



Republic of Namibia
Annotated Statutes

REGULATIONS

REGULATIONS SURVIVING IN TERMS OF

Health Professions Act 16 of 2024
section 95(10)

**Regulations relating to Scope of Practice
of Specialist Psychologist**

Government Notice 58 of 2014

(GG 5453)

came into force on date of publication: 28 April 2014

These regulations were made in terms of section 56 of the Social Work and Psychology Act 6 of 2004, which was repealed by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.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 Social Work and Psychology Council of Namibia.

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Definitions

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

“community psychology” means the use of psychological theory and practice to understand and change human behaviour in the context of the community where those humans live or work;

“child and family therapy” means means the use of psychotherapeutic principles to treat children and families after making a psychological evaluation;

[The word “means” is repeated in the definition of “child and family therapy”.]

“development psychology” means the study of the stages of human psychological development;

“educational psychology” means the study of human behaviour in the educational sphere;

“forensic psychology” means the study of human psychological factors in relation to their implication in a juristic or legal sense;

“neuropsychology” means the study of the nervous system in relation to human behaviour;

“psychometric evaluation” means the use of psychological testing procedures to evaluate the mind and personality of humans;

“psychotherapy” means the involvement of treatment procedures mainly through verbal communication to change maladaptive behaviour patterns in humans;

“specialist” means a clinical psychologist or an educational psychologist, as the case may be, in whose name a speciality is registered;

“speciality” means a speciality in psychology prescribed under the Act; and

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[The Social Work and Psychology Act 6 of 2004 has been
replaced by the Health Professions Act 16 of 2024.]

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in psychotherapy

2. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in psychotherapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

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- (a) deliver services in the spectrum of psychotherapy to any person, couple or group of persons; and
- (b) diagnose mental disorders in persons.

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in child and family therapy

3. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in child and family therapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver services in the spectrum of psychotherapy to any child or family;
- (b) diagnose mental disorders in a child; and
- (c) diagnose maladaptive families.

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in neuropsychology

4. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in neuropsychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

[The word “neuropsychology” is misspelt in the *Government Gazette*, as reproduced above.]

- (a) deliver psycho neurological services by means of the evaluation of persons with special emphasis on the use of specialised psychometric instruments with children and adults; and
- (b) provide an opinion on the psycho neurological status of a person.

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in forensic psychology

5. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in forensic psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver forensic services with emphasis on the evaluation of morbid and pre morbid behaviour patterns of offenders; and
- (b) provide an opinion on the psychological aspects of crime and criminal related matters, and do specialised psychological investigations including psychometrics, polygraphic and similar investigations.

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in community psychology

6. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in community psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) provide an expert opinion on the functioning of communities relating to the psychological functioning of such communities as a whole or as individuals being part of such a community;

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- (b) develop strategies to ensure optimal mental functioning for members within a community context or for the community as a whole.

Scope of practice of clinical psychologist practising as specialist in psychometric evaluation

7. A clinical psychologist practising as a specialist in psychometric, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for a clinical psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver services to communities by means of the treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well-being of those communities;
- (b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of communities;
- (c) apply, design, develop and use psychometric material on persons, groups of persons and communities, and formulate a specialised opinion on the results obtained from the use of this material;
- (d) report to other registered persons on the results of psychometric material applied; and
- (e) conduct research projects involving the psychometric evaluation of a person, groups of persons and communities.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist who holds speciality in developmental psychology

8. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in developmental psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) provide an expert opinion on the developmental phases of persons relating to their developmental progress from infancy to old age; and
- (b) develop and implement strategies to ensure the optimal mental development of infants, children, youths, adolescents and adults to optimal functioning.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in child and family therapy

9. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in child and family therapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver psychotherapeutic services to children and families; and
- (b) make diagnosis of mental disorders in children and of maladaptive families.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in psychometric evaluation

10. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in psychometric, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

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- (a) deliver services to communities by means of the treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well-being of those communities;
- (b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of communities;
- (c) apply, design, develop and use psychometric material on persons, groups of persons and communities, and formulate a specialised opinion on the results obtained from the use of this material;
- (d) report to other registered persons on the results of psychometric material applied; and
- (e) conduct research projects involving the psychometric evaluation of a person, groups of persons and communities.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in psychotherapy

11. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in psychotherapy, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver psychotherapy services to a person or a group of persons; and
- (b) make diagnosis of mental disorders in a person.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in community psychology

12. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in specialist in community psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver services to communities treating, evaluating and improving the psychological well being of those communities; and

[The requisite hyphen is missing from the word “well-being”.]

- (b) provide an opinion on the psychological status of communities, and design strategies to improve or alter the psychological status of those communities.

Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in forensic psychology

13. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in specialist in forensic psychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

- (a) deliver forensic services with emphasis on the evaluation of morbid and pre morbid behaviour patterns of offenders; and
- (b) provide an opinion on the psychological aspects of crime and criminal related matters, and do specialised psychological investigations including psychometrics, polygraphic and similar investigations.

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Scope of practice of educational psychologist practising as specialist in neuropsychology

14. An educational psychologist practising as a specialist in specialist in neuropsychology, in addition to the scope of practice prescribed for an educational psychologist who is not a specialist, may -

[The word “neuropsychology” is misspelt in the *Government Gazette*, as reproduced above.]

- (a) provide an expert opinion on the functioning of communities relating to the psychological functioning of such communities as a whole or as individuals being part of such a community;
- (b) develop strategies to ensure optimal mental functioning for members within a community context or for the community as a whole.