



Dear Registrants,

This is an update regarding NSBEP's considerations of adopting the "new" EPPP (Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology) exam. Currently the EPPP exam assesses knowledge of psychology. This exam is used by all Canadian jurisdiction except QC, and by all US jurisdictions as part of their requirements for registration as a psychologist. ASPPB (Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards) has developed a second part of the exam (commonly referred to as the EPPP2) with the purpose of assessing psychology skills. ASPPB has stated that use of the "new" EPPP (consisting of two parts – the knowledge part and the skills part) will become mandatory effective January 1, 2026 for any jurisdiction wishing to want to continue using the EPPP exam. ASPPB will not allow jurisdictions to continue using only the current knowledge component of the exam.

There have been various reactions to the "new" EPPP exam. The original EPPP exam has been criticized as being unfair to some groups. Some jurisdictions have indicated that they are prevented by government legislation from adopting new exams. In Canada, NL, PE, MN and AB are already using the "new" EPPP or have indicated that they will be using it. The "new" EPPP may be seen as an important tool in assessing the knowledge and skills of applicants who do not come from accredited graduate programs. Adopting or not adopting the "new" EPPP could have consequences for psychologists who are initially registered in Nova Scotia, especially with respect to mobility.

The NSBEP board has not made a final decision on whether to adopt the "new" EPPP. It has indicated that it will not be an "early adopter" of the exam. NSBEP continues to evaluate information related to the EPPP and to consider the directions taken by other jurisdictions.

Beginning August 1, 2024, NSBEP will be informing new applicants to the candidate register that they MAY be required to complete the "new" two-part (knowledge and skills) EPPP exam if they have not successfully completed the current (knowledge only) exam before January 1, 2026.

We will be contacting candidates who are currently on the candidate register individually to inform them of what to expect with regards to the "new" EPPP. They are encouraged to successfully complete the current EPPP before January 1, 2026 if they want to avoid the possibility of having to complete the "new" two-part exam. Candidates are reminded that EPPP exam scores are typically higher when the EPPP is completed soon after completion of their academic work rather than delaying for a year or more afterwards.

As there may be many jurisdictions moving to adopt the “new” EPPP exam effective January 1, 2026, there is a possibility that candidates could encounter difficulties securing an exam time if they wait until the end of 2025 to write the exam as the demand for writing the exam may be higher than usual.

Here are some links for further information:

<https://www.asppb.net/page/EPPPPart1>

<https://www.asppb.net/page/eppp2>

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/eppp_/candidate_handbook/EPP_P_HDBK_May24.pdf

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/eppp_2/faq_revisedeppp_feb2023.pdf

Kind regards,
Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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