

## **VSBPE**

**Date: April 4, 2019**

**Item: Question on Policy N17**

**ITEM: Should the VSBPE accept national accreditation as a substitute for a ROPA review in the case of a new program that is seeking VSBPE approval to recommend candidates for licensure, and should Policy N17 be revised to clarify this position?**

### **AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**That the VSBPE does not accept national accreditation as a substitute for a ROPA review in the case of a new program that is seeking VSBPE approval to recommend candidates for licensure, and that Policy N17 is revised to clarify this position.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Shannon Newell, the Coordinator of the School Psychology Program at Castleton, asked if accreditation from the National Association of School Psychologists could be used in lieu of a ROPA review for approval to recommend their candidates for licensure. Shannon and the ROPA Coordinator discussed Policy N17 and agreed that clarification from the VSBPE was warranted.

### **RATIONALE:**

As Shannon Newell stated in an e-mail, "When I read page 46 in Policy N17 it seems to be referring to programs that are already approved through the ROPA process but are looking to move to national accreditation..." The policy states "The VSBPE will consider accepting national accreditation as a substitute for a ROPA review at the formal request of an institution or alternate route program made two years in advance of a program's regularly scheduled review." If a program has not already been approved by the VSBPE, they would not have a 'regularly scheduled review.'

### **Proposed change to Policy N17:**

Add the line: This policy applies to programs that have previously been approved by the VSBPE through the ROPA process.