

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 and as a subspecialist in pediatric 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 and the Pediatric Clinical Neuropsychology Subspecialty

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 and subspecialty including an examination process designed to assess the competencies required to provide quality services in clinical neuropsychology and the pediatric clinical neuropsychology subspecialty. Both specialty and subspecialty certification require credential reviews, a written examination, and practice sample review. Specialty certification also requires an oral examination. Applicants interested in pediatric subspecialty certification, must first be certified in the clinical neuropsychology specialty.

Through ABPP, ABCN has awarded the certificate in Clinical Neuropsychology to over 1070 individuals who practice in a wide variety of settings. Over 70 neuropsychologists have also been awarded subspecialty certification in pediatric clinical neuropsychology. The certificate in Clinical Neuropsychology awarded by ABCN through ABPP is the principal recognized credential for competence to practice according to the guidelines of the Society for 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.

Scientific Foundations

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.

Individual and Cultural Diversity

Neuropsychologists must be aware of culturally appropriate best practices in assessment and intervention and must be aware of the limits of their cultural competence.

Professional Identification

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

Consultation, Supervision and Practice Systems

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.

"I truly love my work as a clinical neuropsychologist – board certification contributed to this appreciation, and continues to do so. . . . My experience was that the process of certification was. . . . inherently rewarding."

- Stephan Kennepohl, PhD, ABPP/ABCN

"Becoming board certified has significantly enhanced my level of practice and the quality of my reports. I have also noticed increased respect from colleagues and referrals from new sources."

- Desiree Byrd, PhD, ABPP/ABCN

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Fees (Clinical Neuropsychology)

\$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.

Fees (Pediatric Clinical Neuropsychology Subspecialty)

\$125 fee for the written exam. \$250 fee for the practice sample review

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.