

**LPA Licensing Process
Manual for Graduates**

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LPA Licensure Requirements

- A graduate degree in psychology
 - 60 credit hours
 - No more than 12 hours of practicum, internship, or structured experience counted toward the total degree hour requirement.
 - *NOTE: A graduate degree consisting of 42 semester credit hours, with at least 27 hours in psychology will be accepted for licensure purposes through **August 31, 2021**, so long as the applicant began their graduate program leading to the degree before August 31, 2019*
 - 6 credit hours of practicum, internship, or other structured experience within the graduate degree program, while under the supervision of a licensed psychologist (LP)
- Passage of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP)
- Passage of the Jurisprudence Examination

**LPA Licensing Costs
(Non-refundable)**

- Application Fee
 - Licensed Psychology Associate - \$325
 - Pre-licensure Criminal History Evaluation - \$150
 - Fingerprint - \$40
 - Self-Query Report - \$4
 - SHSU transcripts - electronic (\$7.50) or hardcopy (\$10)
- Exam Fee
 - Examination for the Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP) - \$600
 - Jurisprudence - \$39
- Test Center Appointment Fee
 - Test Center Appointment Fee for EPPP- \$87.50
 - Paid at the same time as exam fee
- Miscellaneous Fees
 - USPS Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope x2 - \$15 (Optional)
 - Envelopes send within 1-3 days
 - You need to send the LPA Application with the check/money order separately from the pre-licensure criminal history evaluation with the check/money order
 - Money Order x2 - \$2.50 (Optional)
 - You can get money orders at USPS, but you can use personal checks if you have some
 - Link to help you fill out money orders/checks
 - Money Order:
 - <https://www.thebalance.com/how-do-you-fill-out-a-money-order-315051>
 - Checks:
 - <https://www.thebalance.com/how-to-write-a-check-4019395>
- **Grand Total: \$1,255**
 - *Note: This is not including miscellaneous fees*
- Renewal Fee (Biennial)
 - Licensed Psychological Associate - \$238
- Fee Schedule Link
 - <https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/fids/202100277-1.pdf>

LPA Checklist/Timeline

- Complete all below:
 - LPA Application Form
 - Official transcript sent DIRECTLY from SHSU
 - Self-Query Report
 - Supervised Experience Form
 - Passage of Jurisprudence Exam
- Submit application, fee, and supporting documents to the Council's office
- Complete criminal history record check
 - The Board will send these forms via email/mail
- Application Review
 - You may contact them for questions AFTER 6 weeks of submitting your application
- Examination Authorization
 - Pay exam fee and test center fee
 - Schedule the exam
 - Pass the EPPP
- License Issuance

Independent Practice Authority for LPAs

- LPA Licensed
 - 3,000 supervised hours (post-grad)
 - 24-48 consecutive months
 - Not more than three placements
 - Apply for independent practice authority to the Board
- Licensed Psychological Associates with Independent Status (LPA-I)

LPA Documents

- LPA Licensure Application Form
 - <https://www.bhec.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Application-LPA-2020Sept.pdf>
- EPPP Exam Request Form
 - <https://www.bhec.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Exam-Request-Form-2020Sept.pdf>

EPPP Exam Layout

- **How is the test organized?**
 - 225 MC questions
 - Of the 225 questions, 175 questions are scored while 50 are pilot items (not scored)
 - 4 hours and 15 minutes to complete the exam
 - Roughly one minute per question
 - Results are immediately available
 - Scaled scores range from 200-800
 - The minimum acceptable score is 500
 - If you fail, you are able to immediately reapply to take the exam
 - Maximum allowed is 4 times in any 12-month period***
- **What does the EPPP cover?**
 - 8 content domains
 - Domain 1 - Biological Bases of Behavior (10%)
 - Domain 2 - Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior (13%)
 - Domain 3 - Social and Cultural Bases of Behavior (11%)
 - Domain 4 - Growth and Lifespan Development (12%)
 - Domain 5 - Assessment and Diagnosis (16%)
 - Domain 6 - Treatment, Intervention, Prevention, and Supervision (15%)
 - Domain 7 - Research Methods and Statistics (7%)
 - Domain 8 - Ethical/Legal/Professional Issues (16%)
- **What if I fail the EPPP?**
 - Limitation on Number of EPPP Attempts:
 - No more than **three** times
 - Automatic denial of an application after third attempt
 - Applicants whose application is denied may reapply for licensure
 - Cannot sit for the EPPP again until the applicant has submitted a **detailed study plan designed to address the known or suspected areas of deficiency**
 - The study plan **must be approved by the relevant member board before authorization** for retake
- **Debunking EPPP Myths**
 - <https://www.asppb.net/page/MythsvsReality>
- **EPPP Tips**
 - <https://www.apa.org/gradpsych/2007/09/eppp>
 - <https://blog.time2track.com/are-you-dreading-the-eppp-heres-how-to-prepare-for-it>

Studying for the EPPP

Below are some of the most recognized companies that offer materials and workshops for EPPP preparation. Although a lot of these prep courses average at around \$1,000, I would highly consider investing, as having to retake the exam would be just as costly, if not more. I personally knew a person who had to take it three times (yikes!). She stated she took a course before her last attempt and wished she had just invested in it from the beginning.

★ Academic Review

- Candidates who prefer to study alone, have received a degree within the last 2-3 years, are visual learners, and need the confidence of studying anywhere at any time would most likely benefit from this subscription program.
 - <https://www.academicreview.com/psychology>
- Prices depend on your subscription preference
 - <https://www.academicreview.com/psychology/subscriptions>

★ PsychPrep

- Their packages include study materials, online tests, weekend workshops, 15-week seminar and/or comprehensive audio, study strategies package, individualized expert feedback, and a recommended study plan to keep your studying efficient and on track.
 - <https://psychprep.com/eppp-programs-overview/>
- Packages Comparison Chart
 - <https://psychprep.com/premium-package-chart/>
 - Because of COVID, **seminars are currently on pause** - so you might want to keep this in mind before purchasing
 - Package C (Priced at \$1,225 - \$1,175 if you prefer electronic) seems to be the most affordable and comprehensive

★ AATBS

- They offer a pass guarantee! If you fail, they offer an additional 3-month prep extension for free. They offer comprehensive EPPP content, test-taking strategies, live online instructor-led sessions, and personalized one-on-one coaching to guide a study plan. They advertise packages, but it's more of a subscription-type thing. They have a "Quick Study Bundle" under \$1,000 if you're wanting to crunch.
 - <https://aatbs.com/psychology/eppp/study-packages>
- Six-month Access Package (\$1,289)
 - <https://aatbs.com/eppp-live-online-exam-prep-package-6-months-access>
- Packages Comparison Chart
 - <https://aatbs.com/psychology/eppp/study-packages>

★ Free Resources

- Dr. Jaime Anderson was gracious enough to save all of her study prep materials onto a flashdrive and give some copies away. These files were uploaded onto Google drive and can be accessed clicking the link below!
 - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NGZugnr9nEY4IH_42xUL6Qwtz_dnUViTr?usp=sharing
- **DISCLAIMER:** I am not sure how old these materials are - some date as back as 2013 - which is the year DSM-5 came out, so some of the information may be outdated

Jurisprudence Exam

- The content areas for the Jurisprudence Examination include the following:
 - Practice Administration
 - Board Composition and Procedures
 - Complaint, Disciplinary, and Rehabilitation Procedures
 - Licensing Requirements and Specialty Certification
 - Professional Practice Rules and Guidelines
 - Research Practices
 - Supervision Guidelines
- The Jurisprudence Examination is an open book, multiple choice exam
- The minimum passing score is 90%
 - No cap for attempts
- Informational Form
 - <https://www.bhec.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/TSBEP-JP-Exam-Info-Sheet.pdf>