Academic Rate Policy

Nova Scotia Regulator of Psychology

Approved by Board: April 17, 2026
Effective: April 17, 2026 (first applied at the renewal cycle commencing July 1, 2026)
Supersedes: Academic Register (NSBEP), discontinued June 30, 2026
Authority: Regulated Health Professions Act; NSRP Bylaws; NSRP Fee Schedule

1. Purpose

This policy establishes a reduced Academic Rate within the Practising Register fee structure for registered psychologists whose primary professional activity is the teaching or research of psychology. The Academic Rate reflects a more limited scope of practice and is subject to annual attestation at renewal.

2. Scope

This policy applies to registrants on the Practising Register who elect the Academic Rate at annual renewal. The Academic Rate is not available to candidates on the Conditional Register.

3. Academic Rate

The Academic Rate is $100 per annual renewal year, as set out in the NSRP Fee Schedule. The Academic Rate replaces the former Academic licensing category, which expired June 30, 2026.

4. Eligibility

A registrant is eligible for the Academic Rate if, at the time of renewal:

- They are employed in an academic setting engaged in the teaching or research of psychology; and
- Academic teaching or research is their primary professional activity.

“Primary professional activity” means that academic teaching or research is the registrant’s main professional focus. This criterion captures registrants whose academic work is their principal occupation regardless of formal full-time status, and excludes registrants whose academic appointments are incidental to a primary clinical practice.

5. Scope of Practice under the Academic Rate

A registrant who elects the Academic Rate undertakes not to engage in clinical practice or other professional practice outside their academic role while holding the Academic Rate. Teaching, research, and directly related scholarly activities within the registrant’s academic role remain authorized within the statutory scope of practice of psychology.

6. Annual Attestation

Election of the Academic Rate at renewal constitutes an attestation by the registrant that they meet the eligibility criteria in Section 4 and accept the scope undertaking in Section 5. The attestation is recorded each year as part of the renewal record.

7. Change of Circumstances

A registrant must notify the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days if their circumstances change such that they no longer meet the eligibility criteria, or if they intend to practise outside the academic scope described in Section 5. On notification, the registrant transitions to the standard Practising Licence fee, pro-rated for the remainder of the renewal year in accordance with the Fee Schedule.

8. Misrepresentation

Misrepresentation regarding eligibility for the Academic Rate, or practice outside the attested scope, may result in:

- Recovery of the fee differential for the period of misrepresentation;
- A finding of professional misconduct under the Regulated Health Professions Act; and
- Any other consequences provided for under the Act and NSRP Bylaws, including consequences arising from any underlying conduct.

9. Administration

The Office of the Registrar administers the Academic Rate, including the renewal attestation, monitoring of change-of-circumstance notifications, and recovery of fee differentials where applicable. The Registrar may request reasonable confirmation of academic employment in cases of doubt.

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Board no later than three years from the effective date, or earlier at the Board's discretion.

11. Transition from the Academic Register

This policy supersedes the Academic Register, a separate registration category maintained prior to NSRP's transition under the Regulated Health Professions Act. The Academic Register was continued under the transitional provisions of the NSRP Bylaws (Article 22) through the renewal period ending June 30, 2026, and expired at that date. Registrants formerly on the Academic Register who meet the eligibility criteria in Section 4 may elect the Academic Rate at the renewal cycle commencing July 1, 2026.