



## Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards

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### EPPP Test Specifications Update

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This communication is to inform all potential EPPP candidates that the test specifications for the EPPP were updated based on the results of the recent Job Task Analysis. This change will take effect on all exams delivered on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and beyond. This means that some of the content measured on the EPPP will be different after that date. The Domains remain the same and much of the content remains the same. However, there are changes in some of the knowledge statements and the percentages of each of the domains have changed.

The new test specifications are as follows:

### **Domain 1 - Biological Bases of Behavior (10%)**

KN1. Functional correlates and determinants of the neurobiological and genetic bases of behavior pertaining to perception, cognition, personality, and mood and affect in normal, acute and chronic neurobehavioral disease processes and disease comorbidities

KN2. Drug classification, mechanisms of action, and desired/adverse effects of therapeutic agents, drugs of abuse, and complementary or alternative agents

KN3. Results from major trials and general guidelines for pharmacological, psychotherapeutic, and combined treatment of psychological disorders

KN4. Behavioral genetics, transmission and expression of genetic information and its modification, and the role and limitations of this information in understanding disorders

KN5. Applications of structural and functional brain imaging methods, electrophysiological methods, therapeutic drug monitoring methods, and genetic screening methodologies, and the evidence for their effectiveness

**Domain 2 - Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior (13%)**

- KN1. Major research-based theories and models of intelligence and their application
- KN2. Major research-based theories, models, and principles of learning and their application
- KN3. Major research-based theories and models of memory and their application
- KN4. Major research-based theories and models of motivation and their application
- KN5. Major research-based theories and models of emotion and their application
- KN11. Elements of cognition, including sensation and perception, attention, language, information processing, visual-spatial processing, executive functioning
- KN12. Relations among cognitions/beliefs, behavior, affect, temperament, and mood
- KN13. Influence of psychosocial factors on cognitions/beliefs and behaviors

**Domain 3 - Social and Cultural Bases of Behavior (11%)**

- KN14. Major research-based theories and models of social cognition (e.g., person perception, development of stereotypes, prejudice)
- KN15. Social interaction and relationships (e.g., attraction, aggression, altruism, organizational justice, verbal and non-verbal communication, internet communication, mate selection, empathy)
- KN16. Group and systems processes (e.g., school, work, and family systems, job satisfaction, team functioning, conformity, persuasion) and social influences on functioning
- KN17. Major research-based personality theories and models
- KN18. Cultural and sociopolitical psychology (e.g., privilege, cross-cultural comparisons, political differences, international and global awareness, religiosity and spirituality, acculturation)
- KN19. Identity diversity and intersectionality (e.g., psychological impact of diversity on individuals, families, and systems)
- KN20. Causes, manifestations, and effects of oppression

**Domain 4 - Growth and Lifespan Development (12%)**

- KN21. Normal growth and development across the lifespan
  - KN22. Influence of individual-environment interaction on development over time (e.g., the relationship between the individual and the social, academic, work, community environment)
  - KN23. Major research-based theories and models of development
  - KN24. Influence of diverse identities on development
  - KN25. Family development, configuration, and functioning and their impact on the individual across the lifespan
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- KN26. Life events that can influence the course of development across the lifespan
- KN27. Risk and protective factors that may impact a developmental course (e.g., nutrition, prenatal care, health care, social support, socioeconomic status, abuse, victimization, and resiliency)
- KN28. Disorders and diseases that impact the expected course of development over the lifespan

**Domain 5 - Assessment and Diagnosis (16%)**

- KN29. Psychometric theories, item and test characteristics, test construction and standardization procedures, reliability and validity, sensitivity and specificity, and test fairness and bias
- KN30. Assessment theories and models (e.g., developmental, behavioral, ecological, neuropsychological)
- KN31. Assessment methods and their strengths and limitations (e.g., self-report, multi-informant reports, psychophysiological measures, work samples, assessment centers, direct observation, structured and semi-structured interviews)
- KN32. Commonly used instruments for the measurement of characteristics and behaviors of individuals and their appropriate use with various populations
- KN33. Issues of differential diagnosis and integration of non-psychological information into psychological assessment
- KN34. Instruments and methods appropriate for the assessment of groups and organizations (e.g., program evaluation, needs assessment, organizational and personnel assessment)
- KN35. Criteria for selection and adaptation of assessment methods (e.g., evidenced-based knowledge of assessment limitations, cultural appropriateness, trans-cultural adaptation, and language accommodations)
- KN36. Classification systems and their underlying rationales and limitations for evaluating client functioning; dimensional vs. categorical approaches to diagnosis
- KN37. Factors influencing evidence-based interpretation of data and decision-making (e.g., base rates, group differences, cultural biases and differences, heuristics)
- KN38. Constructs of epidemiology and base rates of psychological and behavioral disorders
- KN39. Major research-based theories and models of psychopathology
- KN40. Measurement of outcomes and changes due to prevention or intervention efforts with individuals, couples, families, groups, and organizations
- KN41. Use of technology in implementing tests, surveys, and other forms of assessment and diagnostic evaluation (e.g., validity, cost-effectiveness, consumer acceptability)

**Domain 6 - Treatment, Intervention, and Prevention and Supervision (15%)**

- KN42. Factors related to treatment or intervention decision-making (e.g., relevant research, matching treatment to assessment/diagnosis, matching client or patient with psychologist characteristics, knowledge and use of allied services, cost and benefit, readiness to change)
- KN43. Contemporary research-based theories and models of treatment, intervention, and prevention
- KN44. Treatment techniques and interventions and the evidence for their comparative efficacy and effectiveness
- KN45. Methods and their evidence base for prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation with diverse and special populations
- KN46. Interventions to enhance growth and performance of individuals, couples, families, groups, systems, and organizations
- KN47. Research-based consultation models and processes
- KN48. Research-based models of vocational and career development
- KN49. Telepsychology and technology-assisted psychological services
- KN50. Healthcare systems, structures, and economics, and how these impact intervention choice
- KN51. Approaches to health promotion, risk reduction, resilience, and wellness
- KN52. Contemporary theories and models of supervision and their evidence base

**Domain 7 - Research Methods and Statistics (7%)**

- KN53. Sampling and data collection methods
- KN54. Design of case, correlational, quasi-experimental, and experimental studies
- KN55. Analytic methods, including qualitative (e.g., thematic, phenomenological) and quantitative (e.g., probability theory; descriptive, inferential, and parametric statistics; meta-analysis; factor analysis; causal modeling)
- KN56. Statistical interpretation (e.g., power, effect size, causation vs. association, clinical vs. statistical significance)
- KN57. Critical appraisal and application of research findings (e.g., adequacy of design and statistics, limitations to generalizability, threats to internal and external validity, design flaws, level of evidence)
- KN58. Evaluation strategies and techniques (e.g., needs assessment, process and implementation evaluation, formative and summative program evaluation, outcome evaluation, cost-benefit analysis)
- KN59. Considerations regarding community involvement and participation in research  
Dissemination and presentation of research findings

**Domain 8 - Ethical/Legal/Professional Issues (16%)**

- KN60. Current ethical principles and codes for psychologists (APA, CPA)
- KN61. Professional standards and relevant guidelines for the practice of psychology (e.g., standards for educational and psychological testing)
- KN62. Laws, statutes, and judicial decisions that affect psychological practice
- KN63. Identification and management of potential ethical issues
- KN64. Models of ethical decision-making
- KN65. Approaches for continuing professional development
- KN66. Emerging social, legal, ethical, and policy issues and their impact on psychological practice
- KN67. Client and patient rights
- KN68. Ethical issues in the conduct of research
- KN69. Ethical issues in supervision
- KN70. Ethical issues in technology-assisted psychological services