



# **Professional Development Toolkit for Students & Early Career Psychologists**

An Informative Resource for University Faculty  
and Administrators of Psychology Graduate  
Programs and Their Students



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**The Trust is Proud to be Endorsed by the  
National Council of Schools & Programs of Professional Psychology (NCSPP)**



# Our Message to Educators

First and foremost, “thank you” for all you do as an educator. Our profession depends on you to prepare students for their future careers as psychologists, and your students depend on you to provide them with the best guidance to start them on their journey. That’s a lot of pressure!

Some of the key areas where your students may need assistance are: 1) choosing the most appropriate career track within psychology; 2) deciding whether or not to go into private practice; 3) achieving a healthy work/life balance; 4) handling licensing board complaints; and, most importantly, 5) protecting themselves from the financial burden brought by a potential lawsuit. We’d like to provide you with some resources to point your students in the right direction.

**The Trust** knows having the right tools is essential. That’s why our knowledgeable team of psychologists has compiled this informative **Professional Development Toolkit** for you to use as a teaching resource. It contains details on the insurance and continuing education programs we offer, as well as links to many tools and resources we think you and your students will find beneficial, including:

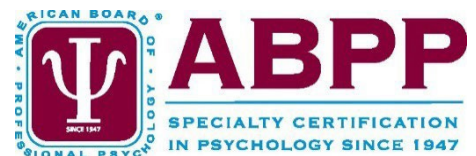
- Our **“Bridging the Professional Gap”** series
- **Risk Management Training Curriculum** for educators as well as students and early career psychologists
- Why more students and psychologists choose **The Trust** for protection at every career stage
- Direct access to informative online resources and quick links to helpful materials
- **The Trust’s Continuing Education Program** with links to free on-demand webinars

As you prepare your students for their new careers, teaching them about the damaging impact of a lawsuit is likely not a major focus, but the reality is students are named in lawsuits. Nearly 22% of mental health professionals are sued at some point in their careers, and that number more than doubles for licensing board complaints.

If you’re interested in incorporating some of **The Trust’s** videos or resources into your coursework – such as viewing the videos together with students and discussing as a class or having students view and write about one of the topics – we encourage you to reach out to us. We’d be happy to discuss the possible ways in which we can support you and your students using our informative resources.

Your students are the future of our profession, and **The Trust** is proud to be able to protect and support them through our financial security, continuing education, and risk management programs. At **The Trust**, we’re about more than just insurance. We’re a community of like-minded peers with the common goal of supporting and advancing the profession of psychology. We’d love for you and your students to be a part of **The Trust Community!**

**The Trust has formed strong partnerships with great organizations like these along with the State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Associations.**



# Bridging the Professional Gap Series



**The Trust** has long supported the needs and interests of psychology students and early career psychologists.

The Trust's "**Bridging the Professional Gap**" series provides students and ECPs with critical information needed to aid their professional transition following graduate school. Topics include job satisfaction, navigating salary/compensation and benefits, and information on professional development. Available below is the four-part series and a Private Practice Workbook.

- [Bridging the Professional Gap: Private Practice Workbook](#)
- [Bridging the Professional Gap: Part 1 - Eat Pray Love Your Work](#)
- [Bridging the Professional Gap: Part 2 - Job Satisfaction](#)
- [Bridging the Professional Gap: Part 3 - Private Practice](#)
- [Bridging the Professional Gap: Part 4 - Professional Development](#)

Developed in collaboration with students and Early Career Psychologists, this **Bridging the Professional Gap** series and accompanying workbook serve as informative resources that explore the many issues facing early career psychologists, including choosing the most appropriate career track within psychology, deciding whether or not to go into private practice, and achieving a healthy work/life balance.

# Risk Management Training Curriculum for Educators

As an educator, your students depend on you to provide the right guidance to prepare them for their future careers as psychologists. That’s a lot of weight on your shoulders. And you need to have the best, most up-to-date resources at your disposal to accomplish this mission.

While your students are likely receiving excellent ethics training in the classroom, our research and experience indicates that graduate students and ECPs get very little exposure, if any, to developing risk management skills.

**The Trust** would like to fill in this knowledge gap with our [Risk Management Training Curriculum for Educators](#). Developed by our risk management team, many of whom are educators, it’s designed to complement what you’re already teaching. Plus, we’ve added a 5-module series focused on diversity, equity and inclusion.

This 2-part series consists of 12 modules in total and are being provided **free of charge** to every educator to incorporate into their own curriculums. Why? It’s simple. The more educated future psychologists are in managing their risk, the less likelihood there will be of a lawsuit or licensing board complaint, which could wreak havoc on one’s career and financial stability.

**The Trust** feels very strongly that knowledge is power, and this curriculum covers a wide range of important considerations and practice know-how to ensure your students begin their careers on solid footing.

## Module Descriptions

Series 1		
Module	Title	Length
1	Transitioning From Student to Clinician	1 hour, 15 minutes
2	Managing Risks as a New Clinician	50 minutes
3	Managing Relationships	1 hour, 8 minutes
4	Dealing with the Law	1 hour, 27 minutes
5	Supervision and Connection	47 minutes
6	Protect and Defend	1 hour, 1 minute
7	Becoming a Part of The Trust Community	30 minutes

Series 2		
Module	Title	Length
1	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Ethics and Risk Management Dimensions, Part 1	1 hour, 40 minutes
2	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Ethics and Risk Management Dimensions, Part 2	2 hours, 2 minutes
3	We Hold These Truths Part 10: Foundations of Providing Inclusive Care to Transgender Clients	1 hour, 30 minutes
4	The Pivotal Nature of Clinician Self-Care: Understanding the Stakes and Recognizing the Terrain, Part 1	2 hours, 33 minutes
5	The Pivotal Nature of Clinician Self-Care: Restoring and Sustaining Clinician Well-Being, Part 2	2 hours, 40 minutes

### Ready to get started?

If you would like to incorporate the **Risk Management Training Curriculum for Educators** into your classroom, [go here](#).

# Risk Management Training Curriculum for Students and ECPs

It's imperative for student and early career psychologists to have the right tools at their disposal to navigate the complexities of starting a new career. Students and ECPs get very little exposure, if any, to risk management skill development that helps reduce risk when they become licensed.

**The Trust** has developed this [Risk Management Training Curriculum for Students and ECPs](#) to complement what students have already learned in the classroom. While most students receive excellent ethics training, there aren't always aspects of risk management built into that training. We saw a need to help fill in those gaps and demystify the challenging areas that often come up for new psychologists and have added a 5-module series focused on diversity, equity and inclusion.

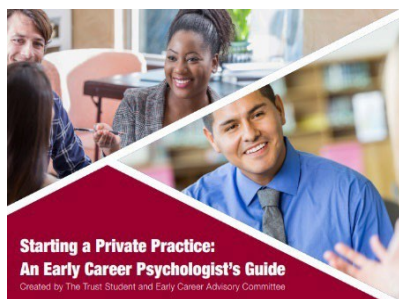
Normally priced at \$210, this 2-part series consists of 12 modules in total and is **provided free of charge with every Trust Student Liability or Pre-licensure Professional Liability insurance policy**. Why? We believe education in risk management is foundational for psychologists' professional development and should be incorporated early in their careers. The module descriptions can be found on the prior page.

**The Trust** feels very strongly that knowledge is power, and this curriculum covers a wide range of important considerations and practice know-how to ensure your students begin their career on solid footing. [Go here to have them start their own policy today.](#)

Please [click here](#) to watch an introductory video.

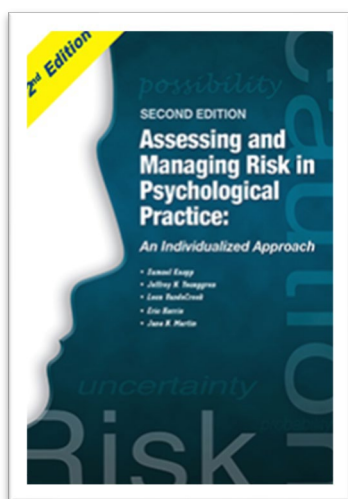


# Online Guides & Resources



## Starting a Private Practice: An Early Career Psychologist's Guide

**The Trust** has taken the guesswork out of getting started in private practice with our brochure. This essential resource provides an overview of important considerations and tools that early career professionals need to set up a successful private practice. It's a must-read for all graduate students to help them navigate the unique challenges they'll face when getting started. [Download a complimentary copy here.](#)



## Independent Learning Program

### Assessing and Managing Risk in Psychological Practice: An Individualized Approach, Second Edition

*FREE to All Student Liability Policyholders (a \$29.95 value!)*

Many new areas of practice have emerged along with new methods of communication between therapists and patients since the introduction of this popular book and independent learning course. Some of these changes have resulted in uncertainty for psychologists regarding ethics and professional liability. With its goal to provide psychologists with helpful and relevant risk management guidance, **The Trust** has gathered experts to research issues facing the profession and to present a variety of practical strategies. [Click here for more information.](#)

The second edition of *Assessing and Managing Risk in Psychological Practice: An Individualized Approach* presents core ethics and risk management principles and provides important information — all designed to help psychologists identify and understand some of the ethical and legal implications of psychology practice today. Topics include:

- Emerging areas such as forensic services and coaching
- Digital forms of interaction and social media
- Privacy, confidentiality and privileged communications
- Multiple relationships and boundaries
- Working with couples, families and children
- Psychologists in the courtroom
- Psychological assessment and testing
- Potentially suicidal or dangerous patients

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## Protection for Every Career Stage

### Students

Psychologists-in-training are at-risk even during practicum and internship activities. Being insured through someone else's policy, such as a supervisor or agency, doesn't guarantee personal coverage. That's why securing their own policy is so important. At only \$35/year, it's extremely affordable! [Go here for details.](#)

### Pre-Licensure Psychologists

For those that have earned their doctoral degree, but have yet to obtain licensure, we've got them covered too. Premium discounts of up to 35% may apply for those in post-graduate training. [Go here for details.](#)

### Researchers & Academicians

Every time you, as a researcher or academician, provide professional advice, you risk allegations of malpractice, error, or professional negligence. Relying on institutional coverage may not properly protect your interests. [Go here for details.](#)

### Licensed Psychologists

When someone is licensed and ready to practice, **The Trust** provides flexible and affordable coverage, high-quality risk management programs, multiple premium discounts, and more. [Go here for details.](#)

**The Trust** proudly covers psychologists in ALL forms of practice. Some benefits **The Trust** provides that may not be found elsewhere include:

- Telehealth coverage included at no additional charge
- Choice of affordable claims-made or occurrence policy coverage options
- Access to **The Trust's** risk management consultation service, the [Advocate 800 Program](#)
- A free unrestricted 'tail' (also known as an extended reporting period or ERP), upon retirement, death or disability
- Prior acts coverage included when switching from another claims-made policy
- Prescribing psychologist (RxP) coverage in approved states
- Free and discounted rates to our [live](#) and [on-demand](#) CE courses



# Why Psychologists Choose The Trust

More psychologists choose **The Trust** for their financial protection needs than any other provider. Why? And what benefits lead them to continue to renew their policies year after year?

One of the main benefits for policyholders is the unlimited, complimentary access to **The Trust's Advocate 800 Program** that provides one-on-one phone consultations with licensed psychologists who have extensive legal, ethical and risk management expertise (not a "claims expert" or other non-psychologist professional like with other carriers). Plus, because these consultations are by appointment only, policyholders get the personalized attention they need and deserve.

Our **Trust Sponsored Liability Insurance Programs** have protected students, pre-licensure psychologists, researchers/academicians, and licensed psychologists for over 60 years. We offer many great ways to save. [Go here to learn about the premium discounts that are available.](#)

[Check out our entire line of insurance programs](#) designed *for psychologists, by psychologists*. And remember, only **The Trust** offers the convenience of securing all of one's financial protection needs in the same location – we cover psychologists' entire lives, not just their careers.

- Professional Liability
- Student Liability
- Research & Academician Liability
- Cyber Enterprise
- Business Office
- Retirement Planning
- Income Protection (Disability)
- Group Term Life
- Office Overhead
- Long Term Care
- Auto, Home & Renters
- Pet Health

Our live webinars are free to policyholders and our on-demand webinars are available for a nominal fee, providing an unmatched learning experience. Previous topics include HIPAA compliance, self-care, systemic racism, cultural humility, risk management, telehealth, suicide prevention, and much more. Plus, our policyholders are always kept in-the-know with free informative FAQs on a wide range of topics while also having unlimited access to a variety of guides, sample forms, and resources.

There's simply no better choice than **The Trust** when it comes to defending a psychologist's good name and protecting one's reputation.



# Additional Resources for SECPs

Included in this teaching resource are brochures, handouts, and other informative materials from **The Trust**. Please review these items and share them with your students and colleagues. [Please also visit our dedicated \*\*Student & Early Career Resources\*\* page.](#) Below are direct links to these valuable resources for researchers, academicians, students, graduate students, and early career psychologists.

- [Starting a Private Practice: An Early Career Psychologist's Guide](#)
- [ASPPB: State-by-State Requirements for Initial Licensure](#)
- [Reimbursement, Fee Adjustments, and Sliding Fee Scales](#)
- [Use of Interpreters When Treating the Deaf Client](#)
- [Five Things to Consider Before You Purchase Liability Insurance](#)
- [Risk Management: Animals and Therapy](#)
- [Risk Management: Social Media](#)
- [Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) Plans](#)

Below are informative FAQs and informed consent forms we've made available for easy download.

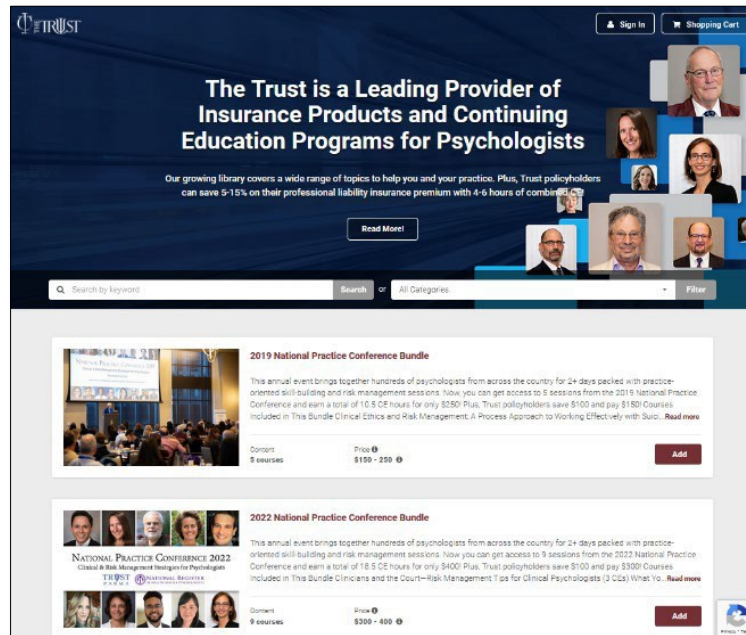
- [FAQ - PSYPACT](#)
- [Informed Consent for Walk and Talk Therapy](#)
- [Informed Consent for Telepsychology](#)
- [Informed Consent for Teleneuropsychology Assessment](#)

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## Continuing Education

The Trust is proud to offer [live webinars](#), [live sequence workshops in conjunction with State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Associations \(SPTAs\)](#), and [on-demand](#) webinars with topics covering ethics and risk management, [PSYPACT](#), private practice, [self-care](#), and more. We also hold an annual **National Practice Conference** with our partner, the National Register of Health Service Psychologists.

The live webinars are free to **Trust** policyholders and provide 1-2 hours of CE. All events are recorded and made available on-demand for free or a nominal fee on **The Trust's** growing [on-demand library](#). These programs have been highly successful, highly rated, and have reached thousands of psychologists.



Do you want to enhance your telepsychology proficiency? The **Telepsychology Competencies Credential (TCC)** is designed to equip those beginning telepsychological practice with a necessary foundation for safe and effective practice, while also supplementing the knowledge for more experienced providers. [Please go here for more information and the latest updates.](#)



## Telepsychology Competencies Credential

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## Thank You!

**The Trust** would like to thank you for taking the time to review this teaching resource. We hope that you found the information useful and helpful in achieving your and your students' professional goals.

Again, please contact us to discuss ways **The Trust** can work with you when you are designing your curriculum. We have many informative resources which can be very helpful!

Have questions or comments about our programs, services, or products? Please feel free to contact us.



(877) 637-9700 | Hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 6:00pm ET  
(Closed 12:30pm - 1:30pm ET)



[insurance@trustinsurance.com](mailto:insurance@trustinsurance.com)

Like, follow, and subscribe for the latest updates about our innovative products, services, and solutions.



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