



Oral Examination: The same Committee of three members, who approve the Practice Sample, conducts the Oral Examination.

The Oral Examination emphasizes a knowledge and critique of another psychoanalyst case presentation as well as his/her own Practice Sample. Candidates will demonstrate an awareness of current issues in professional psychology and professional experience, which also includes an awareness of diversity issues; and sensitivity to ethical, professional and legal standards of practice. Candidates will also be identified with the appropriate professional memberships in both psychological and psychoanalytic organizations and activity on their national, state and local levels as well as awareness of current issues and problems in the development of a creative and responsible profession. The national chair of examination shall consult with the candidate to arrive at a mutually agreeable place and time for the oral examination. ABAPsa holds oral examinations at Division 39 Spring meetings and annual APA meetings throughout the year within regions overseen by members of the examination committee in the region of the county where the candidate resides.

Note: The Oral Examination procedures apply to the “senior option” candidate except that the senior option practice sample substitutes for the case analysis sample.

The Examination Format

In order to assure standardization of the examination process, ABAPsa sets forth the following schedule. The general pace and sequence of topics must be faithfully followed so as to reduce to an absolute minimum the possibility that that candidate might receive differential treatment. However, within each segment, there is room for variation of the immediate situation, as the best judgment of the examination committee warrants. Obviously, related topics will be interwoven throughout the examination. The Chairperson must guard against



the dialogue wandering too far afield. A topic may receive more cursory exploration when it appears on the schedule and has been sufficiently covered earlier. This schedule serves as a check-list so that the candidate and the committee members may not have forgotten any topics and have acquired information necessary to rate all areas on the rating Form F-2

ABPP and ABAPsa endorse the concept of a broad perspective within psychoanalysis, together with more specifically defined competence within particular areas of psychoanalytic intervention. The examination shall be oral and consist of four sections:

1. Discussion with the candidate of the literature on clinical theory and technique pertinent to their particular orientation and a detailed review of at least one case in which the candidate achieved a psychoanalytic resolution within his/her clinical-theoretical orientation or discussion of the optional practice sample submitted by a candidate meeting the criteria of “senior”
2. Discussion of a “blind” analytic case that the candidate had reviewed prior to the examination.
3. Discussion of vignettes relating to ethical issues as it pertains to APA’s ethical principles to evaluate the candidate’s knowledge of ethical issues that arise in psychoanalytic work.
4. Candidates are also expected to be familiar with professional issues currently impacting the profession, particularly psychoanalysis as well as identification with the profession and the specialty by demonstrating a value for continued training and psychoanalytic literature in general. The candidate’s pattern of current practice and direction of his/her practice will also be discussed. It is hoped that the candidate’s understanding of theory and technique is sufficiently sophisticated and that the candidate will be able to understand the relationship between his/her particular orientation and schools of psychoanalysis more generally.



The examining committee will vote and make a recommendation regarding the candidate's performance to the Board of Directors of ABAPsa, and to the Executive Director of the Central Office of ABPP who will review the report of the examining committee and make a final decision regarding the award of the certificate. Candidates who fail to pass the examination upon the first sitting shall have the right to apply for a subsequent examination.



Examination Schedule

The examination will be approximately 2 1/2 hours for the examinee and 3 hours for the examiners.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR EXAMINATION <i>This schedule requires that the examiners have reviewed all the written materials</i> <u>IN ADVANCE</u>	
ACTIVITY	TIME ALLOTTED (min.)
Committee Meets and Organizes Committee Greet Candidate	20
Examination on Practice Sample (case analysis <u>or</u> senior option)	30
Examination on Blind Case Sample	40
Examination on APA Ethics Code (two Vignettes) <i>*(Candidate has up to 10 minutes to review the ethical vignettes.)</i> COLLECT VIGNETTES	*30
Examination on professional statement, as well as professional legal issues and research awareness. Return practice sample to Candidate	30
Examination wrap-up and Discussion COLLECT BLIND STUDY and give Candidate Evaluation form with a stamped addressed envelope to mail to National Examination Chair. Committee Votes, Completes Forms and Writes Report if necessary	30
Note: Time allotments are guidelines that should be followed as closely as possible.	