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## PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR PSYCHOLOGY

Department: PROFESSIONAL BOARDS  
SENIOR MANAGER: DR N T MOSIA

Manager: Mrs A Pieters  
My Ref: 18/9/B

Mrs A Pieters/ew -Ext 9480

7 August 2006

Dear Prof/Dr/Sir/Madam

### REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION AS INTERN PSYCHOLOGISTS

I wish to advise that the Board is seriously concerned about the fact that the majority of intern psychologists are not in a position to finalise their dissertations within the timeframes, as determined by the Board, as a result posts for psychologists in the Public Sector are made redundant. Intern psychologists in the Public Sector, e.g. the South African Military Services, etc. are employed as psychologists on successful completion of their internships. The difficulty arises when they complete the internships, but their dissertations have not been finalised. This has created immense difficulties with regards to the administration of community psychology placements and the creation of permanent psychologists' posts within the Public Service.

The interns who have not fulfilled their academic requirements can not be accommodated in internship posts, since once an internship has been successfully completed; it is not permissible for a person to be involved in any psychological activities directed towards members of the public. Furthermore, it will not be fair towards newly qualified persons if these internship posts are filled by persons who have had the opportunity to complete internships, especially in view of the shortage of internship placements.

The Executive Committee of the Board carefully considered the matter at its recent meeting and resolved that in order to address this problem, all students who will commence with an accredited Master's degree in psychology for the first time in January 2007, will be required to successfully complete all the requirements for the Master's programme, i.e. the theory and dissertation, prior to commencement with an internship.

It will be appreciated if you will advise your students accordingly.

Yours faithfully

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PROF E M Q MOKHUANE

CHAIRPERSON: PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR PSYCHOLOGY