

clinical psychology

defined:

The American Board of Clinical Psychology (ABCP) is a member board of the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). The ABPP oversees the standards and operations of its 13 member boards.

The ABCP is responsible for establishing criteria related to the definition, education, training, competencies, and the examination leading to certification as a specialist in Clinical Psychology. The ABCP is governed by members, board certified in clinical psychology and representative of the specialty on a national basis.

Clinical Psychology

Clinical psychology is both a general practice and a health service provider specialty in professional psychology. Clinical psychologists provide professional services related to the diagnosis, assessment, evaluation, treatment, and prevention of psychological, emotional, and psychophysiological, and behavioral disorders in individuals across the life-span.

The services provided by clinical psychologists typically include: conduct of clinically relevant research, assessment, intervention, consultation, and supervision/teaching/management.

Certification in Clinical Psychology

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

Specialties, by definition, are advanced levels of practice of doctoral-trained individuals whose competencies are discriminately higher than the basic level of competence certified by state licensure.

ABPP Central Office

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Requirements for Board Certification

The applicant must demonstrate competence in the following interrelated foundational and functional areas. The examination encompasses the following interrelated domains of professional competency:

Science Base and Application

Produces and/or consumes scientific theory and knowledge relevant to areas of professional practice

Assessment

Conducts assessments that range from the administration and interpretation of standardized tests to behavioral observations and clinical interviews

Intervention

Performs interventions in any modality of psychotherapy or environmental modification

Consultation

Communicates and applies his/her knowledge of consultation with others

Supervision/Teaching/Management (not required of all)

Demonstrates the ability to communicate and apply his/her knowledge in supervision with others, capacity to effectively teaching clinical psychology, and ability to effectively carry out administrative activities and program evaluation

Interpersonal Interactions

Demonstrates sensitivity to the welfare, rights, and dignity of others, as well as an ability to relate to clients/patients and others in ways that enhance the effectiveness of services provided

Individual and Cultural Diversity

Demonstrates awareness of all aspects of individual and cultural diversity

Ethical and Legal Foundations

Conveys an awareness of current ethical principles, practice standards, statutory and regulatory provisions, and the implications of these

Professional Identification

Identifies with the profession by appropriate memberships and involvement in professional organizations and awareness of current issues facing the profession

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.
\$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.