

OREGON BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS



Jurisprudence Examination

CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

OREGON BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
OREGON JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION
- INFORMATION FOR EXAMINEES -

This Candidate Handbook is designed to provide candidates who qualify to take the Oregon Jurisprudence Examination with general information regarding the examination process.

SECTION I: **EXAMINATION AUTHORITY, PURPOSE, DEVELOPMENT, STRUCTURE, CONTENT AREAS, AND SCORING SYSTEM**

AUTHORITY

ORS 675.110 The State Board of Psychologist Examiners has the following authority:

(1) To determine qualifications of applicants to practice psychology in this state; to cause to have examinations prepared, conducted and graded and to grant licensing to qualified applicants upon their compliance with the provisions of ORS 675.010 to 675.150 and the rules of the Board.

ORS 675.045 Examination Rules:

(1) The State Board of Psychologist Examiners shall adopt rules governing examinations required by the board.

(2) When the board requires a board administered examination, the board shall:

(a) Maintain a complete record of the proceedings and of the questions asked and responses given; and

(b) Inform applicants in writing of the examination results for each tested subject area.

(3) Upon written request to the board, an applicant who fails a board administered examination may review the record of the examination. To ensure and maintain test security, the applicant shall sign a confidentiality agreement prior to reviewing the record of the examination.

(4) Any applicant who fails a board administered examination shall be:

(a) Allowed to petition the board to reconsider the results of the entire examination or the results of a particular tested area.

(b) Reexamined.

(1985 c.90 s.6; 1997 c.681 s.1/ Changes made: Approved by the Governor March 29, 2005 Filed in the office of Secretary of State March 29, 2005 Effective date January 1, 2006)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the examination is to determine the competency of each candidate to practice psychology safely and responsibly in Oregon, with knowledge of applicable laws and regulations, including the APA Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct.

EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT

The Oregon Jurisprudence Examination was developed by Oregon licensed psychologists under the direction of the Board. All items were created and refined by a small task force and a subcommittee of the Board. Psychometric evaluation was conducted using an Expert Panel of senior psychologists, with assistance from Portland State University's Psychology department.

EXAMINATION STRUCTURE and CONTENT

The Oregon Jurisprudence Examination is an open book, multiple-choice examination with a time limit of 2 hours. Copies of the *Statutes ORS 675.010-150; Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 858; APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, 2002*, and, the *Statutes Pertaining to the Practice of Psychology*, are provided to candidates at the examination and turned in with all test materials after completion of the exam, or after the time limit has expired, whichever occurs first.

The examination evaluates a candidate's knowledge of:

- Federal and state laws/statutes that direct psychological practice (including but not limited to: privilege, confidentiality of protected health information, communications revealing intent to commit certain crimes, parental authority, rights of minors, mandated abuse reporting for special populations, records, rights of mentally ill persons, commitment and least restrictive care, continuing education requirements, practice regulations, licensure regulations).
- APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (including but not limited to: resolving ethical issues, competence, avoiding harm, multiple relationships, conflict of interest, privacy and confidentiality, advertising practices, record keeping and fees, education and training, research, assessment).

EXAMINATION ITEMS

The examination consists of 60 items. All items will be multiple-choice. There is only one correct answer for each multiple choice item. There are no "trick" questions in the examination.

Sample Items

Each multiple choice item requires the examinee to select the correct answer from the options provided. The following are examples of the type of items candidates will encounter in the examination:

1. You are treating a client for depression. The client asks you if he could work off his balance of payment by helping you upgrade your electronic billing and documentation system. You recognize that this request might present a problem. The ethical principle that best describes the problem is:

- A. Conflict of Interest
- B.* Maintaining Confidentiality
- C. Conflicts between Ethics and Organizational Demands
- D. Bartering

2. A psychologist, Dr. Gray, had been treating a client, Linda Johnson, for anxiety and panic attacks. Ms. Johnson dropped out of treatment without explanation, even though Dr. Gray attempted to make contact with her. Recently, Ms. Johnson contacted Dr. Gray's office requesting her records in preparation for a court custody case with her ex-husband. Which of the following most accurately describes Dr. Gray's obligations according to Oregon law:

- A. Provide her with a written summary.
- B. Refuse to allow Ms. Johnson to have a copy of her records, but agree to review them with her in a session.
- C.* Provide Ms. Johnson with a copy of her records.
- D. Refuse to allow her to have a copy of her records, but agree to provide the records to her attorney.

*Denotes the correct answer.

SECTION II: ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES

EXAMINATION SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

The Oregon Jurisprudence Examination is given at least twice a year. Once candidates have met the requirements to take the jurisprudence examination and are approved by the Board, they are scheduled for the examination. The examinations are given in Salem. Candidates are notified in writing at least 30 days prior to examination date of the exact time and location. Written notification includes a Letter of Approval; a copy of the Oregon statutes and administrative rules, which includes the APA Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct; and the Statutes Pertaining to the Practice of Psychology, as study materials.

Once a candidate has been approved and scheduled to take the examination, the examination fee is not refundable.

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, the examination will be rescheduled at no additional charge to those who were approved. Board staff will attempt to contact each candidate in this situation. However, all candidates are strongly advised to contact the Board's office by phone to check if the examination will proceed.

REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION TEST SITE

On the day of the examination, each candidate should plan on arriving at the test site 20 minutes prior to the scheduled examination time. This allows time for sign-in and identification verification. The exam will begin at the appointed time, the test site doors closed, and no one will be admitted after this time. We will not be able to make any exceptions. Please note that you are not allowed to leave the test site once you are signed in.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AT EXAMINATION TEST SITE

Each candidate will be required to provide one of the following valid forms of identification:

- A current State issued Driver's License.
- A current State Department of Motor Vehicles Identification Card.
- A current U.S. military issued identification card.
- A current passport.

All photographs must be recognizable as the person to whom the card was issued.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS AVAILABLE

Written requests for special accomodation for a verified disability or for English as a second language must be made at the time the request to sit for the examination is made, or when the disability becomes known to you. The request must include:

- **Verified Disability:** Written verification of disability from a qualified care provider (i.e. a person certified or licensed by the state to provide such services) detailing the nature, extent and duration of disability, and a recommendation for accommodation.
- **English as a Second Language:** Written request for reasonable accommodation detailing the level of proficiency in English, including, but not limited to, the number of years speaking and/or writing English, and a list of all national written or jurisprudence examination, academic coursework, and dissertation in English language; a history of special accommodations granted in similar testing circumstances, for example, interpreter or extra time granted in a jurisprudence examination process in other licensing jurisdictions or degree granting institutions; a statement documenting extent that English will or will not be the language in which professional services are provided; other information to support request for special accommodation; recommendation for accommodation.

SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following security procedures will apply:

- Candidates are not allowed to bring anything into the examination site other than the required identification.
- Candidates are not allowed to communicate verbally or otherwise with any examination candidate during the examination.
- Candidates are prohibited from sharing any of the content of the examination to anyone else after the examination, including their residency supervisor.
- Candidates may not leave the examination room once they are checked in.
- By appearing at the examination site to take the test, candidates agree to abide by the Oregon Jurisprudence Examination rules detailed in the last page of this handbook.

Water will be provided at the site. Candidates may take restroom breaks as needed.

EXAMINATION SCORING AND RESULTS PROCEDURES

The Board shall determine the passing score for each administration of the examination. Each item has been carefully scrutinized by a group of experts in terms of its difficulty and content validity. The passing score is based on the distribution of weighted scores for each form of the examination.

Two different test scorers shall score the examinations. Candidates shall be assigned a number so test scorers do not know the identity of the candidate. Board staff shall notify each candidate in writing regarding the results of their examination.

If a candidate has a pending complaint under investigation, the Board may, in its discretion, delay voting on the licensure of that examinee until the complaint has been resolved.

Examination results are mailed to examinees within one week after the exam.

RECONSIDERATION, REVIEW AND RE-EXAMINATION

Reconsideration/Rescoring. Within thirty days after notice of the examination results, an applicant who does not pass the examination may petition the Board in writing to have their examination rescored.

Review. An applicant who does not pass the examination may review their examination record at the Board's office within a period of 90 (ninety) days following the date of the examination and upon written request to the Board. The purpose of the review is to assist the candidate in preparing to retake the examination. To maintain test security, the applicant shall sign a confidentiality agreement. No more than one inspection shall be allowed.

Reexamination. An applicant who does not pass the examination may be reexamined. If an applicant does not pass the second examination and wishes to take a third examination, the applicant must submit a study plan prior to being approved for the third examination. If a candidate fails to pass the third examination, the candidate's application for licensure shall be denied. The Board's decision shall be final.

OREGON JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION RULES

A candidate taking the Oregon Jurisprudence Examination administered by the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners for licensure as a psychologist is required to comply with ORS 675.010–675.150 and is not allowed to do any of the following:

1. Have an impersonator take the examination on his/her behalf.
2. Impersonate another to take the examination on that person's behalf.
3. Communicate examination content with another examinee or with any person other than the examination staff.
4. Copy questions or make notes of examination materials.
5. Provide copies of questions or notes of examination materials to any other person, including but not limited to:
 - a. Others who are preparing to take the examination for licensure as a psychologist or psychologist associate, or
 - b. Persons who are preparing others to take the examination for licensure as a psychologist or psychologist associate.
6. Obstruct in any way the administration of the examination.

A violation of any of the above rules or verbal directives of the Board or Board staff, will disqualify the candidate and the OBPE will initiate appropriate administrative action to deny issuance of a license.