



BFP - FBP

Are clinical psychologists fit for practice in Belgium?



Belgische Federatie van Psychologen - Grasmarkt 105/18, 1000 Brussel
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Belgian flow

- Bachelors or masters degree --> license
- Possibly internship → Recognition
- Recognition board
- Central position internship mentor



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Clinical psychologists

- Newly regulated autonomous health profession
 - Responsibility: evaluating and treatment of psychological difficulties/disorders
- But mainly academic competencies
- Limited internship in final master
- Are they fit for practice?

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Competency profile

- Advice Superior Health Council 2015
 - Absence of competency profile
 - Based on international models
 - Cube model (Rodolfa, 2005)
 - Revised Competency Benchmark Model (Hatcher, 2013)
 - Level of entry into independent practice
 - Core and functional competencies

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Core competencies: professionalism

Professional values & attitudes	Individual & Cultural diversity
1A Integrity, honesty, personal responsibility & dedication to professional values	2A Sensitive for specifics of individual & cultural diversity related to the psychologist himself, the patient/client or - system
1B Behaviour	
1C Responsibility	
1D Caring for the well being of others	
1E Professional identity	

Core competencies: professionalism

Ethical code & morals	Reflection, self - evaluation and selfcare
3A. Knowledge of moral, legal and ethical standards & directives	4A. Reflection in clinical practice
3B. Awareness of and the application of ethical decision - making	4B. Self - evaluation
3C. Ethical conduct	4C. Selfcare (attention for personal health and well - being in order to guarantee an effective professional functioning)
	4D. Optimalisation of own knowledge & Skills: participation in supervision, intervision and CPD

Core competencies: relations

Relations

5A. Interpersonal relationships

5B. Relation skills

5C. Communication skills

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Core competencies: science

Scientific knowledge & skills	Research & evaluation
6A. Scientific orientation	7A. Scientific approach for the improvement of knowledge
6B. Scientific fundamentals of psychology	7B. Application of the scientific method in professional practice
6C. Scientific basis of professional practice	

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Functional competencies: professional activities

Evidence - based practice	Psychological evaluation
8A. Knowledge & application of Evidence - Based Practice	9A. Knowledge of psychometrics
	9B. Knowledge of methods in psychological evaluation
	9C. Application of methods in psychological evaluation
	9D. Classification of psychic disorders
	9E. Case formulation & advice
	9F. Reporting of the results of psychological evaluation

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Functional competencies: professional activities

Interventions

10A. Planning of interventions

10B. Clinical skills

10C. Implementation of interventions

10D. Evaluation of psychological interventions

10E. Role of consultant

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Functional competencies: training

Education

11A. Knowledge

11B. Skills

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Functional competencies: systems

Interdisciplinary systems	Organisations
12A. Knowledge of communal & differential contributions of other professions	13A. Evaluation of management and directives
12B. How to function in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts	13B. Management
12C. Understanding the improvement of results through participation in interdisciplinary collaboration	13C. Policy
12D. Respectful and productive relations with other professions	13D. Responsibility in an organisation
	13E. Supervising attitude

Functional competencies: systems

Social commitment

14A. Empowerment

14B. Commitment

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Implications

- Modifications in masters program
 - More attention
- Recognition: 1 year supervised practice
- Large debate Evidence – Based Practice
- License to practice:
 - Portfolio
 - Built around competencies

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Supervised practice

- Internship
 - 1680 hours
 - Split
- Places for internships
 - NHS or private practice
 - Multidisciplinary context
- Internships mentors
 - Training for mentors

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Fit for practice

- Procedure for board of recognition:
 - Composition: academics & professionals
 - Proof of competency
 - 4 case study's: psychological evaluation and interventions
 - Portfolio
 - Evaluation of the mentor and internship service
 - Fit for mentorship?

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