

# geropsychology



# defined:

## The American Board of Geropsychology (ABGERO)

is a member boards of the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). The ABPP oversees and authorizes the credentialing activities of all specialty boards. ABGERO is governed by a Board of Directors whose members are certified in Geropsychology and are representative of the specialty on a national basis. The ABGERO has established criteria related to the definition and requirements for education, training, competencies, and oral examination, leading to Board Certification in Geropsychology.

## Geropsychology

Board certification assures the public and the profession that the ABPPSP specialist has successfully completed the educational, training, and experience requirements of the specialty, including an examination designed to assess the competencies required to provide quality services in this area of expertise. For the aspiring specialist, the process also provides an opportunity to consolidate professional knowledge, to receive feedback about practices, and to improve the quality of services.

## Certification in Geropsychology

ABGERO, in association with ABPP, is responsible for conducting Board examinations in the specialty of Geropsychology, mentoring and training examiners, awarding the certificate in Geropsychology, and maintaining certification over time. Board Certification by ABGERO is intended to certify that the successful candidate has completed the educational, training and experience requirements of the specialty, including an examination designed to assess the competencies required to provide quality services in the specialty of Geropsychology. The primary objective of the ABGERO Board Certification process is to recognize, certify, and promote competence in the specialty.

## Requirements for Board Certification

The fundamental areas of examination for board certification in Geropsychology are as follows:

### Foundational Competencies:

**Reflective Practice/Self-Assessment/Self-Care:** Practice conducted with personal and professional self awareness and reflection; with awareness of competencies; with appropriate self-care.

**Scientific Knowledge and Methods:** Understanding of research, research methodology, techniques of data collection and analysis, biological bases of behavior, cognitive-affective bases of behavior, and development across the lifespan. Respect for scientifically derived knowledge.

**Relationships:** Relate effectively and meaningfully with individuals, groups, and/or communities.

**Individual and Cultural Diversity:** Awareness, sensitivity and skills in working professionally with diverse individuals, groups and communities who represent various cultural and personal background and characteristics.

**Ethical/Legal Standards:** Application of ethical concepts and awareness of legal issues regarding professional activities with individuals, groups, and organizations.

**Interdisciplinary Systems:** Knowledge of key issues and concepts in related disciplines. Identify and interact with professionals in multiple disciplines.

### Functional Competencies:

**Assessment:** Defining, assessing, diagnosing, and conceptualizing client problems, capabilities and issues associated with older adults.

**Intervention:** Developing, implementing, and evaluating various interventions designed to alleviate suffering and to promote health and well-being of older adults.

**Consultation:** Analysis, consultation, and assistance provided to supervisors, managers, groups, families and/or agencies for purposes of improving group or organizational functioning in geriatric settings.

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## ABPP Central Office

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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.  
\$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

