so registered any more,

together with his or her application for registration.

(4) If the qualification upon which the applicant relies for registration has been awarded to the applicant by an educational institution at which the medium of instruction is not the English language, the Council may require the applicant to provide, in such manner as the Council may determine, the Council with proof of the applicant's proficiency in the English language.

Additional examinations

3. (1) The additional examinations referred to in section 23(1)(b)(ii) of the Act must consist of written or oral or practical examinations, or of written and oral and practical examinations, in such disciplines as the Council may determine in respect of every person who is to be examined as required by that section, for the purpose specified in subregulation (2).

(2) The purpose of the additional examination referred to in subregulation (1) is to determine whether the person who is to be examined possesses the knowledge, skills and competence required to be possessed by any person who holds the qualification prescribed under section 18(1) of the Act, and which qualification so held entitles a person to be registered as a psychologist under section 20 of the Act, read with section 24 of the Act.

(3) The Council may appoint, subject to such conditions as it may determine, a suitable person or persons to conduct the examinations referred to in subregulation (1).

Additional education, tuition and training

4. (1) If the Council registers a person conditionally under section 23(2)(a) of the Act, the Council must determine the additional education, tuition or training referred to in section 23(1)(b)(i) of the Act, required by the person so conditionally registered in order to qualify for registration as a psychologist in terms of the Act.

(2) Particulars of the additional education, tuition or training determined by the Council in accordance with subregulation (1), must be endorsed by the Council upon the certificate of conditional registration issued by the Council in the name of that person under section 23(2)(b) of the Act.

PART III
INTERN-PSYCHOLOGISTS**Registration and training of intern-psychologist before registration as psychologist**

5. (1) Any person who holds a qualification prescribed under section 18(1) of the Act as a minimum requirement for registration as a psychologist under the Act, must undertake, subject to subregulation (4), after obtaining such qualification and before he or she is entitled to registration as a psychologist, training as a intern-psychologist for a period and in the manner referred to in regulation 6.

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

(2) An application for registration as an intern-psychologist must be made and be submitted to the registrar in such form as the Council may determine.

(3) An application form submitted to the registrar in accordance with subregulation (2) must be accompanied by -

- (i) a certificate or a certified copy of the certificate, as proof that the applicant holds a prescribed qualification referred to in subregulation (1);
- (ii) if the applicant had been registered previously in a country other than Namibia as a intern-psychologist or as a psychologist, or is still so registered, a certificate of good standing from the registration authority with which the applicant had been so registered or is still so registered, which certificate must not have been issued more than 120 days before the date of the submission of the application for registration to the registrar in accordance with subregulation (2);
- (iii) a certificate, in such form as the Council may determine, by a registered psychologist, and such a certificate by one other person acceptable to the Council, confirming the identity and the good character of the applicant;
- (iv) a certified copy of the identity document or of the passport of the applicant;
- (v) such additional documents and information as the Council may determine; and
- (vi) payment of the application fees, determined by the Council under section 28(1) of the Act, relating to the registration of a intern-psychologist.

(4) On receipt of an application for registration as an intern-psychologist in terms of subregulation (2), the registrar must submit the application to the Council for its decision.

(5) The Council, after having considered the application for registration, and the documents and other information referred to in subregulation (3), may -

- (a) grant the application for the registration of the applicant as a intern-psychologist if the Council is satisfied that the applicant -
 - (i) meets with the requirements relating to the registration of a intern-psychologist;
 - (ii) has complied with subregulation (3);
 - (iii) is a fit and proper person to be so registered; and
 - (iv) has paid to the Council the fees relating to such application;
- (b) refuse the application for the registration of the applicant as a intern-psychologist if the Council is satisfied that the applicant -
 - (i) does not meet with the requirements relating to the registration of a intern-psychologist;

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (ii) has not complied with subregulations (3);
 - (iii) is not a fit and proper person to be so registered; or
 - (iv) has not paid to the Council the fees relating to such application.
- (6) The Council must -
- (a) inform the applicant in writing of its decision under subregulation (5);
 - (b) issue, if the application for registration is granted, to the applicant a certificate relating to such registration in such form as the Council may determine, and enter the name of the applicant into the relevant register;
 - (c) inform the applicant in writing, if the application for registration is refused, as soon as practicable of the reasons for such refusal.
- (7) Upon the submission of an application by a person in accordance with subregulation (2) for registration as an intern psychologist, and if that person submits documentary proof to the satisfaction of the Council that he or she has -
- (a) completed training substantially equivalent to the applicable training referred to in regulation 6, in another country at an appropriate facility in connection with the qualification concerned; or
 - (b) practised in another country as a psychologist by virtue of the qualification referred to in paragraph (a) for such period and under such circumstances as may give him experience and training substantially equivalent to the applicable training referred to in regulation 6; or
 - (c) practised in Namibia as a registered counselling psychologist, psychometrist or psychotechnician,

the Council may exempt, on such conditions as it may determine, that person from the requirements of registration and training as an intern-psychologist in Namibia, or may reduce the period of training, by such period of time as the Council may determine, if the Council is satisfied with the completion of such training or the practising as a counselling psychologist, psychometrist or psychotechnician, by the applicant, and that the completion of such training or the practising as a counselling psychologist, psychometrist or psychotechnician, is substantially equivalent to the training and practice referred to in regulation 6.

(8) Notwithstanding the withdrawal by these regulations of the regulations made under Government Notice No. R1859 of 16 September 1977, the regulations so withdrawn continue to apply to a person registered, under the regulations so withdrawn, as an intern- psychologist at any time before the date of such withdrawal.

[The word “a” in the phrase “a intern-psychologist” should be “an” throughout this regulation.]

Period and manner of training by intern-psychologist and agreement of internship

6. (1) The internship training of an intern-psychologist must be for a period of not less than -

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (a) one year, including vacation leave for a period of time not exceeding one month and sick leave for a period of time not exceeding one month, if such person is registered as an intern clinical psychologist;
- (b) one year, including vacation leave for a period of time not exceeding one month and sick leave for a period of time not exceeding one month, if such person is registered as an intern educational psychologist;
- (c) six months, including vacation leave for a period of time not exceeding one month and sick leave for a period of time not exceeding one month, if such person is registered as an intern psychological counsellor;
- (d) one year, including sick leave for a period of time not exceeding one month, if such person is registered as an intern psychological counsellor in Namibia, and previously practised in Namibia as a registered psychotechnician, or practised as such at the date of the commencement of the internship.

(2) If the training referred to in subregulation (1) is interrupted at any point in time, the training must consist of periods which, when added together, are not less than one calendar year or six months, in total.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, any leave or sick leave taken by an intern-psychologist during his or her period of internship referred to in subregulation (1), must be added to the period of the internship referred to in the relevant paragraph of that subregulation.

(4) The training of an intern-psychologist in accordance with these regulations must be completed -

- (a) if such person is registered as an intern clinical psychologist, at an approved facility or with a practising clinical psychologist having not less than five years experience in the practising of clinical psychology, or at both such an approved facility or practising clinical psychologist, as the Council may determine in writing;
- (b) if such person is registered as an intern educational psychologist, at an approved facility or with a practising educational psychologist having not less than five years experience in the practising of educational psychology, or at both such an approved facility or practising educational psychologist, as the Council may determine in writing; or
- (c) if such person is registered as an intern psychological counsellor, at an approved facility or with a practising clinical psychologist or a practising educational psychologist, having not less than five years experience in the practising of clinical psychology or educational psychology, as the case may be, or at both such an approved facility or practising clinical psychologist or educational psychologist, as the Council may determine in writing.

(5) The period of -

- (a) one year internship referred to in subregulation (1) must be completed within a period of two years; and

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (b) six months internship referred to in subregulation (1) must be completed within a period of one year,

after the date of the registration of the relevant person as an intern-psychologist.

(6) If an intern-psychologist fails to comply with subregulation (5), his or her registration as an intern-psychologist is regarded to be cancelled, subject to subregulation (7), as from the date upon which the period of one year or of two years, whichever may be applicable, referred to in subregulation (5), is exceeded.

(7) The Council may extend in writing, on good cause shown, the respective periods of time, referred to in subregulation (5), within which the internship must be completed.

(8) Before any person may commence with his or her internship at an approved facility or with a psychologist, he or she must -

- (a) enter into a written agreement of internship with the approved facility or psychologist at which or with whom he or she is to complete the internship, in such form and containing such conditions as the Council may determine;
- (b) register with the Council as an intern-psychologist in accordance with the Act and these regulations; and
- (c) obtain from the Council a written approval of the agreement of internship referred to in paragraph (a).

(9) The Council may specify in writing, when approving a facility for the purposes of these regulations, that only a specified portion of the training of an intern- psychologist must be undertaken at such approved facility, and that the remainder of such training must be undertaken at another approved facility or approved facilities so specified or with a psychologist.

(10) If at any time during the period of internship of an intern-psychologist referred to in this regulation, the Council considers any training approved for such purpose to be inadequate or unsatisfactory for any reason, the Council may withdraw its approval of the written agreement of internship referred to in subregulation (8)(c) by means of a written notice to both the approved facility and to the intern-psychologist, after having afforded both the approved facility and the intern-psychologist the opportunity to be heard.

(11) Unless the Council otherwise determines, on good cause shown, any period of internship completed by an intern-psychologist under an agreement of internship cancelled or terminated, or in respect of which the Council has withdrawn its approval, in accordance with or under these regulations, is void.

(12) An intern-psychologist is subject, during his or her term of internship, to all the rules of professional conduct applicable to psychologists.

(13) The criteria pertaining to internship training are specified in the Annexures to these regulations.

Cancellation or cession of internship, and change of name

- 7. (1) An intern-psychologist must notify -

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (a) if he or she has terminated his or her internship with an approved facility or a psychologist, the Council in writing within a period of 30 days of terminating the internship;
- (b) if he or she intends to terminate his or her internship at the approved facility or with the psychologist referred to in paragraph (a) and to assume internship at another approved facility or with another psychologist, the Council in writing of the intended cession not less than 30 days before that occurs, and the intern must submit to the Council -
 - (i) proof of the cancellation of the existing agreement of internship; and
 - (ii) a certified copy of the agreement of internship entered into by and between the approved facility or the psychologist, at which or with whom the internship is to be completed, and the intern-psychologist, which agreement must be approved by the Council,

and pay to the Council the fees determined by the Council relating to such application for cession of the internship.

(2) If the name of an intern-psychologist is changed for any reason, he or she must inform the Council in writing of the change of name within a period of 30 days after the change of name, and submit to the Council documentary proof of the change of name and such other particulars relating to the change of name as the Council may require in writing.

Completion of internship

8. (1) Upon the completion of the internship undertaken by an intern- psychologist in accordance with these regulations, he or she must submit proof to the Council, by way of a certificate issued by the approved facility or approved facilities, or by the psychologist, as the case may be, at which or with whom he or she completed the internship, to the satisfaction of the Council, that he or she has undertaken and completed the internship concerned.

(2) The certificate referred to in subregulation (1) must be in such form, and contain such particulars, as the Council may determine.

(3) An intern-psychologist may not be registered as a psychologist unless he or she has submitted the certificate referred to in subregulation (1) to the Council.

PART IV
REGISTRATION OF SPECIALITIES

Registrable specialities

9. (1) For the purpose of this regulation, a “speciality” means a doctorate obtained at an educational institution approved by the Council in writing.

(2) The following specialities may be registered under section 33 of the Act, subject to compliance with the requirements of the Act and of these regulations:

Speciality

Designation

Speciality in Psychotherapy (Clinical

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

Psychology)	Specialist Clinical Psychologist
Speciality in Child and Family Therapy (Clinical Psychology)	Specialist Clinical Psychologist
Speciality in Neuropsychology	Specialist Clinical Psychologist
Speciality in Forensic Psychology	Specialist Clinical Psychologist
Speciality in Community Psychology (Clinical Psychology)	Specialist Clinical Psychologist
Speciality in Developmental Psychology	Specialist Educational Psychologist
Speciality in Child and Family Therapy (Educational Psychology)	Specialist Educational Psychologist
Speciality in Psychometric Evaluation	Specialist Educational Psychologist
Speciality in Psychotherapy (Educational Psychology)	Specialist Educational Psychologist
Speciality in Community Psychology (Educational Psychology)	Specialist Educational Psychologist

Registration of more than one speciality

- 10.** A psychologist may not, at the same time -
- (a) have more than one speciality referred to in regulation 9 registered against his or her name; or
 - (b) practise in more than one speciality.

Requirements for the registration of a speciality

11. (1) A psychologist who wishes to have a speciality entered into the register must submit to the registrar an application in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) of section 33 of the Act.

(2) An application referred to in subregulation (1) must be accompanied, in addition to the documents and particulars specified in section 33(3) of the Act, by documentary proof -

- (a) that the applicant obtained a qualification relating to a speciality in the form of a degree or of a diploma from an educational institution or from any other examining authority referred to in section 18(4) of the Act which is of a standard acceptable to the Council;
- (b) that a period of not less than five years has elapsed from the date upon which the applicant obtained a qualification prescribed under section 18(1) of the Act or referred to in section 23(1)(a) of the Act, in the calculation of which the period of service as an intern-psychologist must be included; and
- (c) that the applicant has gained the minimum experience as required by subregulation (3) relating to the speciality concerned.

Recognition of experience gained in certain circumstances

12. (1) For the purpose of the requirements of regulation 11(2), the Council may recognise experience gained in the following circumstances:

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

- (a) if a psychologist has had two years or more satisfactory experience, in the opinion of the Council, in the speciality that he or she wishes to be registered in, in a hospital or other training institution approved by the Council, the Council may recognise a maximum period of two years specialist experience or, if he or she has had less than two years of such experience, a proportionate period of time of such experience;
- (b) the Council may recognise, in addition to any period of time recognised under paragraph (a), on a basis to be determined by the Council, but not exceeding a period of five years in total, for experience acceptable to the Council, gained by a psychologist -
 - (i) in an approved facility;
 - (ii) as the holder of a part-time appointment, which the Council considers appropriate, in an approved facility referred to in subparagraph (i),

in a field of study which the Council considers to be related to the speciality which the psychologist wishes to register.

Conditions applicable to the practising of a speciality

13. (1) A specialist psychologist must confine his or her practice to the speciality registered in his or her name.

- (2) A specialist psychologist -
 - (a) may not take over a patient from another psychologist, whether practising as a specialist or as a psychologist, without the consent of that psychologist, unless consent to such taking over is unreasonably withheld;
 - (b) may treat any person who comes to him or her directly for consultation;
 - (c) who is consulted by a patient or who treats a patient as provided for in paragraphs (a) or (b), must take all reasonable steps to ensure the co-operation of the psychologist who normally treats that patient;
 - (d) may charge fees for examinations or procedures which usually pertain to another speciality only if such examination or procedures are also recognised in his or her speciality as generally accepted practice, but -
 - (i) the fees may not exceed the fees charged by a psychologist for the same examinations or procedures; and
 - (ii) the examinations or procedures must be carried out only relating to his or her bona fide patients.

Cessation of speciality practice

14. A specialist who discontinues practising his or her speciality must notify the registrar in writing of the discontinuation within a period of 30 days after the date upon which he or she ceases to practise that speciality.

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

PART V
REGISTERS AND RESTORATION OF NAME TO REGISTER

Register of psychologists

15. The register of psychologists established and kept in accordance with subsection (2) of section 25 of the Act, must contain, in addition to the particulars specified by subsection (3) of that section, particulars of the specialities and additional qualifications entered against the name of the psychologist concerned in accordance with section 33(4) of the Act, including any change in any of the particulars recorded in the register.

Register of intern-psychologists

16. The register of intern-psychologists established and kept in accordance with subsection (2)(c) section 25 of the Act must contain, in addition to the particulars specified by subsection (3) of that section, particulars of the approved facility or the psychologist, as the case may be, at which or with whom the intern-psychologist is completing his or her internship, and the date upon which such internship commenced and is to be completed, including any change in any of the particulars recorded in the register.

Restoration of name to register

17. (1) Any person whose name has been removed from a register in accordance with section 26 of the Act and who wishes to have his or her name restored to such register in accordance with section 27 of the Act, must apply to the Council for such restoration in accordance with section 27(1) of the Act.

(2) An application referred to in subregulation (1) must comply with subregulation (3) and section 27(2) of the Act.

(3) The following documents must accompany an application referred to in subregulation (1):

- (a) the original registration certificate issued under section 20(4)(b) of the Act, or if for any reason the original certificate cannot be submitted, proof to the satisfaction of the Council that the applicant was so registered; and
- (b) a declaration by two psychologists confirming the identity and good character of the applicant in such form as the Council may determine.

PART VI
GENERAL

Language of forms and documents

18. (1) Any form or document required to be submitted to the Council or to the registrar in terms of these regulations must be, subject to subregulation (2), in the English language.

(2) Any form or document referred to in subregulation (1) that is not in the English language must be accompanied by a sworn translation of the form or document in English, which translation must be acceptable to the Council.

REGULATIONS
Health Professions Act 16 of 2024

**Regulations relating to the Registration of Psychologists,
Specialities and Interns and to the Restoration of a Name to a Register**

ANNEXURE

[This annexure should be labelled “ANNEXURE A” since it is followed by ‘ANNEXURE B’.]

**CRITERIA PERTAINING TO THE ONE YEAR PERIOD
INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME**

(Regulation 6 (13))

The training of an intern-psychologist during the one year internship period must take place as follows, as the Council must direct in writing before the commencement of, or at any time during, the internship:

A period of not less than six months must be spent in each of the following main domains of psychology:

- (a) Psychotherapeutic intervention; and
- (b) psychological evaluation.

ANNEXURE B

**CRITERIA PERTAINING TO THE SIX MONTH PERIOD
INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME**

(Regulation 6 (13))

The training of an intern-psychologist during the six month internship period must take place as follows, as the Council must direct in writing before the commencement of, or at any time during, the internship:

A period of not less than three months must be spent in each of the following main domains of psychology:

- (a) Psychological evaluation; and
- (b) basic counselling techniques and intervention.