

Public Safety Assistance Network REQUIREMENTS

Relevant Definitions

Public Safety Personnel – includes a police officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, emergency dispatcher/ call-taker, corrections deputy, probation, or parole officer.

Research – includes unpublished theses, dissertations, projects, or a program development report submitted to an academic institution, public safety agency or public safety support organization for the purpose of advancing knowledge of the public safety profession or for implementation / use at the public safety agency.

Publication – includes a document that is published in a peer-reviewed journal, an editorial-reviewed public safety publication, as a book and/or book chapter, or at a professional conference (includes poster presentation). Social media articles and posts are not qualifying publications.

Levels of Association

Professional Level (\$100 annually)

Benefits of joining at the Professional level include:

- Referral service to public safety agencies
- Ongoing professional development in public safety psychology
- Discounted attendance at the annual Peer Conference

Initial Application Criteria:

- Independently licensed and in good standing within your state to practice in a related mental health field.
- Clinical work involves support services for public safety professionals and does not include evaluations for public safety agencies (Fitness for Duty, Pre-Employment Evaluations, etc.).
- Have been independently practicing for a minimum of three years.
- A curriculum vitae or resume, outlining relevant experience.
- A letter outlining your interest in public safety psychology.
- Two letters of reference supporting your experience and application to PSAN. Both letters must be from separate public safety agencies and support your character, professionalism and experience.

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Demonstrated competence in public safety psychology. This is accomplished by meeting a minimum of 100 points in the following activities: (Circle all that apply)	
100	Board certification in Police and Public Safety Psychology by American Board of Professional Psychology
50	Experience as a public safety professional.
15	Research in public safety mental health.
15	Publications in public safety mental health.
15	Graduate coursework and in public safety psychology
15	Presentations to public safety agencies relating to mental health topics
40	Clinical experience working with individuals, couples, and/or families of public safety professionals
<15	Participation in a case consultation group relating to first responder clinical work (points per hour of participation)
	If you have not been a public safety professional in the last 10 years, minimum 30 documented hours every two years, meeting the following requirements:
25	Minimum 20 documented hours of ride-along time with a public-safety agency
<40	Minimum 10 hours either providing or obtaining continued education training related to public safety, trauma, trauma treatment, addiction, relationship issues, resiliency, etc. (points given per CE hour to a maximum of 40 for courses taken/ delivered in the preceding 10 years)

Associate – pre-licensed (\$50 annually)

Benefits of joining at the Associate level include:

- Professional development as a public safety mental health clinician, including opportunity for practicums, internships, and residencies with public safety mental health clinicians.
- Attendance and participation in public safety psychology trainings offered by Professional level members.
- Coordination of public safety agency experiences, to include introductions for ride-alongs, and wellness program development and/or research.
- Discounted attendance at the annual Peer Conference.

Initial Application Criteria:

Licensed and Associate-licensed professionals that do not meet Professional level criteria:

- Independently licensed or supervised practice in good standing within your state to practice in the mental health field.
- Clinical work may involve support services for public safety professionals but does *not* include evaluations for public safety agencies (Fitness for Duty, Pre-Employment Evaluations, etc.).

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- Currently pursuing competency in public safety psychology toward Professional (Member) status.
- A curriculum vitae or resume, outlining relevant experience.
- A letter outlining your interest in public safety psychology.
- Two letters of reference supporting your experience and application to PSAN
 - One letter must be from a clinical supervisor supporting your character and professionalism.
 - One letter must be from a public safety agency and support your character and professionalism.

Students:

- Currently enrolled in graduate-level education program related to mental health and are pursuing competency in public safety psychology toward Professional (Member) status.
- A curriculum vitae or resume, outlining relevant experience.
- A letter outlining your interest in public safety psychology.
- Two letters of reference supporting your experience and application to PSAN
 - One letter must be from a clinical supervisor supporting your character and professionalism.
 - One letter must be from your academic institution supporting your character and professionalism.

Pursuing competence in public safety psychology with a minimum of 50 points in the following activities: (Circle all that apply)	
50	Experience as a public safety professional.
15	Research in public safety mental health.
15	Publications in public safety mental health.
15	Graduate coursework in public safety psychology
15	Presentations to public safety agencies relating to mental health topics
40	Clinical experience working with individuals, couples, and/or families of public safety professionals
15	Participation in a case consultation group relating to first responder clinical work
	If you have not been a public safety professional in the last 10 years, minimum 30 documented hours every two years, meeting the following requirements:
25	Minimum 20 documented hours of ride-along time with a public-safety agency
25	Minimum 10 hours either providing or obtaining continued education training related to public safety, trauma, trauma treatment, resiliency, etc.

Please submit proof of experience, training, education, research, and ride-along times with your letters of support.

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Review Process

Documentation will be reviewed by the membership committee. Those who meet the minimum requirements will be invited to an interview. Interviews will allow the committee to assess the applicant's suitability to work with public safety personnel, in terms of demeanor, presence, and core competencies. Interviews will be conducted in-person or, if necessary, via video conferencing. Clinical site visits may also be a part of the approval process to ensure clinic site policies and practices support the vision of the organization. Once approved, Professionals and Associates will be asked to sign an Expectation Agreement that outlines expectations regarding client care and support. The Agreement is designed to ensure the highest level of support, with consideration of the unique challenges in initiating and delivering psychological services to first responders. If the applicant does not feel they could uphold the expectations outlined in the agreement, they are encouraged to terminate their application process.

Maintenance of Competency

Upon approval, Professionals and Associates must maintain their competency through continued education, ride-alongs, research, and /or clinical work. Additionally, all levels of membership must immediately disclose if they are under investigation by their licensing/credentialing board. All levels of membership will be required to attest annually to their maintenance of competency and ethical practice. Lastly, to promote competency by adherence to self-care practices, all levels of membership will be asked to complete a self-assessment related to their compassion-fatigue and self-care levels.

Demonstrated continuance of competence in public safety psychology. This is accomplished by meeting a minimum of 50 points in the following activities in a calendar year: (Circle all that apply)	
20	Research in public safety mental health.
20	Publications in public safety mental health.
20	Graduate coursework in public safety psychology
20	Presentations to public safety agencies relating to mental health topics
25	Minimum 10 documented hours of ride-along time with a public-safety agency
25	Minimum 10 hours either providing or obtaining continued education training related to public safety, trauma, trauma treatment, resiliency, etc.

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Client/Organizational Satisfaction

Tracking of satisfaction with and competency of provider to offer clinical services will be accomplished using an online reporting system to accept, investigate, and manage complaints regarding providers. Professionals and Associates are determined to have diminished competency or who have breached confidentiality will be removed from PSAN. Unless it is an ethics violation (e.g., breach of confidentiality), individuals may reapply to join PSAN.

Participation in PSAN is voluntary. Therefore, if you wish to remain a part of the network, you must sign the Expectation Agreement and uphold the expectations contained within, except where implementing these expectations conflict with the regulatory requirements and standards of your registration body and/or insurance provider. A report of a failure to abide by the expectations in the Expectation Agreement will be investigated by a member of the PSAN board. This investigation will include collecting information from the reporting person and interviewing the Professional or Associate relating to the incident. Given the confidential nature of clinical work, every attempt will be made to obtain written consent from the reporting party. If it is found that the Professional or Associate has routinely or egregiously violated the expectations, they will be removed from PSAN, as outlined in the Expectation Agreement.



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