

Guidance Regarding Program Submission Requirements for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 Review Cycles

The NASP Program Accreditation Board (PAB) recognizes that the coronavirus pandemic may impact school psychology graduate program submissions for NASP review given the potential for incomplete data. Therefore, the PAB has provided the following guidance, which impacts *only* programs submitting for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 review cycles. This guidance applies to all school psychology programs (programs in CAEP units and NASP only programs). Programs submitting for Fall 2021 and later should follow the current guidelines until further notice.

1. There is no alteration to the timeline for submission.
2. There is no change in expectation of structure including program philosophy, course requirements and sequencing, FTEs, length of program, etc.
3. All programs are still required to submit data on a minimum of six assessments.
4. All programs are still required to submit two applications (often cohorts) of data on the six assessments.
 - Programs submitting for *reaccreditation* or *reapproval* are required to submit data for two applications and should follow the guidelines described above.
 - Programs submitting for *response to conditions* are required to submit one application of data, and program faculty should attempt to use as much data from 2019–2020 as possible and resort to 2018–2019 data only when there is no other option.
 - **New programs** are required to submit one cohort or application of data. If a new program has data for the *majority* of its 2019–2020 application on any given assessment, it may choose to include that year’s data. If a program does not have data for the majority of its students, interns, or graduates, then it should submit the data for its 2018–2019 cohort.
5. Programs will be able to choose which applications/cohorts *best* represent their program data using the following guidelines:
 - a. If a program has data for any given assessment for *the majority* (over 50%) of its 2019–2020 students, interns, or graduates, it should include the 2019–2020 application for that assessment and indicate that data are incomplete due to COVID-19 impact.
 - b. If a program does *not* have data for a majority (over 50%) of the 2019–2020 students, interns, or graduates for any given assessment, the program should submit data from an earlier application (for example, in lieu of 2019–2020 data, programs can submit 2018–2019 data).
 - c. Programs should make the decision for each of the six assessments individually, and thus, might submit 2019–2020 data for some assessments and 2018–2019 data for another assessment.
6. Programs are required to provide a clear narrative for each data decision so reviewers will know the rationale for data use. Programs should also clearly note the number of missing data points for any assessment that has incomplete data.

EXAMPLE: PROGRAM SUBMITTING FOR REAPPROVAL

Assessment 1* – Praxis Scores

Two applications of data are required. It seems reasonable that programs would have 100% of their data for 2018–2019. In terms of data for 2019–2020, please see the different possibilities below.

Scenario A – 100% of interns completed the Praxis for 2019–2020. NASP PAB recommends submitting these data.

Scenario B – Approximately 70% of interns completed the Praxis for 2019–2020. NASP PAB recommends submitting these data.

Scenario C – Approximately 51% of interns completed the Praxis for 2019–2020. NASP PAB recommends submitting these data.

Scenario D – Approximately 49% of interns completed the Praxis for 2019–2020. NASP PAB recommends submitting 2017–2018 and 2018–2019 data.

*Follow this general guidance for Assessments 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT ASSESSEMENT 2 (GRADES)

Many universities and colleges are allowing faculty to shift from letter grades to Pass/Fail for courses in the spring semester/quarter 2020. Programs are expected to submit grades for the two most recent applications, which should include 2019–2020, and programs are required to aggregate and disaggregate these data. If your students received Pass/Fail grades in Spring 2020 courses are typically awarded a letter grade, please note this in your narrative, and provide an asterisk (*) in your grade table acknowledging the change.

IMPORTANT COMMENTS

Assessments 3 and 4 (Field-Based Assessments)

Depending on when your practicum and intern students stopped practicing in the schools in Spring 2020 due to school closures, the NASP PAB recognizes there might be incomplete or “not observed” responses from field supervisors. As in Assessment 2, please note this in the Assessment 3 and 4 narratives.

Assessments 5 and 6 (Comprehensive Performance-Based Assessments and Positive Impact)

Depending on when your interns stopped practicing in the schools in Spring 2020 due to school closures, NASP PAB recognizes there might be incomplete data for Assessments 5 and 6. As a reminder, Assessment 6 requires a minimum of one academic and one behavior case study, and many programs use the case studies for Assessment 5. These requirements are still in effect, but programs that have incomplete data for 2019–2020 should use the majority rule stated in 5a (see page 1). If the majority of 2019–2020 interns were not able to complete these requirements, the program is advised to report the two most recent complete applications (i.e., 2017–2018 and 2018–2019).

NASP Standard IX – Practica and Internship in School Psychology

Regarding Internship, please see **Guidance Regarding Graduate Intern Hours in Response to School Closures: UPDATED March 18, 2020.**

Please note that NASP does not have a minimum requirement for practicum hours.

Finally, programs experiencing extenuating circumstances that will affect the ability to submit for review are encouraged to contact the Program Accreditation Board Chair (Natalie Politikos) at nasppab@naspweb.org.

We appreciate your commitment to school psychology and graduate education during this challenging time. On our end, we are monitoring developments and will continue to adjust as necessary.