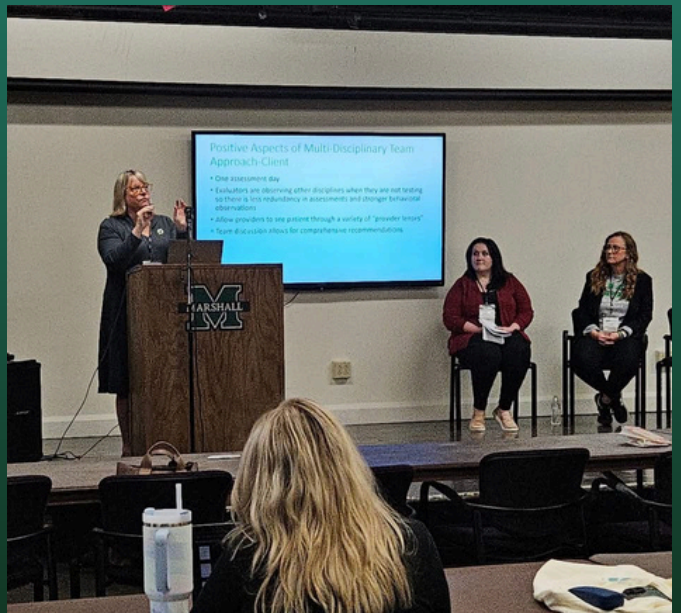




WVPA Fall 2025 Newsletter





Thank you for joining us for another excellent Fall Conference!

17 workshops offering 24.5 CE ✓

4 Ethics CE ✓


2 Veterans' Health CE ✓


Student poster session ✓

Town Hall with WVBEP ✓

Networking ✓

Rurality Roundtable ✓

info@wvpsychology.org 

wvpsychology.org 





WVPA

West Virginia Psychological Association FALL CONFERENCE

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Congratulations to our 2025 WVPA-APA Citizen Psychologists



Ms. Abir Benamar

Citizen Psychologist-in-Training

Recognized for her legislative advocacy and outreach to support access to evidence-based healthcare for all.



Dr. Elizabeth Myers

Early Career Citizen Psychologist

Recognized for her outreach to and support provided to first responders, building relationships and increasing access to mental health services.



Dr. Patrick Kerr

Citizen Psychologist

Recognized for his extensive work with the WV Human Trafficking Taskforce and his outreach/education efforts at the regional, national, and international levels.

TIPS FOR AVOIDING BIAS IN LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Writing a letter of recommendation this fall for internship or postdoc applications? Check out the tips below on avoiding bias in evaluations and letters of recommendation, shared in the Summer Diversity Workshop - Addressing Bias in Written Evaluations - presented by Drs. Hughes, Luzier, Weisenmuller, & Gustafson.



Focus on Achievements, Abilities, and Competencies

01

Emphasize the applicant's achievements, qualifications, and skills. Avoid faint praise, hedges, and grindstone language (attributing success to exceptional effort, not ability).



Avoid Gender Bias

02

Writers often focus on relational qualities rather than abilities and achievements when writing about women, which can result in a less helpful letter.



Avoid Referencing Personal Characteristics

03

Avoid referring to applicants' personal appearance, family roles, health conditions, or other factors that are protected status.



Check Your Bias

04

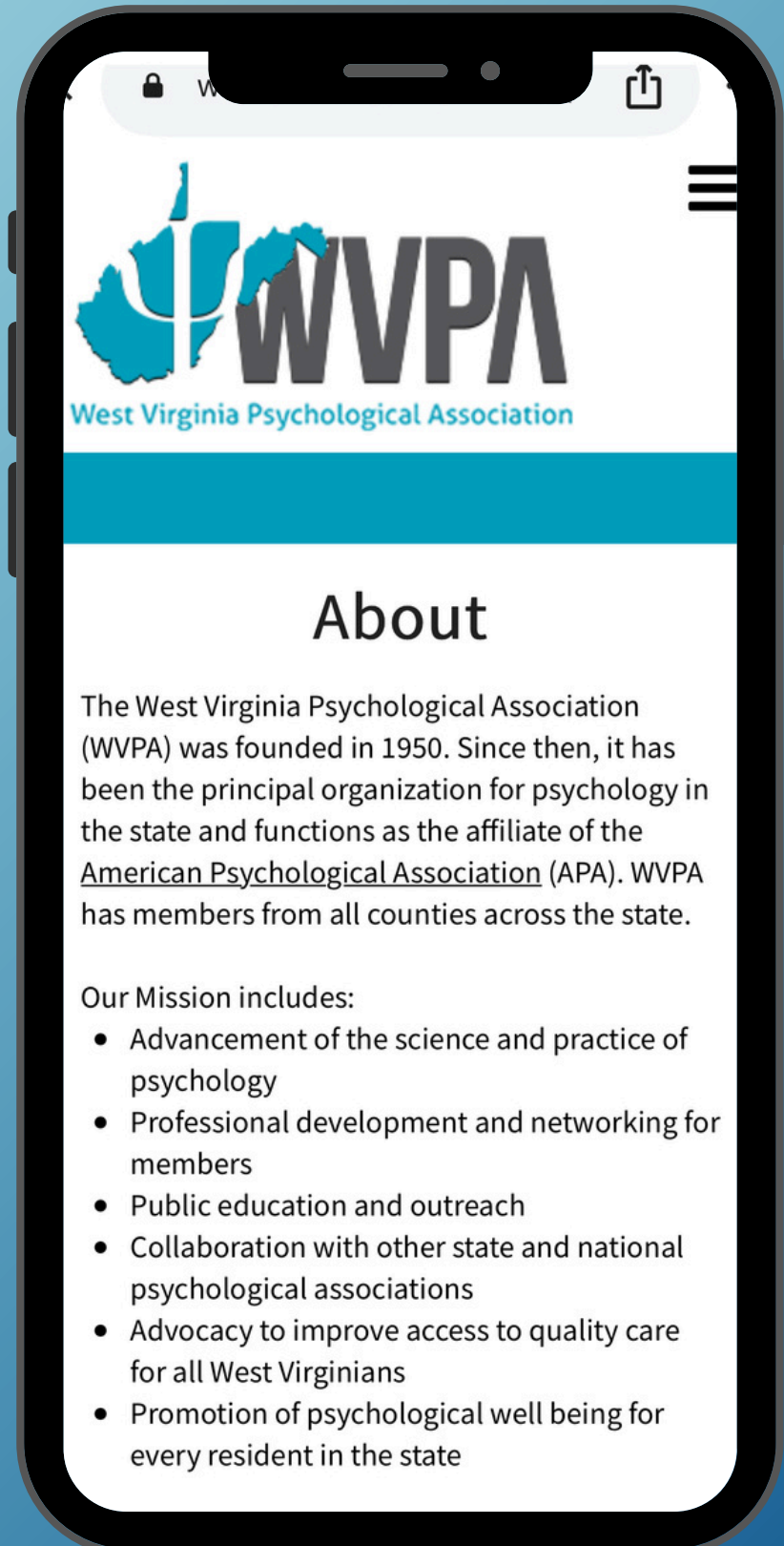
Consider checking your implicit biases with tools such as the Implicit Bias Test (implicit.harvard.edu) or the Gender Bias Calculator (<https://www.tomforth.co.uk/genderbias/>).

Our website has a new look!

It's getting a major content update, too.

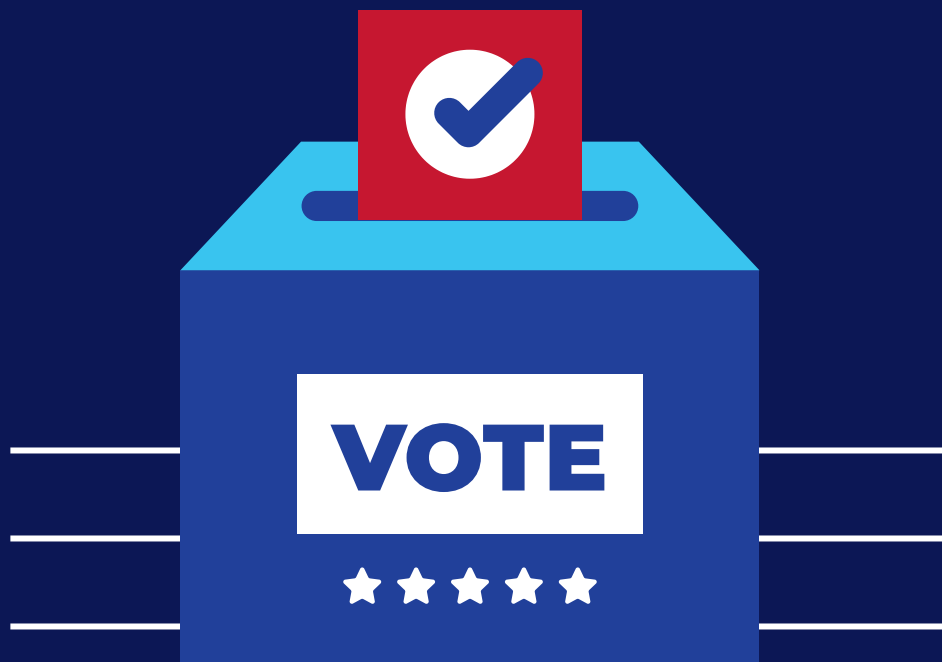
We have made a number of essential security and design updates and are developing additional content. Our goal is for the website to be your first stop for information about WVPA, as well as a helpful resource to support you in your work.

Would you like to contribute content for the website? Please contact us by email at info@wvpsychology.org.



WVPA BOARD

ELECTIONS



Vote for President-Elect, Student Rep-at-Large, & Diversity Rep-at-Large.

The link to vote will be sent out to the WVPA Member Listserv.

OCTOBER 1-30, 2025



HELP US IMPROVE!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



Visit us online at Wvpsychology.org
Or email us at info@wvpsychyology.org