

# **International Association of Forensic Criminologists (IAFC) Criminal Profiler Professional Certification Act of 2013**

Ratified June 23, 2013

## ***Section 1: The ABP Board of Examiners***

There is created within the IAFC an Academy of Behavioral Profiling Board of Examiners. This ABP Board of Examiners will be comprised of three Full Members of the IAFC serving at the pleasure of the IAFC Board of Directors.

## ***Section 2: Diplomate Status***

There is created within the IAFC a terminal membership status: Diplomate of the Academy of Behavioral Profiling (D-ABP). D-ABP Membership status shall serve as professional acknowledgement from the IAFC and The ABP Board of Examiners that a member has achieved an advanced level of knowledge, skill, and ability in the subject and practice of criminal profiling as demonstrated by satisfaction of the requirements outlined in this Act.

## ***Section 3: D-ABP Membership Requirements***

To achieve D-ABP membership status, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

### *Section 3.1 - IAFC Membership*

All applicants must be members of the IAFC in good standing.

### *Section 3.2 - Education Requirement*

All applicants must satisfy the requirements set forth in at least one of the following Educational Tracks:

#### *Section 3.2.1 - Track 1: Degree Requirement*

Applicants must hold an undergraduate major or a graduate degree in the Behavioral or Social Sciences from an accredited institution of higher education, in any the following subjects:

- a. Psychology
- b. Mental Health\*
- c. Sociology
- d. Social Work
- e. Behavioral Science
- f. Criminology
- g. Some Anthropology\*\*
- h. Some Criminal Justice Programs (transcript required)\*\*

\* Degrees from a school of education, or which focus on guidance counseling or school counseling, do not meet this requirement.

\*\* Acceptable Anthropology and CJ Degrees must be augmented with core Behavioral Science subjects.

Note: Education, business, justice administration, and public administration degrees do not meet the D-ABP education requirement. Degrees received based on instruction that is entirely without direct professor-student classroom interaction do not meet the D-ABP education requirement.

### *Section 3.2.2 - Track 2: Research Requirement*

- a. Applicants must complete 63+ undergraduate credit hours from an accredited institution of higher education (approximately the number associated with associates degree requirements), and;
- b. Complete a written thesis comprised of original research in an area of behavioral evidence analysis (e.g., victimology, crime scene analysis, or criminal profiling) as it relates to criminal investigation, forensic examination, or legal issues. This thesis must be at least 30 pages in length with at least 15 peer reviewed references (e.g., textbooks and professional journals; not popular media, true crime, or wikipedia).
- c. Prior published dissertations and research, with the applicant as sole author, may be considered by The ABP Board of Examiners for satisfaction of this requirement.

Completed thesis projects are subject to evaluation and approval by The ABP Board of Examiners.

This track allows for the entry of applicants with ANY formal educational background to demonstrate both their scholarship and commitment to the field. This is made evident by virtue of contributing to the field's development in a quantifiable manner, while also demonstrating academic prowess and attendance to individual professional betterment through focused research.

### *Section 3.3 - Training Requirement*

All applicants must complete a minimum of 40+ hours of BEA oriented workshops from IAFC approved instructors.

### *Section 3.4 - Examination Requirement*

All applicants must satisfy the following examination requirements:

- a. Successful completion of the Profiling General Knowledge Exam (the PGKE); and

- b. Successful completion of The ABP Board Examination (a comprehensive examination covering advanced forensic science, victimology, crime scene analysis, and offender character inference issues).
- c. Those individuals appointed to committees associated with the creation of either exam are exempt from completing the requirements associated with that particular exam.

*Section 3.5 - Experience Requirement*

All applicants must satisfy at least one of the following two requirements:

- a. Submission of two completed criminal profiles; or
- b. Submission of one completed criminal profile and two completed threshold assessments; or
- c. Submission of three completed threshold assessments.

These completed reports must comport with IAFC report writing guidelines and IAFC Guidelines for ethical behavior.

Completed reports are subject to evaluation and approval by the ABP Board of Examiners.

***Section 4: Professional Certification as a Criminal Profiler***

Achievement of D-ABP status, once conferred by The ABP Board of Examiners, shall serve as the IAFC's highest credential for criminal profilers within the organization.

***Section 5: IAFC Approved Instructors***

Once a member of the IAFC has achieved D-ABP status, they are eligible to teach IAFC approved seminars and workshops. Specifically, IAFC members with D-APB status shall be considered "IAFC approved instructors", in comportment with the *Section 3.3 - Training Requirement*, and the provisions therein.

***Section 6: Revocation***

The ABP Board of Examiners may suspend or revoke a Member's D-ABP status if that member violates any of the IAFC Ethical Guidelines for Professional Conduct.