



Overview of ABGERO for PLTC Psychologists

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American Board of Professional Psychology

- National credentialing body in psychology
- Conducts exams and certifies specialists in accordance with established professional standards, policies, and procedures
- Lists and verifies board certified specialists in its public directory
- ABGERO is one of 15 recognized specialties

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BOARD CERTIFICATION?

- Distinguishes you from other applicants in the job market
- Improves job security and employability
- Affirms your professional identity
- Reflects commitment to life-long learning and professional development
- Enhances job satisfaction
- Helps to promote geropsychology as a specialty, addressing workforce issues
- Depending on employment situation, could involve a pay increase

MINIMUM
REQUIREMENTS
FOR ABPP
ELIGIBILITY: I.
EDUCATION:

- Evidence of 2 courses/seminars relevant to Geropsychology at the doctoral, internship, or post-doctoral levels
- or
- At least 100 hours of documented formal CE coursework relevant to Geropsychology over a period of no longer than seven years

**MINIMUM
REQUIREMENTS
FOR ABPP
ELIGIBILITY: 2.
SUPERVISED
TRAINING:**

Formal training in Geropsychology: One year (2000 hours) of formal (fellowship; internship; externship), full-time supervised training in Geropsychology or its equivalent:

OR

Informal training in Geropsychology:
Documented, weekly consultation in Geropsychology that totals 2000 hours or more.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ABPP ELIGIBILITY: 3. EXPERIENCE:

- Self-identity as a geropsychologist with at least 2 years of full-time post-licensure employment (or its part-time equivalent) as a psychologist, with at least 1 year devoted to professional services to older adults.
- Such services may include:
 - direct independent provision of clinical services
 - teaching/in service education/supervision of students or geriatric mental health professionals
 - administrative duties or long-term involvement in a geriatric organization
 - conducting applied gerontological mental health research
 - other geriatric mental health services as deemed acceptable by the board.

OPTIONS

EARLY ENTRY
(PRE-LICENSE)

EARLY CAREER

TRAINING
DIRECTOR

SENIOR
PSYCHOLOGIST

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

- Professional self-study statement (PSS):
 - Description of activities and accomplishments in geropsychology
 - Complex relationships
 - Individual and cultural diversity
 - Self-assessment
- Work examples reflecting functional competencies of geropsychology practice (assessment, intervention, consultation, quality improvement)
- Oral exam
 - Conducted remotely
 - 3 segments (45 minutes each): discuss PSS, ethics vignettes, work examples

MEASUREMENT OF COMPETENCY

Competence for both the foundational and functional domains is defined as a **Pass or Fail** rating of *Adequate Skill/Quality (2)* based on what the examiner believes is competent for an individual who is two years post-licensure. *One does not need to be an expert!*

As a general rule, candidates should be rated as ***Adequate skill/quality (2) or higher*** on each rated **Foundational and Functional competency** area by a majority of the examiners in order to be rated as an overall Pass.

APPLICATION COSTS

- General Application, ABGERO application, vita, transcripts – screening for minimal requirements, \$125 fee
- Practice Sample review (Professional Self-Study Statement (PSS), Work Examples), \$250
- Oral Examination, \$450 fee
- Annual renewal, \$185 fee



Application Information

Click below to see more information about applying to ABPP.



CLICK TO
APPLY NOW!



Learn about Specialty Boards
Read about the different specialty boards.



Exam Registration & Payment
You will be asked to log into your account. Find the Application → Actions → View. Click "Pay Fee"

 **Application Process**

Application Process
Review steps, fees & stages.



General Requirements
Read about general & specialty specific requirements.



Application Types
Which one should you use?



Certification Benefits
What are the benefits of becoming board certified?



Competency Requirements
Eight Foundational & Functional Competencies.

Geropsychology

The American Board of Geropsychology (ABGERO) is one of 15 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.



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.



Awards, Grants &
Scholarships



Document
Library



Specialty Specific
Requirements



Exam Registration,
Payment &
Process

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

- Timeline – (on the website)
- Obtaining materials for the application
- Reviewing background materials (based on PP results)
- Incorporate APA's inclusive language guidelines in written materials (and in exam). We are particularly concerned about ageism.
- When ready, we strongly encourage consultation with ABGERO mentorship program

DETAILS ABOUT THE EXAM ITSELF

-
- Remote administration, scheduled several times a year
 - 3 hours with 3 rotating components (3 separate examiners):
 - PSS
 - Ethics
 - Cases
 - Collegial atmosphere
 - Results communicated directly from ABPP within 2-4 weeks

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Contact Michelle Mlinac (michelle.Mlinac@gmail.com) if you want to be assigned a mentor or have any questions

My experience/suggestions:

- Helpful to hear what the process was like and have someone willing to review materials
- Would suggest requesting a mentor who completed the same option (traditional vs. senior)
- Would suggest requesting example written materials; these can also be found at:

[PSS – ABGERO](#)

[Work Examples – ABGERO](#)

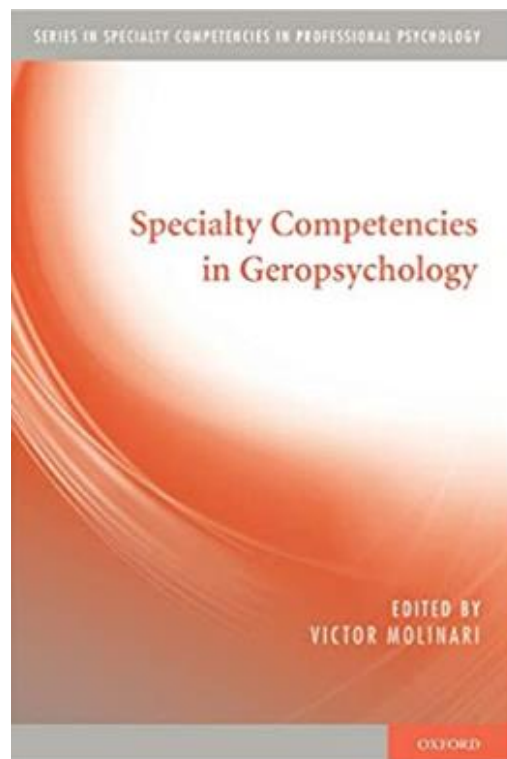
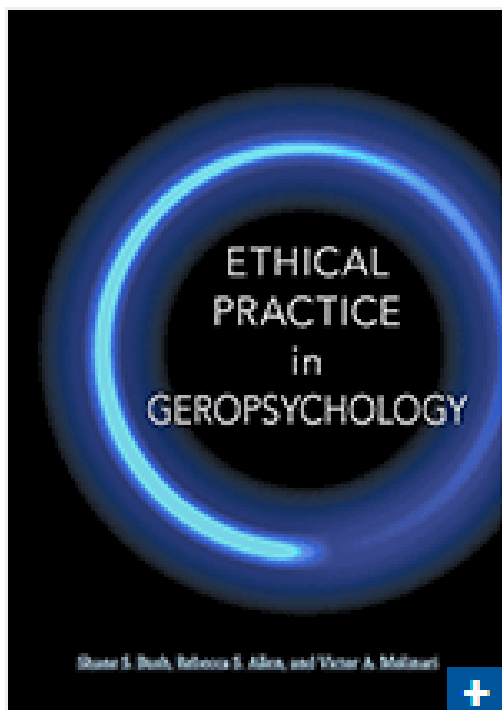
HELPFUL WEBSITES

[ABGERO – American Board of Geropsychology \(ABGERO\)](#)

[Geropsychology \(abpp.org\)](#)

[ABPP Gero – GeroCentral](#)

WHERE TO GO FOR RESOURCES/READINGS



- Pike's Peak Resource List (Note – Google Doc <https://bit.ly/3meECGP>)
- Bush/Allen/Molinari 2017 Ethical Practice in Geropsychology
- Molinari 2010 Specialty Competencies in Geropsychology

CLOSING

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