National psychology exam recommended reading list

August 2020 edition

This reading list is provided to help candidates prepare for the national psychology examination (NPE). The texts are not mandatory. Other resources are of comparable quality and relevance as those on this list.

The recommended readings are organised according to their relevance to curriculum domains. Sections of some publications are noted as particularly relevant.

The recommended reading list is updated from time to time as new editions and other resources become available. Supervisors and examination candidates should check the website regularly.

The Board welcomes recommendations for the list. They can be sent to: psychologychair@ahpra.gov.au.

For information on the curriculum, please see the Board’s National psychology examination curriculum at https://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/Registration/National-psychology-exam.aspx.

All curriculum domains (ethics, assessment, intervention, communication)


Curriculum domains 1 (ethics) and 4 (communication)


Particularly relevant: Chapter 10 and11.


Frankcom, K., Stevens, B. & Watts, P. (2016). *Fit to practice: Everything you wanted to know about starting your own psychology practice in Australia but were afraid to ask*. Samford Valley, QLD: Australian Academic Press.


Particularly relevant:
- Guidelines for mandatory notifications
- Guidelines on continuing professional development
- Guidelines for advertising regulated health services
- Guideline on professional indemnity insurance for psychologists
- Recency of practice registration standard
- Social media policy

Victims of Crime. State and territory websites. Retrieved from:
Curriculum domains 2 (assessment) and 3 (intervention)

Candidates should refer to the test publisher's manuals for the relevant tests.


Particularly relevant: Chapter 2 Basic concepts and principles and Chapter 27 Functional behavior assessment.


Mental Status Exam:


Publication dates of the reading list

This is the August 2020 version of the recommended reading list. Previous editions of the recommended readings list were published in:

- January and July 2012
- December 2013
- July and December 2014
- July and December 2015
- July and December 2016
- July and December 2017
- July and December 2018
- August 2019

New resources

No new resources have been added since the last published version (August 2019) of the recommended reading list.

Retired resources

The following resources were from previous versions of the recommended reading list. They have been retired from the current list.


**Updated editions**

The following resources listed on previous versions of the recommend reading list have been updated with the most recent edition. Please note that while candidates should use the new editions now, the Board allows a two-year transition period.


