

ABFSE NBE Review Course Survey

REPORT

A survey was disseminated in Fall 2023 regarding the use of NBE review courses at ABFSE accredited institutions. There are a total of 58 institutions currently accredited by the ABFSE and the number of surveys returned was 38 which resulted in a 66% return rate. This report summarized the data and offers interpretations as to what the data presents.

SUMMARY

National Board Exam (NBE) pass rates continue to be a topic of concern among ABFSE accredited institutions. This survey was conducted to see what habits exist among accredited programs & institutions to see if there are any common traits or tools.

Speaking in generalities, the data indicates that the majority of the accredited institutions and programs require some sort of review course as part of their curriculum as a requirement for completion of the accredited degree. A much smaller population of institutions or accredited programs offer such a course post graduation in addition to the mandatory one. Very few do not require some type of NBE review course prior to graduation.

A little more than half of the respondents utilize only 1 tool during their review course. A little less than half utilize 2 or more tools during their review course. When it comes to curriculum, however, roughly one-third of the institutions or accredited programs that responded do not offer any tools during the course of study prior to the review course. The remaining two-thirds offer at least one tool during the period of study.

During the curriculum, however, things change. As previously stated, 10 respondents offer **none** of the tools stated in the survey or some other tool during the period of study. Of the remaining population, 14 out of 26 respondents utilize two or more tools during the period of study with 12 utilizing only one tool. This roughly matches the same percentages found in the review course.

The following are some highlight observations:

- Of those who do not utilize tools during the period of study, 9 out of 10 utilize some tool(s) in their mandatory review course. Only one offers nothing in the use of tools during their review course.
- Those with 2 or more tools in their curriculum have a tendency to continue with two or more tools in their review course. Some institutions in this category swap out a tool for a new one when they enter into the review course.
- One respondent used four tools during the period of study but only one tool during the review course. It is highly questionable that those other tools would terminate just because someone is in the review course so likely they are part of a larger scheme and not class restricted (institutional account or online organization).
- Overwhelmingly the three most popular tools are the DEAD Simulator, NBE Exam Prep (Petteway), and Kahoots in this order for review course usage. This order is also the same for curriculum usage.

QUESTION ANALYSIS

Question 1: Does your program/institution offer a National Board Exam review course as part of its curriculum? This means the course must be taken and passing grade obtained in order to graduate.

36 of 38 responses indicated yes with a mean of 1.05 and standard deviation of .23. Overwhelmingly 95% of the schools responding to this survey have a review course as part of the curriculum required for graduation. It is felt this high percentage recognizes the importance the National Board Exam (NBE) plays in both maintaining accreditation as well as licensure.

Question 2: Does your program/institution offer a National Board Exam review course as part of the curriculum but this course is optional? This means the student has the option to not take the course prior to graduation but can still earn their degree.

This question was offered only if the respondent answered “no” to question 1. There were only 2 responses recorded with a mean of 1.50 and standard deviation of .71. One institution or accreditation program answered “yes” and one”

“no”. This means 97% of schools or accredited programs who responded have some sort of NBE review course as part of their curriculum.

Question 3: - *If your program/institution does not have a specific course that serves as an NBE review course, does it offer to its students some sort of NBE review in a pre-existing course as part of another course’s requirement. This means you have a course in your curriculum that a student is required to take but only one portion of that course has an NBE review in addition to other learning objectives.*

This question was only offered if a respondent answered “no” to both questions 1 & 2. Only 1 response was recorded and this was “no” with a mean of 2.0 and a standard deviation of 0. This means that only one institution or accredited program that responses does not offer as part of its curriculum a review course nor does it offer any type of NBE review as part of another course in the curriculum.

Question 4: *Does your program/institution offer an NBE review course or review session after graduation? This means that your program/institution offers such a course or review.*

A total of 36 responses were received to this question with a mean of 1.75 and a standard deviation of .44. 9 answered “yes” and 27 answered “no”. 75% of schools or accredited programs who responded to this survey do not offer any sort post-graduation review. Upon review of the raw data, the 9 schools who answered “yes” to question 4 also answered “yes” to Question 1. This means 100% of the institutions or accredited programs who offer a post-graduation review course also offer a review course prior to graduation that is a requirement of the curriculum.

Question 5: *Since you have this type of review course or review session, who is it open to?*

This question was offered only if you answered “yes” to question #4. It had 9 responses with a mean of 1.44 and a standard deviation of .53. 5 respondents limited the post-graduation review course to graduates of their own institution (56%). 4 offered the review course to graduates of any program or accredited institution (44%).

Question 6: *Does your program/institution offer or require an NBE review course or review session with a 3rd party vendor? This means you offer a review course or review session but it is not linked to classroom activities.*

38 total responses were recorded with a mean of 1.89 and a standard deviation of .31. 34 respondents answered “no” (89%). Only 4 respondents answered “yes” (11%). Of these four respondents:

- 3 respondents offered a review course prior to graduation and also answered yes to this question. This could mean that 3 institutions or accredited programs require either their own course or that a student complete the third party course as a requirement for graduation.
- 1 respondent did not offer a review course prior to graduation but answered “yes” to this question and also indicated that they offer a review course after graduation. This likely means this review course is provided by the 3rd party vendor.

Question 7: *Is participation in this 3rd party course or review a requirement for graduation?*

This question was only offered if question 6 was answered “yes”. There were a total of 4 responses with a mean of 1.75 and a standard deviation of .50. 3 respondents answered “no” (75%). 1 respondent answered “yes” (25%). The institution of accredited program that answered “yes” also answered “yes” to question #1 but “no” to question 2. This could mean that this institution or accredited program utilizes the 3rd party vendor in the course required for graduation and that attendance to this review course is required to pass the class.

Question 8: *Do you use any of the following in your NBE Review Course or Session? (Please select all that apply.)*

A total of 35 responses were recorded. Analysis shows that 54% of the respondents to this question utilize only one tool in their NBE review course. A substantial minority (46) utilize more than 1. In summary, the DEAD simulator is most widely used among the respondents.

- NBE Review Coach – 1 response(s) – 2.86%
- Kahoots – 8 responses(s) – 22.86%
- D.E.A.D. – 23 response(s) – 65.71%
- NBE Exam Prep – 8 response(s) – 22.86%
- NFDMA NBE Review – 1 response(s) – 2.86%
- MATS – 3 response(s) – 8.57%
- Other – 11 response(s) – 31.43%
- Does not offer – 1 response(s) – 2.86%

Single Tool Only:

19 out of 35 responses utilized only 1 tool (54%).

5 out of 19 responses utilized NFDMA NBE Review.

2 out of 19 responses utilized NBE Exam prep.

9 out of 19 responses utilized DEAD.

1 out of 19 responses utilized Kahoots.

1 out of 19 responses utilized MATS.

1 out of 19 responses did not offer any of these tools or other tools.

Multiple Tool Only:

16 responses utilized more than 1 item (46%). 5 responses utilized 3 items (14%).

14 of the 16 responses utilized the DEAD simulator in addition to another tool.

6 out of 16 responses used NBE Exam prep. It bears mentioning that all those who used NBE Exam Prep also used DEAD.

7 out of the 16 responses utilized Kahoots. 5 of these 7 used DEAD and 2 responses utilized DEAD, NBE Exam Prep, and Kahoots.

6 out of 16 responses utilized “other”. 4 of these responses use DEAD.

2 out of 16 responses utilized MATS. It bears mentioning that all those who used MATS also used DEAD.

1 out of 16 responses utilized NBE Review Coach. This response also utilized DEAD and NBE Exam Prep.

Question 9: *Have you used any of the following at your program/institution as part of any course in your curriculum OTHER than an NBE review course or session? (Please select all that apply.)*

A total of 36 responses were recorded. While taking the curriculum at the institution or accredited program 10 out of 36 programs did not offer any of the tools listed to reinforce the subject learning. This leaves only 26 responses which utilize some tool while enrolled at the institution or accredited program.

Of the 12 responses which only used one item or tool, it was an even split between DEAD and Kahoots (5 responses each).

Of the 14 responses who utilized more than one tool only 3 of those 14 institutions or accredited programs offered 3 or more tools during the curriculum with one offering 4 tools during the time of study.

26 of 36 responses offered one or more tools listed to their students while they were in their studies (72%).

Only 1 out of the 36 responses did not offer any tools during the curriculum. This respondent utilized DEAD and Other in their review course.

25 out of 26 utilized at least one of the same tools used during the curriculum in their NBE review course.

7 out of 26 utilized at least one additional tool that was unique to either the review course or the curriculum.

Of the 10 schools who did not use any tools in the curriculum, 9 of them utilize at least 1 tool in the review course with 2 of them offering 2. 5 of the 10 use DEAD either solo or in combination with another tool, and 1 respondent doesn't offer tools during the curriculum and does not offer a review course.

- NBE Review Coach – 3 response(s) – 8.33%
- Kahoots – 11 responses(s) – 30.56%
- D.E.A.D. – 153 response(s) – 41.67%
- NBE Exam Prep – 8 response(s) – 22.22%
- NFDMA NBE Review – 0 response(s) – 0.00%

- Other – 7 response(s) – 19.44%
- Does not offer – 10 response(s) – 27.78%

Single Tool Only:

22 out of 36 responses utilized only 1 tool or no tools (61%).

10 out of 22 responses did not offer any of these tools or other tools. Subtracting these leaves us with 12 respondents left to review.

0 out of 12 responses utilized NFDMA NBE Review.

1 out of 12 responses utilized NBE Exam prep.

5 out of 12 responses utilized DEAD.

5 out of 12 responses utilized Kahoots.

1 out of 12 responses utilized Other.

Multiple Tool Only:

14 out of 36 responses utilized more than 1 item (39%).

2 out of 14 responses utilized NBE review coach (14%). Both of these responses also used DEAD and NBE Exam Prep. One of these responses also used Kahoots.

6 out of 14 responses utilized Kahoots (57%). 3 respondents utilized DEAD in addition to Kahoots. Of the remaining respondents, 1 used NBE Exam Prep and 2 used Other.

10 out of 14 responses utilized DEAD (71%).

7 out of 14 responses utilized NBE Exam Prep (50%). 5 out of the 7 respondents used DEAD in addition to NBE Exam Prep.

6 out of 14 responses utilized Other (43%). 4 out of 6 respondents utilized DEAD in addition to Other, 2 out of 6 used Kahoots, and 1 out of 6 utilized NBE Exam Prep.

NEXT STEPS

Ultimately, the goal of any survey of this nature is to determine effective means by which accredited programs and institutions can improve graduate

success rates on the National Board Exam. Towards that end I propose the following recommendations for future surveys on this topic:

1. The survey items use very specific language exactly describing what set of circumstances or use it is inquiring about. The use of examples would be helpful.
2. Name of the accredited program or institution be collected in order to connect pass rates to tools used.
3. Years tools were used to determine if any tool caused a noticeable shift in pass rates or specific NBE Domains.
4. Narrative section to explain any new changes to curriculum or other factors that may have affected pass rates for a year.

Respectfully Submitted,

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President

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