



ASPPB

Association of State and
Provincial Psychology Boards

Supporting member jurisdictions in fulfilling their responsibility of public protection.

Jurisdictional Update on the Enhanced EPPP

October 24, 2018

Dear Membership,

It was wonderful to see many of you in Salt Lake City at the Annual Meeting. We hope you enjoyed smooth sailing on your way back home, and we wish all of our membership a happy and healthy autumn.

As we move forward together, we would like to provide you a summary of recent Board of Directors decisions regarding the Enhanced EPPP. This information is a review of what we discussed at the Annual Meeting.

- 1) We have rescinded the August 2017 decision which made the Enhanced EPPP (including both knowledge and skills portions) the single licensure exam offered by the ASPPB. There are now two exam options.
- 2) **Option One** is for jurisdictions to continue to use the current EPPP, a standardized assessment of the knowledge needed for independent practice, with jurisdictions determining their own method of assessing the skills needed for independent practice.
- 3) **Option Two** is to use the Enhanced EPPP, which will be available in January, 2020. The Enhanced EPPP will be one exam with two parts: the current EPPP, the standardized assessment of knowledge and the Part 2 of the EPPP, the standardized assessment of skills.
- 4) An applicant must pass the knowledge portion of the exam (the current EPPP) prior to taking the skills portion of the exam (the Part 2 of the EPPP). The skills exam will not be offered as a stand-alone exam
- 5) Only applicants who are registered through a jurisdiction that has adopted the Enhanced Exam, and who have passed the knowledge portion of the exam, will be allowed to take the skills portion of the exam.
- 6) January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 is designated as an **early adoption period**. All jurisdictions who decide to adopt the Enhanced EPPP *at any point during this time frame* will be offered reduced fees for their applicants.
- 7) **Fees for the skills portion of the exam**, not including test center and jurisdictional fees will be:
 - a. \$300 for early adopters – from exam launch through December 31, 2021
 - b. \$450 as of January 1, 2022
- 8) **ASPPB Exam Fees for Beta Testers**, not including test center and jurisdictional fees will be:
 - a. \$100.00

President, Board of Directors – Sharon Lightfoot, PhD | Chief Executive Officer – Mariann Burnetti-Atwell, PsyD

- 9) Beta testing is commonly used for professional licensing exams and ASPPB has conducted Beta Testing in the past for both the EPPP and the PEP. One of the goals of beta testing is to assess how each item performs. Typically, many items are found to be psychometrically sound and are included in the applicant's score, while some items do not perform well and are discarded. Because of the need to assess items, longer examinations are given during the beta testing time frame. Items that do not perform well are not used to determine a candidate's score.
- 10) Beta testers: Approximately 150 initial test-takers will be "beta testers." Beta Testing will occur for approximately two months starting at exam launch. Beta testers **do** receive an exam score; however, they may need to wait a bit longer than is now typical to receive their score.
- 11) One of ASPPB's commitments is to strive towards best practices and consistency in regulation. Towards that end we anticipate that as jurisdictions adopt and gain experience with the Enhanced EPPP, they will come to see its value, such that at some point, as was the case with the EPPP, all jurisdictions will adopt it as the licensure exam for psychology. You can expect continued support from ASPPB in your efforts to implement the Enhanced EPPP. After several years of experience of jurisdictions using the Enhanced EPPP (2022), the ASPPB Board of Directors will evaluate that experience and decide on future directions for the national licensing exam. That decision will not be made in isolation and without the ongoing input of our member jurisdictions.
- 12) ASPPB strongly supports an early admittance option which would allow students to take the knowledge portion of the EPPP (Part 1) pre-degree -- after completion of all academic coursework excluding internship and research. The early admittance option will only be allowed for candidates who are registered through an Enhanced EPPP jurisdiction and is not limited to those coming from accredited programs, rather it is the jurisdictions that will make the determination of eligibility.
- 13) Enhanced EPPP jurisdictions will decide whether they will allow for this option. Students will need to check with jurisdictions to see if they will allow for an early option and if they will accept EPPP scores if taken early.
- 14) More information about the Enhanced EPPP can soon be found on the ASPPB web site at <https://www.asppb.net/page/EPPPPart2>.

Sincerely,

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