

**Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Subspecialties
in Professional Psychology (CRSSPP)
2024 Annual Report**

Commissioners: Sharon Bowman, PhD, ABPP (Chair); Trista Perez Crawford, PhD (Vice-Chair); Ester Cole, PhD; Celeste Malone, PhD; Ric Steele, PhD, ABPP; Linda Berg-Cross, PhD, ABPP; Jennifer Ho, PsyD; Adeirdre Stribling Riley, PhD; Lindsay Phillips, PsyD, ABPP; Steven Smith, JD

Staff Liaisons: Jennifer Taylor, PhD, and Kristen Knight-Griffin, MPS

The Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Subspecialties in Professional Psychology (CRSSPP) is responsible for facilitating the development, implementation, and review of effective and coordinated policies and procedures to improve quality and process in recognition of specialties and subspecialties in professional psychology. A primary role of CRSSPP is to review petitions from organizations requesting the Association's recognition of a professional specialty or subspecialty, and to set policy accordingly.

The petition review process serves an important function in relation to the advancement of APA's strategic priorities, primarily in relation to the higher-level goal of strengthening APA's role as a leading voice for psychology. In particular, the rigorous review process of the Commission is designed to establish, uphold, and embody the standards for the profession and discipline nationally; and, equally, the process serves as a leading resource for standards and evidence-based guidelines for the field. Additionally, the review function reflects an important regulatory purpose that contributes to higher-level goals of preparing the discipline and profession of psychology for the future, and elevating the public's understanding, appreciation, and utilization of psychology.

Specialty, Subspecialty, and Proficiency Recognition

In 2024, the Commission reviewed one specialty petition that was approved by APA's Council of Representatives for continued recognition (Geropsychology).

Efforts to Support Petitioners

In advance of, and during, CRSSPP's Fall 2024 meeting, Drs. Sharon Bowman and Trista Perez-Crawford led the Commissioners in refining the petitions for recognized specialties and subspecialties, as well as the application for Recognition of Organizations that Provide Certifications in Specialties and Subspecialties in Professional Psychology (ROPCSSPP), in an effort to ensure further clarity in the requirements of all criteria in each petition/application. The updated petitions and application are now available on the CRSSPP website and were disseminated to all petitioners who are submitting renewal applications to be reviewed in 2026.