

ABN

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Your Credential - Our Mission



Board Certification in Clinical Neuropsychology

National Academy of Neuropsychology
October, 2018

National Academy of Neuropsychology Presenter Disclosure Information



I/We have no financial relationships to disclose as the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology is a non-profit organization, and the presenters are volunteers to this independent board certifying agency. This is an informational workshop and as such does not have a product to sell other than to have participants consider board certification.

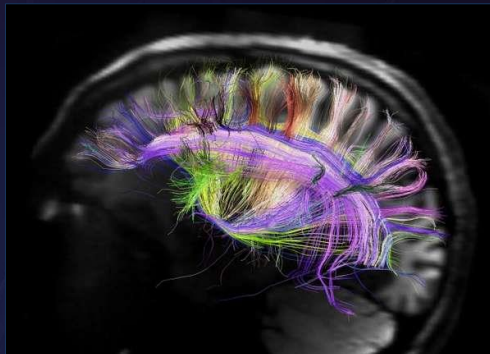
Presenters

- Overview – Dr. Cooper
- Applications – Dr. Cooper
- Written Exam – Dr. Wilhelm
- Work Samples – Dr. Wilhelm
- Oral Exam – Dr. Wilhelm
- Questions & Discussion

ABN

Overview of Presentation

- The Organization
- History
- Current Status
- Application
- Written Exam
- Work Sample
- Oral Examination
- Membership Benefits
- Panel Q & A



ABN

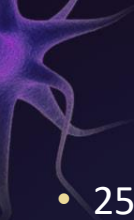
Our History & Mission

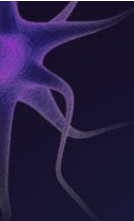
ABN

History of ABN

- 1982 Incorporated in Georgia
- Organized According to ABPP Standards
- Board Members all ABPP
- Assembled Examination Process
 - Review of credentials and review of work samples
- 1986 ABN Begins Reorganization, Elections Held

ABN

- 
- 250 evaluated between 1982 and 1986.
 - 90% did not pass to get a Diplomate
 - About 60% qualified to get a certificate for recognition of being a neuropsychologist, but not boarded.
 - This was intended to be an interim credential that showed the person was working on becoming boarded.
 - Unfortunately, few progressed to get a Diplomate
 - 1986 the certificate was dropped. ABN does not recognize “Board Eligible”



History of ABN

Founding Board of Directors

- Theodore Blau
- Francis J. Fishburne
- Charles J. Golden
- Lawrence C. Hartlage
- R. Wayne Jones
- Merle L. Meacham
- Jerome D. Pauker
- Zymunt A. Piotrowski
- C. J. Rosecrans
- Melvin L. Schwartz
- Rudolph Wagner
- Jon Eisenson
- Alan Gessner
- Rose A. Hagin
- Mack R. Hicks
- Lawrence Majovski
- Thomas D. Oakland
- Cecil P. Peck
- Jeanette Reuter
- Jerome N. Sattler
- H. L. Silverman
- Robert Woody

History of ABN

- Founded 1982
- 1989 Reorganization Completed, Members Polled
- 93% voted to continue ABN
- 92% Voted to eliminate interim certification as a Neuropsychologist
- 84% Voted to require Continuing Education
 - ABN has had a CE requirement for maintenance of diploma since 1990. (18 hrs per year)

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Notable Diplomates

- Ralph Reitan, Ph.D.
- Tony Puente, Ph.D.
- 15 NAN Presidents
- 2 APA Presidents
- Editors of 3 internationally distributed neuropsychology journals
- NAN Fellows (so many we lost count)

History of ABN

- 1990 - First Oral Examinations
- 1991 - Introduction of Essay Examination as Part of Initial Application
- 1991 - Present: Examinations Administered at NAN and Other Venues
- 2002 - Recognition by Nat'l Health Register
- 2008 - "ABPN" trademark changed to "ABN"
- 2009 - Introduction of MC Examination

ABN

2018 Board of Directors & Committees

- President – Renee Low
- Pres Elect – Paula Cooper
- Past President – Karen Wilhelm
- Secretary – Roger Riss
- Treasurer – J. Audie Black
- MAL – Robert Gant
- MAL – Raphael Wald
- MAL – Cynthia Bailey
- MAL – Glen Getz
- Exec Director – Geoffrey Kanter
- Public Member – David A Carter, Esq.
- Applications – Roger Riss
- Work Samples – Robert Perna
- Oral Exam – Karen Wilhelm
- Written Exam – Raphael Wald
- Mentors & Examiners – Karen Wilhelm
- IOPC Representative – Randi Most
- Prof and Org Development – Pat Pimental
- Membership and Marketing – Raphael Wald
- Web Site – John Knippa/Mike DeBellis
- CE Chair – Robert Elliott
- Journal Editor – Mac Horton

ABN

ADVOCACY FOR NPs

- IOPC
- CNS-SYNARCHY
- NATIONAL REGISTER
- APA AFFILIATION
- MENTORSHIP
- CE SUPPORT ACTIVITY
- STUDENT ADVOCACY
- STATE STANDARDS
- INTERNATIONAL STDS
- JOURNAL SUPPORT
- WEB DIRECTORY
- WEB TOOL KIT
- SPECIALTY GUIDELINES
- RECOGNITION OF POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMS MEETING HCG THRU AABN

Recent Time Line of Notable ABN Events

Year	President	Events	Interventions
2001	Robert McCaffrey		Texas
2003	Patricia A. Pimental	National Register Recognition	
2006	John J. Blaise	MC, Work Sample, Orals	
2008	Bradley G. Sewick		Recognition by Florida
2009		Applied Neuropsychology	
2011	Scott W. Sautter		Minnesota (DHS)
2012	John Knippa	Applied Neuropsychology: Adult and Child	
2013		CRSPPP Recognition, FAA Recognition	British Colombia

Recent Notable ABN Events Continued

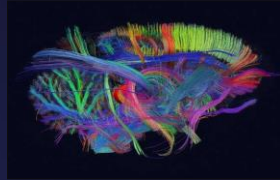
Year	President	Events	Intervention
2014	John Meyers	AABN created	
2016	Karen Wilhelm	7 year CRSPPP recognition	ABN Position Paper on TPO's
2017	Karen Wilhelm	Overhaul of Written Exam begun Participation in NAN Geriatric Summit Updates to website begun	IOPC Position Paper on outdated tests

ABN's Recognition

- Recognized by National Register
- Recognized by CRSPPP to permit those credentialed by ABN to list said credential in the APA directory
- Recognized by FAA
- Bureau of Labor and Statistics

Note: other than through CRSPPP recognition for the purpose listed above, APA does NOT recognize or accredit ANY BOARDS, not even ABPP

ABN's Mission



ABN's Primary Objective

ABN's mission is to establish and maintain professional standards for competence in the practice of clinical neuropsychology. Objectives include:

- Validating the skills of clinical practitioners
- Signifying the practitioner has demonstrated competence through rigorous peer review
- Offering means for maintaining professional practice competence through continuing education
- Providing professionals and consumers with a referral directory of ABN Diplomates.

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ABN's Orientation

- ABN does not ascribe to any specific theoretical framework.
- While recognizing the importance and contribution of graduate education in neuropsychology and subsequent specialty training, the ABN believes that the critical element in the practice of professional neuropsychology is the application of that training to patient issues and needs.

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ABN's Goal

- ABN encourages the pursuit of excellence and recognizes competence in skills relevant to the practice of clinical neuropsychology.
- ABN - Putting the “Clinical” back into Neuropsychology.
- ABN provides a collegial environment among peers

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Boarding Process

Initial Application
Roger Riss
rriss@madonna.org

Multiple Choice Exam
Raphael Wald
raphiwald@gmail.com

Work Sample Coordinator
Robert Perna
Dr.perna@juno.com

Oral Exam Coordinator
Karen Wilhelm
KarenLynneWilhelm@gmail.com

These individuals
will guide you
through each step
of the process

Your Credential

Application Process

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APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Contact: Roger Riss rriss@madonna.org
- Application is available on line
- Applicant Handbook contains all the needed information for the applicant
- www.abn-board.com
- Senior option: Less stringent training requirements for those completing training prior to 2005, and a reduced application fee
- Early Career: Discounted fees for those 2 years or less from completion of Post Doc
- Mentors provided to guide you along
- Candidates have 7 years from the date of application approval to complete the boarding process



Summary of Requirements

1. A doctoral degree from a program approved by APA or CPA, or Doctoral Psychology Programs Meeting Designation Criteria. Or applicant qualifies for NR or Canadian NR, or CPQ. An APA/CPA-accredited doctoral program will be required of applicants completing the doctoral degree on or after January 1st of 2018.
2. Minimum of 500 hour per year providing neuropsychological services in the last 3 years which may include internship year
3. Internship meeting NR standards or APA/CPA approved, with APA/CPA/APPIC approved internship required of applicant completing internship on or after January 1st 2020

Summary of Req. cont'd

4. 2 year (or equivalent) Post Doctoral Fellowship meeting training content requirements for Houston Conference for those completing training in 2005 or later. There are less stringent post doc training requirements for those completing training prior to 2005
5. Letters of reference, one must be from another Neuropsychologist
 - *If you have non traditional training/background, go ahead and apply. We will look at transcripts and other documentation to see if you qualify, and may be able to help you develop a remediation plan if you do not.*

Your Credential

*Multiple Choice
Examination*

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Written (Multiple Choice) Exam

- Don't sweat the exam.
- The questions are all related to clinical practice.
- Questions don't ask about things like brain slicing or staining, or other topics that are not directly related to clinical practice



Development of the Exam

- Survey of members to determine the importance of each of the HC training areas to clinical practice.
- Questions were designed around the survey results.
- Questions are based on things pertaining to everyday clinical skills



Exam Specifics

- 100 questions, Multiple Choice
- 2 hours to complete the exam.
- Passing Score is 70%
- Approximately 75% pass it the first time.
- A suggested reading list is available in the Applicant Handbook



Multiple Choice Exam Results

- If you pass, congratulations! You are cleared to move the Work Sample phase. If you don't pass, don't worry! You will receive feedback on what general content area(s) of the exam you struggled with the most (so you can work on that area and get ready to take the exam again)
- A second attempt allowed after a 6 month waiting period if you are still within the 7 year candidate window. Additional attempts are considered upon written appeal to Examination Committee, with 1 year waiting period if approved and if still within 7 year candidate window

Your Credential

Work Sample Examination

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Work Sample Examination

- You will need to communicate with the work sample coordinator before submitting cases. The coordinator will help guide you through the process. The Work Sample Coordinator is Dr. Robert Perna, dr.perna@juno.com



Work Sample Requirements

All Applicants must submit 2 cases. Cases cannot be more than 2 years old.

- Choose straight forward cases, not the weirdest cases you can find.
- 2 different diagnoses is recommended



Work Sample Req's cont'd

In addition to the Evaluation Report, each case must also include:

- A rationale for each case (usually around 5-10 pages) outlining why you did what you did, why you chose this test or that test, what research supports your conclusions, what other considerations did you have, etc.
- Copies of all test protocols and raw data
- Copies of supporting documentation, like MRI's, other provider notes, etc. are recommended



Work Sample Submissions guidelines

- YOU MUST SANITIZE YOUR WORK SAMPLES, INCLUDING THE TEST PROTOCOLS, REPORT, AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION as outlined in the Applicant Handbook.

If you do not fully blind your materials, you will automatically fail the examination, and will be required to submit NEW SAMPLES and repay the exam fee



Work Sample Submission Guidelines Continued

Reports should include:

- Reason for Referral
- Clinical history (Developmental, Educational, Medical, Psychiatric etc.)
- Results, (including all protocols-Be sure you check your scoring). You must discuss performance validity.



Work Sample Submission Guidelines Continued

- Integrated summary (not just a regurgitation of the results) and how this supports your diagnosis and findings
- Recommendations (must be doable and reasonable given the results and history)



How Samples are Evaluated

- Scoring for Work Sample is based on a set list of criteria that are each scored on a 0, 1,2 scale. Passing score is 70%
- You must not have any instant failures (such as info that is not sanitized properly, incorrect use of tests –i.e. WISC instead of WAIS, failure to discuss Performance Validity, omitting elements including the rationale, scoring errors, etc)



Work Sample Exam Results

- If you pass, congratulations! If you don't, don't worry! Applicants typically find this to be the most difficult phase of the process. You will get specific constructive feedback on strengths and weaknesses
- You are automatically eligible to submit new samples after the first no-pass, during the 7 year candidate window
- Additional attempts beyond 2, during the 7 year candidate window, require written appeal to, and approval of the Examination Committee

Your Credential

Oral Examination



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ORAL EXAMINATION

- The Oral Exam coordinator schedules the exams. We typically schedule oral exams at least twice per year, typically at NAN and at regional tests sites or other major NP meetings
- It is meant to be collegial and for some is the most enjoyable phase of the process
- There are two parts- Work Style and Ethics, one hour each
- Both parts are build around Vignettes (Specific scoring criteria scoring 0,1,2).



THE DAY OF THE ORAL EXAM

- The day of exam you will meet the Oral Exam Coordinator at the specified time and location. The coordinator will answer any questions you have
- The coordinator will then escort you to the first exam room for completion of the first part of the Oral Exam
- After completion of the first part of the exam, the coordinator will escort you to the second exam room to complete the second part of the Oral Exam



HOW ORAL EXAMS FLOW

- For both the Work Style and the Ethics Oral Exam, the examiner will spend a few minutes getting know you and your practice, and will tell you a bit about him or herself
- For each portion of the exam:
 - You will be given a 2 Vignettes, and will pick one to respond to
 - Vignettes and the oral exams themselves each have a set list of scoring criteria that are each scored 2-1-0. You must score 70% on BOTH EXAMS to pass
 - This is the time to dazzle the examiner with your brilliance.



WORK STYLE ORAL EXAM

- From the Work Style Vignette (clinical case)
 - Tell what you would do and more importantly WHY you would do it
 - How you approach the case
 - Tests you would give
 - Your clinical thinking/case formulation
 - What you would be trying to rule out
 - Etc.
- You will also be asked general questions about your own practice and work style



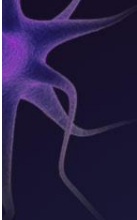
ETHICS ORAL EXAM

- You will be given 2 vignettes to choose from, each representing some sort of ethical dilemma
 - Tell the examiner what ethical principle(s) you would be concerned with
 - How would you approach/resolve the problem(s)
 - The examiner is scoring you both on your ability to recognize the dilemma, and how to resolve it
- You will also be asked to discuss ethical practice in general, including the types of issues you yourself may encounter



ORAL EXAM RESULTS

- If you pass both portions of the exam, and are approved by a vote of the ABN Board of Directors, congratulations! You are now an ABN Diplomate. If you do not pass, don't worry! You will be given specific constructive feedback on areas of weakness.
- If you do not pass either portion of the exam then you need to retake both; if you pass 1 but not the other, then you just need to retake the one.
- If you do not pass, a second attempt is automatically allowed within the 7 year candidate window. Additional attempts beyond the initial 2, in the 7 year window will require written appeal to, and approval of the Examination Committee



WHAT IF I PASS THE ORAL EXAM?

You will be notified by the president of ABN

You will get an official diploma, and an ABN pin


You will begin to receive your subscription to
Applied Neuropsychology, and all of the other
benefits connected to your accomplishment

Your Credential

Our Mission



ABN



Your Credential -- Our Mission Benefits of the ABN Diplomate

- Listing in National Register, and recognition from Bureau of Labor and Statistics
- Online Directory
- ABN Newsletter
- Subscriptions to *Applied Neuropsychology*
- Opportunities to train as mentors or examiners, or to run for an office on the BOD or sit on a committee
- The potential for membership in ABN's Post Doctoral Training Consortium, the Academy of the American Board of Neuropsychology (AABN)

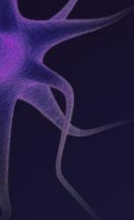
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Your Credential -- Our Mission Benefits

- Listing of the ABN credential in the APA Member Directory
- ABN CE Programming
- Access to the online Tool Kit
- APA CE Approval
- Agency Approval List
- Membership to the ACPNTalk List serve
- Access to a collegial group of like-minded professionals

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Academy of the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology (AABN)

- In January 2014, the Academy of the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology (AABN), a division of ABN, began offering the opportunity for post-doctoral neuropsychology residency training programs to become nationally recognized in a network designed to address the current placement shortage. Currently, there are 9 recognized training sites, representing a total of over 25 past and present post-doctoral residents.
- AABN uses a consortium approach to training that allows even small private practices to qualify for recognition while still meeting Houston Conference Guidelines training requirements. For example, it is possible for two or more practices to join forces and develop their own training consortium. Through shared didactics, post-doctoral residents that complete their fellowships will meet or exceed requirements for board certification in neuropsychology.
- Questions about how AABN may benefit your program should be directed to Dr. Getz at Drqlengetz@gmail.com or visit us on the web at AABNOnline.com



Your Credential -- Our Mission
Questions & Discussion

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www.abn-board.com