



Professional Policy Report

Committee Members: Blair H. Nelsen, Chair
Jon Rettig, District 4
Martin Rieken, District 6
Sandy Mahon, District 8

The Professional Policy Committee met via conference call and Zoom during 2020 to address the following responsibilities:

- Review exam administration reports including exam development fees, number of exams administered, overall pass rate, and other exam statistics.
- Monitor the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the exam program, including testing availability, number of administrations, and statistical data. Due to The Conference being an essential service exam, the impact on these items was minimal.
- Oversaw The Conference’s first virtual exam development meetings. The Item Writing Workshop was conducted twice to accommodate interested volunteers and the Exam Committee moved their work to a virtual format for 2020 as well.
- Review the progress of the upcoming textbook survey, which is due from the American Board of Funeral Service Education in early 2021.
- Continually review exam program policies and procedures to ensure best practices are followed.
 - Recommend the board amend the policy for NBE eligibilities to include state boards provided they can attest that the candidate is a graduate of an ABFSE accredited program.
- Continually monitor concerns submitted to The Conference by exam candidates, as well as the responses given by Conference staff.
- Continually monitor the security of the exam program and investigate exam security concerns.

2020 National Board Exam Statistics

First Time Examinees	Number Taking Exam	Number Passing (%)	Number Failing (%)
Arts	1,311	961 (73%)	350 (27%)
Sciences	1,279	822 (64%)	457 (36%)

Retaking Exam	Number Taking Exam	Number Passing (%)	Number Failing (%)
Arts	336	168 (50%)	168 (50%)
Sciences	492	176 (36%)	316 (64%)