

EPPP Ethics Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

- 1. What assessment evaluates the knowledge required for psychologist licensure?**
 - A. Doctoral Exit Exam**
 - B. National Psychology Exam**
 - C. Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP)**
 - D. State Board Examination**
- 2. What is the primary function of state licensing boards?**
 - A. Provide funding for psychological research**
 - B. Ensure the welfare of the public**
 - C. Develop new psychological tests**
 - D. Train new psychologists**
- 3. What action represents a minor consequence from the Ethics Committee for unethical actions?**
 - A. Censure**
 - B. Reprimand**
 - C. Expulsion**
 - D. Warning**
- 4. What is the ethical requirement when a psychologist is asked about a client by a third party?**
 - A. Provide information only if the client is present**
 - B. Get a signed release from the client before divulging any information**
 - C. Share information if it is a matter of public safety**
 - D. Inform the client of the request and discuss it with them**
- 5. What type of observations in public spaces does not typically require informed consent?**
 - A. Private conversations**
 - B. Naturalistic observations**
 - C. Controlled research settings**
 - D. Surveys without identifiers**

- 6. How should psychologists handle conflicts of interest in their practice?**
- A. Disclose them to their clients**
 - B. Avoid mentioning them at all**
 - C. Minimize the conflict but not disclose**
 - D. Only address them when prompted**
- 7. What is a primary responsibility of psychologists in research involving animals?**
- A. Obtaining funding for animal studies**
 - B. Maintaining a clean research environment**
 - C. Minimizing discomfort to the animals involved**
 - D. Ensuring compliance with research standards only**
- 8. What is the importance of dual relationships in psychology?**
- A. They enhance trust and rapport with clients**
 - B. They can lead to conflicts of interest and ethical dilemmas**
 - C. They provide opportunities for additional income**
 - D. They are encouraged to build a network**
- 9. In the context of ethical violations, what is a key consideration before filing a report?**
- A. Past performance of the colleague**
 - B. Presence of substantial harm**
 - C. The opinion of other colleagues**
 - D. Likelihood of resolution**
- 10. What should psychologists prioritize when considering actions against a colleague's unethical behavior?**
- A. Outcome of legal action**
 - B. Education of the psychologist**
 - C. Resolution of ethical issues**
 - D. Client well-being and confidentiality**

Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. A
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. D

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Explanations

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1. What assessment evaluates the knowledge required for psychologist licensure?

- A. Doctoral Exit Exam**
- B. National Psychology Exam**
- C. Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP)**
- D. State Board Examination**

The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) is specifically designed to assess the knowledge necessary for psychologist licensure across North America. This standardized examination evaluates candidates on a wide range of psychological topics, ensuring that they possess the foundational knowledge and skills required to practice safely and effectively as licensed psychologists. The EPPP is used by licensing boards in different jurisdictions, thereby establishing a consistent standard of competence in the field of psychology. This is essential to protect the public and maintain the integrity of the profession. Other assessments may serve various roles in the educational or licensure process, but the EPPP is the recognized tool for demonstrating the requisite knowledge for licensure specifically in psychology.

2. What is the primary function of state licensing boards?

- A. Provide funding for psychological research**
- B. Ensure the welfare of the public**
- C. Develop new psychological tests**
- D. Train new psychologists**

The primary function of state licensing boards is to ensure the welfare of the public. These boards are responsible for setting standards for the licensure of psychologists and ensuring that practitioners meet these standards to provide safe and effective psychological services. Their role involves monitoring the practice of psychology within the state, addressing complaints against licensed professionals, and taking disciplinary action when necessary to protect the public. By maintaining these standards, licensing boards help to promote ethical practice and safeguard clients from potential harm, ultimately prioritizing the well-being of the individuals seeking psychological services. While other options mention valuable activities related to psychology, such as funding research or training psychologists, they do not align with the core responsibility of licensing boards, which is focused on public safety and ethical oversight.

3. What action represents a minor consequence from the Ethics Committee for unethical actions?

- A. Censure
- B. Reprimand**
- C. Expulsion
- D. Warning

A reprimand is considered a minor consequence because it typically involves a formal expression of disapproval regarding an individual's unethical actions without severe penalties. It serves as a warning about the behavior in question and signals that the Ethics Committee acknowledges the unethical action but does not find it serious enough to warrant a more severe sanction. In this context, a reprimand is meant to guide the individual towards better ethical practices without the drastic implications of expulsion, which would remove the individual from a professional community entirely. Censure may also carry more weight as it indicates a formal rebuke with potential implications for professional standing. A warning can be understood as a more informal notification, typically given before any formal action is taken, making it distinct from a reprimand as a documented consequence.

4. What is the ethical requirement when a psychologist is asked about a client by a third party?

- A. Provide information only if the client is present
- B. Get a signed release from the client before divulging any information**
- C. Share information if it is a matter of public safety
- D. Inform the client of the request and discuss it with them

When a psychologist is approached by a third party for information about a client, the ethical requirement is to obtain a signed release from the client before sharing any details. This principle is grounded in the ethical standards regarding confidentiality and informed consent. Psychologists have an obligation to protect their clients' privacy and confidentiality, which is a fundamental part of the therapeutic relationship. A signed release ensures that the client is aware of and consents to the sharing of their information, thus empowering them to control who has access to their personal data. Obtaining a release also aligns with legal requirements in many jurisdictions, reinforcing ethical practices that prioritize the client's autonomy. There may be exceptions related to public safety or situations where the client poses a risk to themselves or others, but the default ethical stance remains that sharing information without explicit permission undermines trust and confidentiality in the therapeutic environment.

5. What type of observations in public spaces does not typically require informed consent?

- A. Private conversations**
- B. Naturalistic observations**
- C. Controlled research settings**
- D. Surveys without identifiers**

Naturalistic observations in public spaces typically do not require informed consent because they involve observing individuals in their natural environment where there is an expectation of privacy. In public settings, people generally understand that they may be observed by others, which decreases the ethical obligation for researchers to seek consent. The aim of naturalistic observations is to gain insights into behavior as it occurs in real-world contexts, and as long as the observations do not disturb or significantly invade personal privacy, they can ethically be conducted without prior informed consent. In contrast, private conversations, controlled research settings, and surveys that include identifiers often do require informed consent due to the potential for privacy infringement and the ethical obligation to respect individuals' autonomy.

6. How should psychologists handle conflicts of interest in their practice?

- A. Disclose them to their clients**
- B. Avoid mentioning them at all**
- C. Minimize the conflict but not disclose**
- D. Only address them when prompted**

Disclosing conflicts of interest to clients is crucial for maintaining transparency, trust, and ethical standards in the practice of psychology. This practice aligns with the ethical principles outlined in the American Psychological Association's Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, which emphasize the importance of integrity and transparency in professional relationships. When psychologists disclose potential conflicts of interest, they provide clients with important information that enables informed decision-making regarding their care. This disclosure helps clients understand any factors that might influence the psychologist's objectivity or effectiveness, thus safeguarding the client's right to make choices based on a full understanding of their situation. In addition, failing to disclose conflicts can lead to perceptions of deception or a lack of professionalism, which can ultimately harm the therapeutic relationship. It is an essential practice to have open lines of communication regarding any possible conflicts, rather than minimizing them or addressing them only when prompted. Such transparency not only upholds ethical standards but also reinforces the trust between the psychologist and the client.

7. What is a primary responsibility of psychologists in research involving animals?

- A. Obtaining funding for animal studies**
- B. Maintaining a clean research environment**
- C. Minimizing discomfort to the animals involved**
- D. Ensuring compliance with research standards only**

A primary responsibility of psychologists conducting research involving animals is to minimize discomfort to the animals involved. This principle is rooted in the ethical imperative to treat animal subjects humanely and to ensure their welfare throughout the research process. Ethical guidelines, such as those established by the American Psychological Association and other relevant bodies, emphasize that researchers must take steps to mitigate pain and distress, utilizing methods that are as non-invasive as possible. By prioritizing the comfort and well-being of animal subjects, psychologists not only adhere to ethical standards but also enhance the validity of their research findings. Stress and discomfort in animal subjects can introduce variables that potentially skew results, thereby compromising the quality and reliability of the research outcomes. This commitment to minimizing discomfort reflects the broader ethical obligation that researchers have to respect and protect their subjects, irrespective of whether they are human or animal. Maintaining high ethical standards in animal research supports the advancement of scientific knowledge while demonstrating a responsibility to animal welfare.

8. What is the importance of dual relationships in psychology?

- A. They enhance trust and rapport with clients**
- B. They can lead to conflicts of interest and ethical dilemmas**
- C. They provide opportunities for additional income**
- D. They are encouraged to build a network**

The significance of dual relationships in psychology primarily revolves around their potential to create conflicts of interest and ethical dilemmas. In the field of psychology, a dual relationship occurs when a psychologist has multiple roles with a client beyond the therapeutic one, such as being a friend, business associate, or family member. When dual relationships form, they can complicate the therapeutic relationship and impair the psychologist's objectivity. For instance, the personal interests of the psychologist may influence their professional decisions, which could compromise the quality of care provided to the client. Ethical guidelines set by organizations such as the American Psychological Association stress the importance of maintaining professional boundaries to protect the integrity of the therapeutic process and to shield clients from potential exploitation or harm. By acknowledging the potential risks associated with dual relationships, professionals are better equipped to navigate these complexities and prioritize the well-being of their clients. This awareness upholds ethical standards in practice, ensuring that the psychologist's role remains clear and focused on the client's best interests, thus promoting effective and safe therapeutic outcomes.

9. In the context of ethical violations, what is a key consideration before filing a report?

- A. Past performance of the colleague**
- B. Presence of substantial harm**
- C. The opinion of other colleagues**
- D. Likelihood of resolution**

Before filing a report regarding ethical violations, the presence of substantial harm is a key consideration because it emphasizes the necessity of ensuring that the reporting is warranted and appropriately addresses a significant issue. Ethical guidelines typically prioritize the protection and welfare of clients, colleagues, and the broader community. A reported violation should directly relate to an action that has led to considerable harm or poses a risk of harm to others. This principle helps ensure that the focus remains on serious breaches of ethical conduct, thereby making reporting a thoughtful process that is not taken lightly. Understanding the implications of harm encourages practitioners to consider the severity and impact of the unethical behavior rather than the motivations or opinions of others, or previous performance history, which may not adequately reflect the current situation. This approach fosters a culture of accountability and ethical responsibility in the profession while also protecting the integrity of the reporting process.

10. What should psychologists prioritize when considering actions against a colleague's unethical behavior?

- A. Outcome of legal action**
- B. Education of the psychologist**
- C. Resolution of ethical issues**
- D. Client well-being and confidentiality**

When psychologists are faced with the task of addressing a colleague's unethical behavior, the primary concern should be client well-being and confidentiality. This principle is rooted in the ethical guidelines established by professional organizations, which emphasize that the welfare of clients must be the highest priority. By prioritizing client well-being, psychologists ensure that their actions protect the interests and rights of those they serve, thereby maintaining the trust necessary for a therapeutic relationship. Confidentiality is equally important; it safeguards the sensitive information of clients, which can be jeopardized if unethical behavior is not appropriately addressed. Addressing unethical behavior without considering the impact on clients may lead to additional harm or breach their trust. Therefore, the focus on client welfare affirms the psychologist's commitment to ethical practice and the responsibility to protect those who are vulnerable. This emphasis on client well-being creates a framework within which any necessary actions—whether they include education, legal interventions, or addressing ethical issues—must be carefully considered with respect to how they will impact the clients involved.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://epppethics.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!