

March 15, 2020

Dear External Externship/Practicum Directors and Supervisors:

We are writing to follow up on previous communications from Clinical Psy.D. program at Rutgers University-The Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP). As you are aware, Rutgers University is following a public health approach of adopting social distancing in response to the COVID-19 epidemic and have suspended classes through April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Until this time, we have been asking students to follow the lead of the externship/practicum site, however due to recent developments including states of emergency issued in New Jersey, New York and surrounding states we have made the decision to discontinue off-site (i.e., non-Rutgers) externships/practica for our students through Friday, April 3. We want to acknowledge the potential disruptive impact of this decision on your agency's services. Balancing public and community health concerns with agency service concerns is a complex undertaking, and we did not come to this decision lightly.

In response to a number of queries regarding remote work, if remote work is available at your agency and your student is interested, please feel free to coordinate it with the student. However, we cannot require remote work at this time as it not available across field education sites. We know this is an unsettling and challenging time. We greatly appreciate your flexibility, patience, and, as always, deeply appreciate the important work you do for our students and community.

We are happy to answer any concerns. Please reach out to the contacts below:

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