



ASPPB

Association of State and
Provincial Psychology Boards

EPPP Candidate Handbook

Examination for Professional Practice
in Psychology

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EPPP Candidate Handbook
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EPPP CANDIDATE HANDBOOK: THE EXAMINATION FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN PSYCHOLOGY (EPPP)

INTRODUCTION

The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) is developed and owned by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The EPPP is provided to state and provincial boards of psychology to assist them in their evaluation of the qualifications of applicants for licensure and certification. This standardized knowledge-based examination is constructed by ASPPB with the assistance of its test vendor, Pearson VUE. The EPPP is continuously administered in a computerized delivery format through the Pearson VUE network of computer testing centers. State and provincial psychology boards acting collectively through ASPPB provide support for the testing format. Pearson VUE maintains a network of more than 275 Pearson Professional Centers (PPCs) in the United States and Canada in order to provide access to computer-based testing (CBT) for candidates.

The resources of individual psychologists, ASPPB and its test vendor are used in the ongoing development of and improvements to the EPPP. These combined resources are

greater than those available to any individual psychology licensing. The EPPP is only one part of the evaluation procedures used by state and provincial boards to determine candidates' readiness to practice the profession of psychology. Most boards supplement the EPPP with other requirements and/or assessment procedures. The EPPP is intended to evaluate the knowledge that the most recent practice analysis has determined as foundational to the competent practice of psychology. Most candidates taking the EPPP have obtained a doctoral degree in psychology, a year of pre-doctoral supervised experience and appropriate postdoctoral experience. Candidates are expected to have acquired a broad basic knowledge of psychology, regardless of individual areas of concentration. This knowledge, and the candidate's ability to apply it, are assessed through the candidate's responses to objective, multiple-choice questions that are representative of the field at large. The average pass-rate for doctoral level candidates who are taking the exam for the first time exceeds 80% in the most recent sample years.

CONTENT OF THE EPPP

The EPPP covers eight content areas: biological bases of behavior; cognitive-affective bases of behavior; social and cultural bases of behavior; growth and lifespan development; assessment and diagnosis; treatment, intervention, prevention and supervision; research methods and statistics; and ethical, legal, and professional issues. The percentage of exam questions for each of the eight content areas is determined through a Practice Analysis. Those percentages, and the specific sub-areas for each domain, make up the Test Specifications, which are provided in **Appendix A**. Sample EPPP-type questions are provided in **Appendix B**.

Each form of the EPPP contains 225 items, of which 175 are scored and 50 are pretest items. The pretest items do not count in a candidate's final score. Each item has four possible responses, only one of which is the correct answer.

Please note:

- The French version of the EPPP (FEPPP) is available only to individuals applying for licensure in a jurisdiction that legally requires the availability of a French version of the EPPP.

APPLYING TO TAKE THE EPPP

Although the procedures for applying to sit for the EPPP vary somewhat by jurisdiction, the following represent commonalities across jurisdictions.

FIRST STEPS

Regardless of the jurisdiction, in order to sit for the EPPP, individuals seeking licensure must **first apply for licensure to the licensing authority** in the state, province or territory in which they wish to be licensed. The licensing authority reviews applicants' credentials and determines if they meet the requirements established in the laws of the state, province or territory.

Candidates who meet their licensing authorities' requirements will be pre-approved by the board to take the EPPP. The board will enter the candidate's identifying information into an online EPPP registration system that will enable the candidate to log on and verify her/his account, and that gives access to the application materials. Candidates will be sent two consecutive emails, the 1st advising them that their licensing authority has uploaded their information into the system, and the 2nd with information for them to verify their account and begin the registration process.

- ◆ Candidates will not be able to log into the registration system until their licensing authority has uploaded their information. Candidates must contact their board to advise that they are ready to test and need to be uploaded to the EPPP registration system.
- ◆ Once candidates receive those 1st emails they have **90 days to verify their account**. This does not mean that the EPPP must be *taken* within 3 months of receiving the emails, but rather, the account **must be verified** in that first 3 months. If a candidate fails to verify his or her account within that time frame, the licensing authority will have to re-upload the candidate's information.

- ◆ The first and last name in the registration system **must match** the name on the two forms of identification that candidates will be required to present when checking-in at the testing center.

After candidates have verified their account, they will be required to read and acknowledge their review of the *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement*.

AUTHORIZATION TO TEST

AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE PRACTICE EXAMS

The *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement* contains important rules for taking the EPPP and should be read in its entirety before acknowledging that it has been read. The *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement* is presented in **Appendix C**.

Once the *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement* has been completed, candidates will receive an email authorizing them to take Practice Exams. At that point, candidates are eligible to take the EPPP Practice Exams and complete the *EPPP Application Form* to take the EPPP.

AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE THE EPPP

The *EPPP Application Form* is Step 2 of the 2-part registration process, and completion of the second step, the *EPPP Application Form*, will generate the *EPPP Authorization to Test* email.

When the *EPPP Application Form* has been completed, candidates will be able to move forward and schedule their exam. Once in the Pearson VUE system, candidates can pay for/schedule Practice Exams, pay the EPPP fee, schedule their EPPP appointment, and pay the test center appointment fee. Both the EPPP fee and the test center appointment fee are paid at the same time.

- ◆ **Once the fees are paid, the 90-day window of eligibility to complete the Exam begins.**

For instructions to access the Pearson VUE scheduling portal, candidates should refer to the Authorization to Test (ATT) email received from Pearson VUE.

EXAM & TEST CENTER APPOINTMENT FEES

- English EPPP \$600 USD
- French EPPP (*offered only to applicants for licensure in Canadian jurisdictions*) \$600 USD
- The Test Center Appointment Fee for the EPPP is paid at the same time as the Examination Fee, and is applicable to English and French EPPP Exams \$87.50

All fees are paid to Pearson VUE. Acceptable forms of payment are American Express, Visa or MasterCard.

◆ **Remember:** Once the EPPP fee and Test Center Appointment Fee are paid, the 90-day “clock” begins, and candidates must complete the EPPP within that window of time.

◆ **Do not pay your exam fee unless you will be able to complete your exam within 90 days.**

TEST RESCHEDULING & NO-SHOW FEES

Because frequent candidate rescheduling and missed appointments have inconvenienced other candidates, rescheduling fees have been implemented as follows:

- Rescheduling/Cancellation up to and including 31 calendar days before appointment no charge
- Rescheduling/Cancellation less than 31 days, but more than 24 hours, before the scheduled appointment \$87.50
- **No-shows, or rescheduling/cancellation within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment: Forfeiture of all fees paid \$687.50**

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Candidates with documented disabilities or impairments who wish to be tested under nonstandard conditions must mark a “Special Accommodations” box at the end of the EPPP Application form.

Candidates who check the “Special Accommodations” box will receive an email acknowledging receipt of the accommodation request, and advising that the candidate’s EPPP application is under review. Documentation supporting the need for the accommodation(s) requested must be submitted to the candidate’s state or provincial licensing authority for review and approval. The candidate’s licensing authority will review requests for accommodation and will submit approvals to ASPPB.

Until accommodations are approved by the licensing authority, candidates cannot schedule the EPPP.

TO SCHEDULE AN EPPP TESTING APPOINTMENT

Candidates can schedule an EPPP appointment **after they have completed the application**, and following the instructions contained in the Authorization to Test email. Candidates must have an email address to schedule online.

Candidates can also schedule for testing by calling the toll-free number for the Pearson VUE test centers at 800-513-6910. Operators are available weekdays from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern Time. We recommend that candidates schedule their appointments online – a more efficient and faster process.

Candidates will need to provide the following information when scheduling their appointment:

- First and last name exactly as it is printed on identification documents, and as entered in the EPPP Application
- Daytime phone number
- The name of the examination sponsor: The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)

Candidates may take the EPPP at any authorized Pearson Testing Center in the ASPPB network, regardless of where they have applied to be licensed. When candidates schedule their appointment, they will receive an email that includes confirmation of their appointment date, time and location; an Order Number; a Registration ID; and the candidate's ASPPB Candidate ID number.

- Candidates should make sure to keep a record of their confirmation number and appointment information.

Pearson Professional Centers are used for individuals taking exams for any profession that uses Pearson VUE test centers. Therefore, Pearson VUE time slots for testing are limited. The earlier candidates schedule their exam, the more likely they will be able to schedule at the time and location of their choice.

RESCHEDULING

To reschedule an appointment, candidates must either contact Pearson VUE by telephone at 800-513-6910 between the hours of 8:00am and

8:00pm EDT/EST, or they may reschedule online. **The new appointment date must be within the eligibility period and additional fees may be incurred.** See page 7 for rescheduling and no-show policies. If contacting Pearson VUE by phone, please note that the call center is not open on weekends.

FRENCH EPPP (FEPPP)

A French version of the EPPP is available only to those candidates whose jurisdictions legally require the availability of a French form of the Exam. The FEPPP should be selected by the candidate when registering online or by calling the toll-free number for the Pearson VUE test centers at 800-513-6910. Operators are available weekdays from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern Time. Canadian candidates are not required to take the FEPPP and may register to take the EPPP in the English version.

NOTE: There are some jurisdictions that do not accept EPPP scores from candidates who take non-English versions of the Exam.

TAKING THE EPPP

Candidates may test at any authorized Pearson VUE center that administers the EPPP, regardless of the jurisdiction where they are applying for licensure.

Candidates must arrive 30 minutes prior to their scheduled appointment. Please Note: Candidates must have a currently valid, government-issued photo ID (e.g., passport, driver's license, etc.), as well as another piece of identification imprinted with their name and containing a signature or recent photo (e.g., credit card, CPR card, etc.). **The first and last name on both forms of ID must match the name on the Authorization to Test email.**

Prior to taking the EPPP, candidates will be asked to read and acknowledge their review of the *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement*. Please note that the *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement* contains

important rules for taking the EPPP and should be read in its entirety before acknowledging that it has been read.

The EPPP is administered under standardized conditions in accordance with procedures established by Pearson VUE for all their testing centers.

- Candidates taking the EPPP are allowed:
 - 5 minutes to agree to the terms of the *Candidate Acknowledgment Statement* (If you do not agree to the terms within the 5-minute timeframe, the Exam will be canceled and cannot be reset),
 - 5 minutes for completion of the tutorial,
 - 4 hours and 15 minutes for completion of the EPPP and

- 5 minutes at the end of the exam allotted to complete a brief survey.
- Candidates with documented disabilities or impairments, who wish to be tested under nonstandard conditions, please see the section regarding “Special Accommodations” on page 7.

There are no scheduled breaks during the Exam. Candidates may take breaks whenever they wish; however, the clock on the time allotted for the Exam will continue to run.

Pearson Professional Centers are built to standard specifications and vary primarily on the basis of size. Private modular workstations provide ample workspace, comfortable seating, and proper lighting. Proctors monitor the testing process through an observation window and from within the testing room. Parabolic mirrors mounted on the walls assist proctors in observing the testing process. All testing sessions are videotaped and audio-monitored, and a digitized image of all candidates taking the EPPP will be retained.

Computer knowledge is not required to take a computerized examination. Before the examination begins, a basic introductory lesson (tutorial) is presented that explains the process of selecting answers and moving from question to question. **Candidates have 5 minutes to complete the tutorial, and are strongly encouraged to review it carefully.**

Candidates may select their answers using either the keyboard or the mouse. During the tutorial, candidates will learn how they can skip forward or backward through the EPPP to review questions. Candidates should be sure they understand how to review questions when they take the tutorial.

The testing software contains a feature that allows candidates to flag questions they might wish to review later, if time permits. Any question can be flagged, regardless of whether it has been left blank or answered, and will be scored even if it is still marked upon completion of the Exam.

Candidates are encouraged to take notes during the tutorial on whiteboards that can be supplied by the testing center upon request. They are not automatically supplied. Testing center staff will collect whiteboards at the completion of the Examination. Candidates are not allowed to bring their own scratch paper or writing instruments into the testing room.

Please Note: There might be some distractions in the testing situation because:

- Other candidates may be taking exams that require narrative responses, and there may be keyboard noise.
- Proctors will be entering the testing room on a regular basis to observe activity and to seat other candidates or answer inquiries.
- Other minor distractions might include ambient noise from outside the testing room.

If a candidate is concerned that these kinds of distractions will affect exam performance, he or she may request earplugs and/or noise cancelling headphones after arriving at the testing center. This does **not** require pre-approval. Candidates are not allowed to bring their own earplugs into the testing room.

The total number of correct responses determines a candidate’s score. Therefore, it is to the candidate’s advantage to answer every item, even when uncertain of the correct response. The candidate should choose the single best answer to each item.

IN CASE OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS DURING THE EXAM ADMINISTRATION

A candidate who experiences technical difficulties (e.g., a malfunctioning computer) while taking the EPPP should alert Pearson VUE staff immediately. If Pearson VUE staff cannot remedy the situation within 30 minutes, or if the problem persists despite attempts to remedy it, the Pearson VUE test administrator on site will advise the candidate what to do.

APPOINTMENT TIME IS NOT NECESSARILY STARTING TIME

Candidates should remember that their appointment time is not necessarily their starting time. Candidates must be checked-in before taking the EPPP (sign in, present the appropriate identification, have a digital facial photo taken, and have a palm vein scan). The check-in process may take time if many candidates have the same appointment time. Candidates who are required to wait more than 30 minutes after their scheduled appointment time to begin taking the EPPP will be asked by Pearson VUE staff if, rather than continuing to wait, they would prefer to be rescheduled for another day provided it is within their 90-day eligibility period. If the candidate cannot reschedule an exam date within their 90-day eligibility period because

there are only a few days left before the period expires, and/or there are no available appointments, the candidate will be instructed by Pearson VUE staff about next steps.

PROVIDING FEEDBACK/COMMENTS ABOUT THE EXAM

Candidates may provide feedback about the EPPP by completing a survey on the computer immediately after completing the Examination. Should candidates wish to provide feedback or comments at a later date, they can go to their online account and select “Incident” in the left navigation area to provide that feedback. ASPPB will review **all** comments and respond to candidates, if needed.

RECEIVING EXAMINATION RESULTS

Immediately upon completing the EPPP, candidates will receive an “unofficial” score at the test center. This is the only notification candidates will receive from ASPPB. This score will be reported to the candidate’s licensing authority within 10 days. The licensing authority will determine whether the score meets the established passing score according to the rules of the jurisdiction, and to determine the point at which individuals are formally considered licensed. The score will not change except in rare cases such as suspected cheating. This score report cannot be used for score transfers. If a

candidate is applying for licensure in multiple jurisdictions, the score will be sent only to the jurisdiction that authorized the candidate for the Exam. Scores for applications in other jurisdictions must have an Official Score Transfer sent directly from ASPPB. Score transfers can be ordered at www.asppb.net. By Wednesday of each week, jurisdictional licensing authorities receive the scores for their licensure applicants who took the EPP during the previous week (Sunday through Saturday).

No information regarding a candidate’s score will be given from either the ASPPB or Pearson VUE helpline.

SCALED SCORES AND PASSING SCORES

The scaled scores utilized by ASPPB are an arithmetic conversion of raw scores (the number of questions a candidate answers correctly) to a scale that ranges from 200 to 800. Converting raw scores to scaled scores ensures that scores on different forms of the Examination have the same meaning and that pass points represent the same level of difficulty. *Regardless of the exam form taken, the scaled scores represent equal levels of achievement.* For example, while the ASPPB

recommended passing scores of 500 for independent practice and 450 for supervised practice do not change, the number of questions that have to be answered correctly to achieve a passing score can change. If a form of the EPPP were easier than the form on which the passing score was set, more questions would have to be answered correctly to obtain a scaled score of 450 or 500. If the form of the EPPP were more difficult, fewer questions would have to be answered correctly to pass.

Thus, candidates are not rewarded because their exam was easier nor penalized because it was more difficult.

After equating, the ASPPB recommended passing score of 500 is equivalent to the criterion-referenced passing score standard established in ASPPB's 2011 Standard Setting procedure. The level of knowledge represented by this score was adopted by the ASPPB as a recommended minimum standard for independent practice as a psychologist.

As noted, the ASPPB recommended passing scores are set at 500 for independent practice and 450 for supervised

practice. However, each board sets the standard for passing in its respective state, province or territory and reports the result to the candidates. At the present time, all jurisdictions accept the ASPPB recommended passing score for independent practice, but there is some variation among jurisdictions regarding the passing score for supervised practice.

All procedures and decisions with regard to licensure are the responsibility of each jurisdiction. Any questions about these procedures should be directed to the appropriate state or provincial board.

EXAMINATION FEEDBACK TO CANDIDATES

Any candidate who scores below 500 (the ASPPB recommended passing score for independent practice) will automatically receive performance feedback at the

test center as part of his or her score report. The feedback will be reported by domain in the form of a bar graph. There is no fee for this report.

RETAKE THE EPPP

If candidates' scores do not meet their jurisdiction's requirement for licensure, it will be necessary for them to retake the EPPP. Candidates may reapply to take the EPPP as soon as they are able to reschedule, *unless* there are other requirements imposed by their licensing authority.

Requirements for retakes vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. In some jurisdictions, re-approval is automatic, and candidates may retake the EPPP as soon as they pay the fees and schedule a testing appointment. However, some jurisdictions have rules related to retakes such as waiting periods, or additional requirements. If you are unsure whether your jurisdiction must re-authorize you for a retake, please contact your licensing authority. Jurisdictions vary in how often they allow candidates to take the EPPP. **No matter what, candidates may take the Examination no**

more than four times in any 12-month period. It is recommended that candidates wait for approximately 90 days from their last test date in order to allow sufficient time to prepare to take the EPPP again.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT:	GO HERE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensure application • Specific licensure requirements • Prerequisites for taking the EPPP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The licensing authority where you wish to be licensed. Board contact information: http://www.asppb.net/?page=BdContactNewPG > ASPPB's <i>Handbook of Licensing and Certification Requirements for Psychologists in the U.S. and Canada</i>. It is available on ASPPB's website at http://www.asppb.org/HandbookPublic/before.aspx Candidates should, however, contact their jurisdiction directly to confirm, as information in the <i>Handbook</i> may have changed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General EPPP information • Trouble logging-in to register for the EPPP • EPPP application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > "Contact Us" – top right on ASPPB Website: https://asppb.site-ym.com/general/?type=CONTACT > Incident tool in left navigation of ASPPB EPPP Examination Portal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduling or rescheduling a testing appointment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Pearson VUE EPPP Candidate Helpline: Toll Free: 800-513-6910 Toll: 952-905-7369 Mon-Fri: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm EST

A RECAP OF IMPORTANT POLICIES REGARDING THE EPPP

When candidates receive the 1st email allowing them access to their online account, they must logon and verify the account within 3 months. This does not mean that the EPPP must be *taken* within 3 months of receiving that first email, but rather, their account must be verified in that first 3 months. If candidates fail to verify their account within that time frame, their licensing authority will have to re-upload their information.

When the EPPP fee has been paid, a candidate's 90-day window starts in which the EPPP must be taken. Candidates who do not anticipate being ready to take the EPPP within 90 days should not schedule their exam until they feel prepared.

To reschedule an existing appointment, candidates must contact Pearson VUE by phone or online. Outside of call center hours, appointments can be rescheduled online.

The new appointment date must be within the eligibility period. Rescheduling fees may apply (see #4 below).

Test Appointment Rescheduling Fees:

> Rescheduling/Cancellation up to and including 31 calendar days before appointment: No Charge

> Rescheduling/Cancellation 1 to 30 days before appointment: \$87.50

> No-shows, or Rescheduling/Cancellation within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment: **Forfeiture of all fees: \$687.50**



1. It is important to schedule an appointment as soon as the *Authorization to Test* email is received. The earlier candidates act, the more likely they will be able to schedule at the time and location of their choice.
2. To be admitted to the test site, candidates must have a current, valid, government-issued photo ID (passport, driver's license, etc.), as well as another piece of identification imprinted with their name and containing a signature or recent photo (credit card, CPR card, etc.) The first and last name on both forms of ID must match the first and last name on the *Authorization to Test* email (and the name with which candidates registered for the EPPP).
3. At the test site, candidates may not bring anything into the exam room with them. No liquids, snacks of any kind, paper or writing instruments may be brought into the testing room. Whiteboards are available at the test center upon request, as are earplugs and noise cancelling headphones.
4. Total time allotted at the test center is 4 hours and 30 minutes:
 - 5 minutes to agree to the terms of the *Candidate Acknowledgement Statement* (If you do not agree to the terms within the 5 minute timeframe, the Exam will be canceled and cannot be reset),
 - 5 minutes for completion of the tutorial,
 - 4 hours and 15 minutes for completion of the EPPP and
 - 5 minutes at the end of the Exam allotted to complete a brief survey.
5. Each form of the EPPP includes 225 items, of which 175 are scored (operational) and 50 are not scored (pretest). Each item has four possible responses, only one of which is the correct answer. Candidates should mark the single best answer for each question.
6. The French EPPP is only available to applicants for jurisdictions in Canada that legally require a French version of the exam.
7. There are no scheduled breaks during the Exam. Candidates are allowed to take unscheduled breaks whenever they wish; however, the clock for the Exam continues to run. Candidates on break may go to the washroom or retrieve snacks from their test center locker; but candidates may not leave the testing center.
8. Candidates may store snacks and water in their testing center lockers for access during breaks, but all such items must be unwrapped, and in clear plastic baggies. Water must be in a clear plastic bottle with no label.
9. Questions that are “flagged” for review do not need to be “unflagged” in order to count in the scoring of the Exam.
10. Candidates’ scores are determined solely by the number of correct responses on the Exam. Therefore, it is to the candidate’s advantage to answer every item, even when uncertain of the correct response.
11. A candidate who experiences technical difficulties (e.g., a malfunctioning computer) while taking the examination must alert test center staff immediately. If Pearson VUE staff cannot remedy the situation within 30 minutes, or if the problem persists despite attempts to remedy it, the Pearson VUE Test Administrator on site will tell the candidate how to proceed.
12. Unofficial scores are released to candidates immediately upon completion of the EPPP. Any candidate who receives a score below 500, the recommended passing score for independent practice, will also receive feedback on performance in each domain tested by the EPPP.
13. The candidate’s licensure authority will determine pass/fail and licensure status. Scores will be reported to the licensing authorities on a weekly basis, and within 10 business days following any exam date.

EPPP PRACTICE EXAM

The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) offers computer-delivered practice exams for the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP). There are two versions of the practice exam, which are offered either online (PEPPPO) or at a Pearson VUE test center (PEPPP). You may purchase the practice exam multiple times. If you purchase the exam more than two times you will repeat a version. The items on both the PEPPP and the PEPPPO are retired items from the EPPP item bank and have been prepared using the same procedures as items selected for use on the actual EPPP. Because the practice exams consist of old, retired EPPP items, they are not recommended for candidates to take in order to assess areas where additional study might be needed. Rather, they allow candidates to take exams that are similar in test specifications to the EPPP, and if taken at Pearson VUE testing centers, offer conditions similar to those where candidates will take the EPPP. The costs of the PEPPP and the PEPPPO are located in the Fee Summary on page 19 of this document.

THE PEPPPO: ONLINE PRACTICE EXAMS

The 100-item practice exams are also available on-line as the Practice Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology Online (PEPPPO). Candidates will experience taking a practice exam at the time and place of their choice with any computer that can connect to the Internet. Candidates will receive a pass/fail result upon completion of the exam. The score report does not provide any information on missed items.

Warning: if you use the “pause” feature within the PEPPPO, the clock will continue to run and the exam will end after 120 minutes (2 hours). You can exit your web browser while taking the PEPPPO and return later to finish the practice exam; however:

You must return within 168 hours (one week) of when you began taking the PEPPPO.

The total time allowed for taking the PEPPPO (across all sittings) is limited to 2 hours.

Warning: You should only use the “Finish Exam and View Scores” option when you have completed the PEPPPO. There is no way to go back to the practice exam once you have clicked that option.

NOTE: *Both the PEPPP and the PEPPPO are offered for practice purposes only. No representation is made that performance on the practice exams is a valid indicator of performance on any future licensing examination or a guarantee of passage of such a licensing examination. An individual's score on a practice exam will not be accepted in lieu of the passage of an actual form of the EPPP. By taking these practice exams, each individual acknowledges that he or she understands these limitations on their use.*

SCHEDULING A PRACTICE EXAM:

Once the licensing authority uploads candidate information into the EPPP registration system, each candidate will receive an automated email detailing the registration process. Candidates are eligible to schedule a practice exam after completing the registration.

THE PEPPP: TEST CENTER PRACTICE EXAMS

The 100-item computer administered Practice Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (PEPPP) offers individuals a chance to practice answering examination questions under real-world testing conditions at a Pearson VUE Testing Center. Candidates will experience navigating the exam with the actual test administration program, and will receive a pass/fail result upon completion of the exam. The score report does not provide any information on missed items.

THE ASPPB CREDENTIALS BANK AND THE CERTIFICATE OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION IN PSYCHOLOGY (CPQ)

An individual who plans to be licensed as a Psychologist should consider taking advantage of the ASPPB Credentials Bank. The Credentials Bank is offered by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), the association of U.S. and Canadian psychology licensing authorities. The Credentials Bank is an electronically stored record of university transcripts, supervised experiences, work experiences, examination performance, etc., that can be reproduced and transmitted to any licensing authority where you are seeking licensure.

Information that may be easy to acquire now (as you complete licensure requirements) can be stored and retrieved in the years ahead, perhaps long after your last contact with internship supervisors or postdoctoral supervisors, or long after other crucial licensure-related information is readily accessible. Such archived documentation can be extremely helpful in maintaining your licensure eligibility after initial licensure.

Psychology students, trainees and those not yet licensed may open a Credentials Bank record for free, so you can take advantage of this service while beginning your professional career. The fee to open a Credentials Bank record for individuals who are not students, and have been licensed for less than five

years, is \$100.00 USD. The fee for any applicant who has been licensed for five years or more is \$200.00 USD.

The Credentials Bank is part of ASPPB's effort to facilitate professional mobility for doctoral licensed

psychologists. Candidates for initial licensure who open a record in the Credentials Bank now will be well on the way to acquiring the ASPPB Certificate of Professional Qualification in Psychology (CPQ), a mobility credential that makes re-licensure in another participating state or province simpler (applicants for the CPQ must have a doctoral degree in psychology, a record of practicing five years without discipline as a licensed psychologist in an ASPPB member jurisdiction, and must meet other requirements.)

Feel free to contact ASPPB by phone, fax or email with questions about the Credentials Bank or the CPQ program.

Phone: 888-201-6360

Fax: 678-216-1176

Email: cpq@asppb.org

Learn more about the Credentials Bank, CPQ, or other ASPPB programs and services, including the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), at <http://www.asppb.net>

HOW TO TRANSFER EXAM SCORES: THE ASPPB EPPP SCORE TRANSFER SERVICE

The ASPPB Score Transfer Service maintains a permanent record of EPPP scores and, at a candidate's request, the service will report the candidate's EPPP score to the licensing authority of another state or province in which the candidate seeks licensure or certification. The EPPP score report will also include a review of ASPPB's Disciplinary Data System to determine if a disciplinary sanction imposed on the candidate's license has been reported by any psychology licensing authority.

EPPP scores are automatically registered with the ASPPB EPPP Score Transfer Service. A candidate's examination

fee includes a report of his or her score to the licensing authority in which he or she seeks initial licensure.

HOW DO I REQUEST A TRANSFER OF MY EPPP SCORE?

You may now request your EPPP Score Transfer online!

For more information about the EPPP score transfer, including fees and expedited service, visit <http://www.asppb.net/?page=ScoreTransfer>.

If you do not wish to process your score transfer online, please [email us](#) for a .pdf version of the request form.

EPPP FEE SUMMARY

Fee	Notes		Amount (USD)
Licensure Application Fees	Not related to EPPP fees	> Determined by the licensing authority	Check with your licensing authority
EPPP Application Fee	Payable to Pearson VUE when candidates schedule their EPPP testing appointment online	> Base <u>Examination Fee</u>	\$600.00
Test Site Appointment Fee	Payable to Pearson VUE when candidates schedule their EPPP testing appointment <i>(This is the test site appointment fee)</i>	> U.S. and Canadian EPPP:	\$87.50
	Implemented by and payable to Pearson VUE because of	> Rescheduling/Cancellation 31 calendar days or more before scheduled appointment	\$0

Test Site Rescheduling Fees	frequent candidate rescheduling that inconveniences other candidates	> Rescheduling/Cancellation less than 31 days but more than 24 hours before the scheduled appointment	\$87.50
		 > No-shows, or Rescheduling/ Cancellation within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment	\$687.50 Forfeiture of all fees, including EPPP fee

ASPPB Practice Exams:

Online	Practice Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology Online (PEPPPO)		\$63.50 (Per attempt)
At Pearson Professional Center	Practice Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (PEPPP) - Includes test site appointment fee		\$115.00 (Per attempt)
Practice Exam Rescheduling Fees: Applicable to the PEPPP at Pearson VUE testing centers	Because of frequent candidate rescheduling that inconveniences other candidates:	> Rescheduling/Cancellation 31 calendar days or more before scheduled appointment	\$0
		>Rescheduling/Cancellation less than 31 days but more than 24 hours before the scheduled appointment	\$87.50
		 No-shows, or Rescheduling/ Cancellation within 24 hours of the scheduled appointment	Forfeiture of the entire fee: \$115

APPENDIX A

TEST SPECIFICATIONS / SUMMARY OF EPPP CONTENT AREAS / PSYCHOLOGISTS' ROLES

FOR TEST ADMINISTRATIONS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Each English and French form of the EPPP contains 225 items, 175 of which are scored and 50 of which are pretest items and do not count in a candidate's final score. Each item has four possible responses, only one of which is the correct answer.

The content areas of the EPPP outlined below are based on the Job Task Analysis that was completed by ASPPB in 2017. This reflects the knowledge base required for the various responsibilities psychologists are expected to assume in professional practice.

Domain 1 - Biological Bases of Behavior (10%)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>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</p> | <p>KN4. Behavioral genetics, transmission and expression of genetic information and its modification, and the role and limitations of this information in understanding disorders</p> |
| <p>KN2. Drug classification, mechanisms of action, and desired/adverse effects of therapeutic agents, drugs of abuse, and complementary or alternative agents</p> | <p>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</p> |
| <p>KN3. Results from major trials and general guidelines for pharmacological, psychotherapeutic, and combined treatment of psychological disorders</p> | |

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>KN6. Major research-based theories and models of intelligence and their application</p> | <p>KN10. Major research-based theories and models of emotion and their application</p> |
| <p>KN7. Major research-based theories, models, and principles of learning and their application</p> | <p>KN11. Elements of cognition, including sensation and perception, attention, language, information processing, visual-spatial processing, executive functioning</p> |
| <p>KN8. Major research-based theories and models of memory and their application</p> | <p>KN12. Relations among cognitions/beliefs, behavior, affect, temperament, and mood</p> |
| <p>KN9. Major research-based theories and models of motivation and their application</p> | |

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

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%)

- KN14. 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)
- KN15. Contemporary research-based theories and models of treatment, intervention, and prevention
- KN16. Treatment techniques and interventions and the evidence for their comparative efficacy and effectiveness
- KN17. Methods and their evidence base for prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation with diverse and special populations
- KN18. Interventions to enhance growth and performance of individuals, couples, families, groups, systems, and organizations

KN19. Research-based consultation models and processes

KN20. Research-based models of vocational and career development

KN21. Telepsychology and technology-assisted psychological services

KN22. Healthcare systems, structures, and economics, and how these impact intervention choice

KN23. Approaches to health promotion, risk reduction, resilience, and wellness

KN24. Contemporary theories and models of supervision and their evidence base

KN25.

Domain 7 - Research Methods and Statistics (7%)

KN26. Sampling and data collection methods

KN27. Design of case, correlational, quasi-experimental, and experimental studies

KN28. 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)

KN29. Statistical interpretation (e.g., power, effect size, causation vs. association, clinical vs. statistical significance)

KN30. 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)

KN31. Evaluation strategies and techniques (e.g., needs assessment, process and implementation evaluation, formative and summative program evaluation, outcome evaluation, cost-benefit analysis)

KN32. Considerations regarding community involvement and participation in research Dissemination and presentation of research finding

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

KN33. Current ethical principles and codes for psychologists (APA, CPA)

KN34. Professional standards and relevant guidelines for the practice of psychology (e.g., standards for educational and psychological testing)

KN35. Laws, statutes, and judicial decisions that affect psychological practice

KN36. Identification and management of potential ethical issues

KN37. Models of ethical decision-making

KN38. Approaches for continuing professional development

KN39. Emerging social, legal, ethical, and policy issues and their impact on psychological practice

KN40. Client and patient rights

KN41. Ethical issues in the conduct of research

KN42. Ethical issues in supervision

KN43. Ethical issues in technology-assisted psychological services.

APPENDIX B

SAMPLE EPPP QUESTIONS

1. The central ingredient of the most effective behavioral treatment for agoraphobia is:
 - a) Deep muscle relaxation.
 - b) Prolonged exposure in vivo.
 - c) Shaping of the desired behavior with an implemented reward system.
 - d) Exposure in fantasy.

2. A test of adjustment is administered to 100 participants, and those scoring in the bottom 10% are selected for intensive therapy. Following the conclusion of therapy, the test is re-administered and an improvement in scores is noted. Such an improvement in test performance would probably be expected even without therapy because:
 - a) There has been a lapse of time between the first and second administrations.
 - b) Such tests are notably unreliable, particularly when based on small samples.
 - c) Regression of scores toward the mean is to be expected as a purely chance phenomenon.
 - d) The range for which the test was designed has been restricted by the method of sampling.

3. Which of the following descriptive features of a distribution of scores on a psychological test is not affected by adding a constant 10 to each score?
 - a) The standard deviation.
 - b) The geometric mean.
 - c) The arithmetic mean.
 - d) The median.

4. A psychologist joins the staff of a community mental health center. A fellow psychologist, who is also a member of APA, is listed in the center's literature as having a doctoral degree. The newly hired psychologist knows that this psychologist does not possess a doctoral degree. Acting consistent with the ethics codes of the American and Canadian Psychological Associations, the newly hired psychologist should:
 - a) Discuss the situation with the other psychologist and indicate that claiming unearned credentials is unethical.
 - b) Tell the other psychologist to finish the degree.
 - c) Report the situation to the Ethics Committee of the local psychological association.
 - d) Inform the local newspaper of this falsification.

ANSWERS: 1-b; 2-c; 3-a; 4-a

APPENDIX C

CANDIDATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

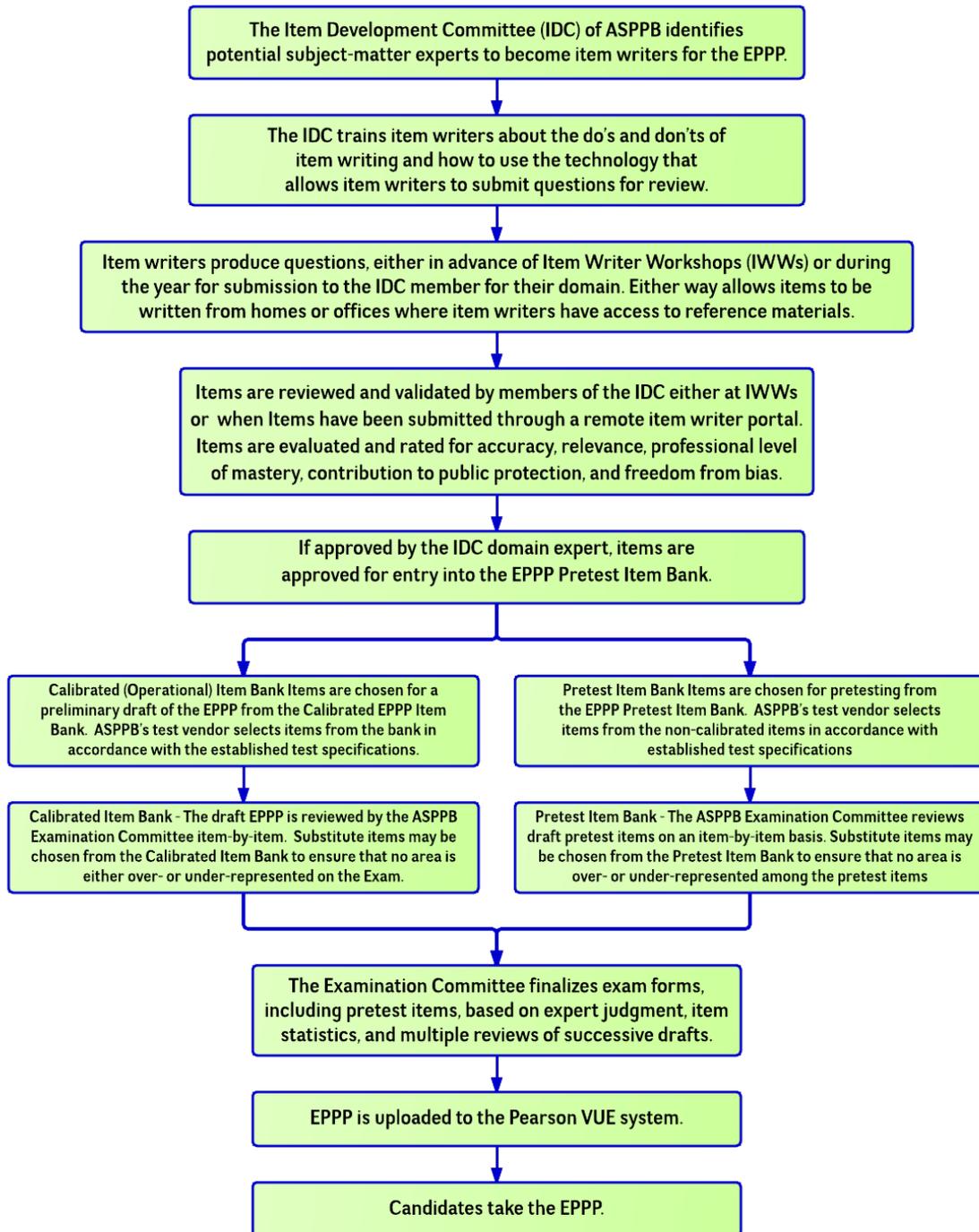
Candidates are reminded that they have an ethical and legal duty not to divulge the content of the EPPP. The Candidate Acknowledgment Statement reproduced below, is presented on-screen as part of the online application process. Candidates are required to acknowledge their understanding of the statement in order to complete the application process. This text also appears on the computer screen at the testing centers prior to the commencement of the Exam, and by proceeding with the Exam, each candidate acknowledges that he/she understands its meaning.

“By taking this examination, I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the following:

1. I have an ethical duty to protect the security and validity of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP).
2. The dissemination of the content of the EPPP to any person, organization, company, or other entity *in any manner* shall constitute a breach of professional ethics and theft of the exam. ***Any person found guilty of such violation may have his/her score voided.*** The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) may prohibit the candidate from future access to the EPPP.
3. This examination and the items contained therein are the exclusive property of the ASPPB.
4. The theft or attempted theft of an examination or examination items is punishable as a felony and may result in civil penalties or professional sanction. I recognize that the breach of my obligations under this candidate acknowledgment may expose me to liability for damages caused to the ASPPB and to legal fees incurred by the ASPPB in preserving its rights.
5. This examination and the items contained therein are protected by copyright law and constitute valuable trade secret information, the disclosure of which will cause injury to the ASPPB. No part of this examination may be copied or reproduced in part or whole by any means whatsoever, including memorizing and/or reporting items, item topics, or exam content unless previously authorized by the ASPPB.
6. My participation in any irregularity occurring prior to, during, or subsequent to this examination, such as giving or obtaining unauthorized information or aid, as evidenced by observation or subsequent statistical analysis, may result in termination of my participation, invalidation of the results of my examination, or other appropriate action.
7. My demographic information and test scores will be used in aggregate with information from other candidates for research and reporting purposes. ASPPB, the association that owns and creates the EPPP, and Pearson Professional, the organization that provides testing centers and scores the EPPP, will not share any information that could identify me personally to any parties conducting research.”

APPENDIX D

Item Development & EPPP Test Construction Flow Chart



APPENDIX E

VALIDATION OF THE EXAMINATION

Since the inauguration of the EPPP in 1964, every effort has been made to ensure its validity. The meticulous test development process constitutes one major facet of the validation effort devoted to the assurance of content validity. The relationship between the test scores and certain candidates' characteristics is periodically reviewed. A digest of validation research, *The Research Digest for the EPPP*, is available from ASPPB.

ASPPB has conducted five sets of investigations that form the basis of the content validity of the Examination. The first, a role delineation study, was performed in 1982 to clarify the content most appropriate for the EPPP. A new content outline for the EPPP was developed from that information. A content validation study followed in 1984 to assess the clarity of the content outline, the quality of the items, and the relationship between content categories and items.

In 1983, ASPPB contracted for the second set of studies, a job analysis defining the work and responsibilities of psychologists in the United States and Canada. The results of the job analysis were integrated with the findings of the earlier role delineation study, and items in the ASPPB item bank were reclassified on the basis of the categories in the new test specifications. A content validation study was conducted in 1988 as an independent check that the first two forms of the EPPP based on the new test specifications reflected these specifications, and that the items were free of any discernable content bias with regard to ethnicity, gender and age.

The third major study, a full-scale Practice Analysis conducted in 1995, examined what licensed psychologists did and what they needed to know in order to safely practice in the United States and Canada. Process-based and content-based approaches

were used to delineate roles and responsibilities performed by psychologists and the content areas and knowledge required in practice. A survey was developed and sent to approximately 7,500 licensed psychologists in the United States and Canada to validate all elements in the delineations. Analysis of completed surveys yielded eight content domains, which were used to form the content outline of the EPPP, and four roles that licensed psychologists perform in conducting their work. The roles were not used as guidelines for constructing the EPPP but were used to aid item writers in producing job-relevant examination questions.

A fourth study to conduct a targeted update Practice Analysis was completed in 2003. Existing areas of psychology had evolved and new areas had emerged. The specific bodies of knowledge associated with these areas were expanded and/or were the object of refocusing. Critical incident interviews and focus panels were used to collect data from licensed psychologists with expertise in the key perspectives of the study in order to identify changes in practice patterns that had occurred and in the knowledge base required for practice. The resulting updating of the test specifications refined the existing task and knowledge statements, rather than create a new structure.

In 2010, a 24-month long *Analysis of Professional Practice with a Focus on the Validation and Assessment of Competencies*, was completed and adopted by the ASPPB Board of Directors in January 2011. That practice analysis resulted in revised test specifications for the EPPP updating the knowledge base.

The Practice Analysis also identified and validated underlying professional competencies, and identified

possible future assessment methods to best measure underlying professional competencies.

In 2017, an updated Job Task Analysis (JTA) was completed. Similar to previous validation studies, psychologists in the United States and Canada were surveyed regarding the required knowledge for entry level practice. The results of the survey and expert panel review provided the basis of updated test specifications that will be in place for exams on February 15, 2018 and afterwards.

The full Practice Analysis Report and an Executive Summary Report are available at <http://www.asppb.net/PracticeAnalysis/>. The new test specifications that comprise the test are found in, Appendix II of the full report, as well as in Appendix B of this document.

APPENDIX F

CONSTRUCTION OF THE EXAMINATION

The examination development process is intended to maximize the content validity of the EPPP.

The ASPPB Item Development Committee (IDC) is appointed by the ASPPB Board of Directors and charged to oversee the item writing process. Members of the IDC are chosen for their expertise and credentials in the specific domains that comprise the content areas of the EPPP.

The ASPPB Examination Committee (ExC), along with ASPPB's test vendor, is responsible for the construction of the EPPP. ExC members are appointed by the ASPPB Board of Directors and are chosen for their outstanding credentials and exceptional achievements in their respective specialties. Members of both committees are listed in the "EPPP Exam Information" section of the ASPPB website at <http://www.asppb.net>.

A brief outline of the item development process follows: Individuals with expertise in specific domains of the EPPP write questions that are submitted for consideration. Members of the IDC train item writers on how to write questions for the EPPP and how to submit questions to be considered for the EPPP item bank.

1. Once an item is submitted for review, a process of validation occurs between the item writer and a subject-matter expert on the IDC. Items are evaluated for style, format, subject matter accuracy, relevance to practice, professional level of mastery, contribution to public protection, and freedom from bias.

2. Once judged by the IDC subject-matter expert to be of sufficient quality, items receive an additional level of editorial and psychometric review by ASPPB's test vendor staff to ensure conformity to established psychometric principles and the *EPPP Style Guidelines*.

3. Items that are approved by IDC subject-matter experts are then entered into the EPPP Pretest Item Bank.

4. A draft Examination is constructed on the basis of a content outline derived from a job analysis and role delineation study of the profession of psychology (see below). At a meeting of the ExC, the preliminary draft is reviewed item-by-item. Items are reviewed, validated, and/or replaced with bank questions in accordance with the test specifications and the ExC's expert judgment. **This draft is taken from the Operational Item Bank and so is made up only of items with known psychometric properties.**

5. ASPPB's test vendor staff constructs a second draft of the EPPP in accordance with the ExC review of and comments on the first draft, and at the next meeting of the ExC, this second draft of the Examination is reviewed item-by-item. Committee members use their content expertise and the item statistics to draft a final form of the Examination.

A final form of the Examination is constructed on the basis of the ExC's second review and comments, and is then uploaded into the Pearson VUE's system. The finalized form of the EPPP is supplemented with 50 items for pre-testing. These pre-test items are randomly distributed throughout the test and are not counted as part of a candidate's score. The total number of items on the EPPP will be 225, 175 of which are operational (and will be scored) and 50 of which are pretest items (and will not count in the scoring of the Exam).