

clinical neuropsychology { defined:

The American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN)

is a member board of the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). ABCN is responsible for establishing criteria related to the definition, education, training, competencies, and the examination leading to certification as a specialist in clinical neuropsychology. The Board membership includes only members board certified in clinical neuropsychology and representative of the specialty on a national basis.

Clinical Neuropsychology

Clinical Neuropsychology is a specialty in professional psychology defined by its particular practice with brain behavior relationships in individuals with known or suspected involvement of the central nervous system. The specialty is engaged in evaluation, consultation, and intervention involving such modalities as remediation and retraining as research warrants.

Certification in Clinical Neuropsychology

Board certification assures the public and the profession that the clinical neuropsychologist specialist has successfully completed the education, training, and experience requirements of the specialty including an examination designed to assess the competencies required to provide quality services in clinical neuropsychology.

Through ABPP, ABCN has awarded the diploma in Clinical Neuropsychology to over 900 individuals who practice in a wide variety of settings. The diploma in Clinical Neuropsychology awarded by ABCN through ABPP is the principal recognized credential for competence to practice according to the guidelines of the Division of Clinical Neuropsychology of the American Psychological Association.

Requirements for Board Certification

The examination encompasses the following interrelated domains of professional competency, as outlined in the Houston Conference guidelines for advanced training in Clinical Neuropsychology.

Assessment

Neurodiagnostic evaluation using a variety of psychological instruments and procedures. The application of appropriate evaluative methods for different patient populations and problems in a variety of contexts.

Intervention

Intervention methods appropriate to neuropsychological involvement such as cognitive, attentional, learning and memory, problem solving, sensory motor, and psychological disorders.

Science Base and Application

The science and discipline base of the specialty applied to current practice. The empirical base of the specialty.

Ethics and Legal Foundations

The awareness and appropriate exercise of ethical and legal standard to practice.

Professional Identification

The expected and meaningful involvement with the profession in general and the specialty in particular.

Consultation and Supervision

These competency areas of practice have emerged as significant areas of practice for many specialties and are often applicable when the specialist's pattern of practice includes them in an important way.

"As someone who recently completed the board certification process, I can unequivocally state that it was a very enriching process...The process provides you with a sense of validation by your peers and helps the public clearly identify who has met the requirements of certification...When I finished I did not feel like I had passed one test—I felt I had completed a comprehensive process designed to assess my competence. There were anxieties along the way—"what if I fail"—but then I decided I would just take what I learned and build on it to improve myself. I highly suggest going for the boards."

- Dominic A. Carone, Ph.D, ABPP

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Fees

\$125 fee for application and credential review to establish candidacy.
\$250 fee for the practice sample review and establishment of the oral examination team.
\$300 for the written exam. \$450 for the oral examination.

These fees are due sequentially over the time span necessary to complete all of the candidacy and examination steps. Upon granting Board certification a yearly fee of \$185 is assessed to support the many services of the ABPP and the representation of the organization to the public and the profession.