

Following notification of candidacy, the candidate will 1) submit the practice sample registration to the ABPP Central Office including the \$250 fee and 2) submit to the practice sample coordinator four copies of the practice samples and the PRACTICE AREAS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREPARATION OF PRACTICE SAMPLES AND ORAL EXAMINATION which guides ABOBCP in developing an appropriate committee and establishing the content domains for the oral exam. Practice samples can take many forms; therefore, you are encouraged to contact the Practice Sample Coordinator and discuss your possible practice sample options before submitting the practice samples. (Note: Electronic submission is now encouraged. Copies may be submitted electronically to the Practice Sample Coordinator).

The ABOBCP Practice Sample Rationale:

The purpose of these guidelines is to assist you with the preparation of your practice sample, which will be reviewed as a major part of your oral examination. A practice sample is an example of your current work and your expertise in the competency areas covered by the ABOBCP.

The review of your practice sample is an integral part of the examination and credentialing process (ABOBCP). The examination committee will review the practice sample when it is submitted, and use it as a springboard for portions of the oral examination. Therefore, it is essential that you submit a carefully prepared, representative, sample of your work as a specialist practitioner.

The practice sample may take many different forms, but must provide materials that allow the examiners to assess your proficiencies in the following areas:

- Diagnose a problem
- Carry out an appropriate intervention
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention
- Recognize and deal with relevant ethical and professional issues
-

Generally, the practice sample should provide as much information as necessary for a colleague, after inquiry and deliberation during the oral examination, to judge whether the work is of advanced competence in applying the core principles of the field.

Submission of the Practice Sample:

Once you have been notified that your credentials are complete and that you have been accepted as a candidate for examination, the ABPP Central Office will advise you to register for the practice sample with the central office, and submit your practice samples to the Practice Sample Coordinator.

In submitting your practice sample, you should complete the PRACTICE SAMPLES, PRACTICE AREA IDENTIFICATION form. On this form, please indicate the areas you believe are covered by your practice sample(s). Your practice sample(s) should cover all the areas of your competency. You may do this through one large practice sample or you may do this through several practice samples. Normally, a candidate would submit 3 practice samples, one for each

area (2 practice samples for the senior option). However, to be clear, you may submit one large practice sample that covers all of the practice areas. If your practice sample(s) do not cover all of your competency areas, please attach a note indicating how you will demonstrate competency in the areas not covered by the practice sample.

After acceptance to candidacy, you have one calendar year to submit the copies of your practice sample.

Evaluation of the Practice Sample:

After they are submitted, the ABOBCP Practice Sample Coordinator will arrange for a team to evaluate the materials. The practice sample will be reviewed by the Practice Sample Coordinator plus two additional reviewers. The two additional reviewers are selected by the Practice Sample Coordinator based upon their competencies in the practice sample areas.

Only if the Practice Sample Coordinator judges the sample to be acceptable for the examination will the oral examination be scheduled.

Feedback and Next Steps:

If the first submission of the practice sample is judged to be unacceptable for the examination, the ABOBCP Practice Sample Coordinator provides feedback to the applicant on preparing an acceptable sample. If requested, a mentor is assigned to assist with the process. There is no pass – fail for practice samples. The Practice Sample is revised until acceptable.

Only if the Practice Sample Coordinator judges the sample to be acceptable for the examination will the oral examination be scheduled.

Potential times for the examination will be established. At that time the oral exam registration and a \$450 examination fee will be required to be submitted to the ABPP Central Office.

Mentor:

If desired, a mentor can be assigned to assist with the development of practice samples. A mentor can also be assigned after the practice sample process is completed, in order to assist with preparation for the oral examination. A mentor is not required as part of the process and is an option available to the candidate.