



October 2024

Considerations for ABFSE programs with Low NBE Pass Rates

After the October 2024 meeting, COA offered these suggestions to programs struggling to improve NBE pass rates:

- Analyze the timing between completion of coursework and NBE results for each student.
- Review your efforts to analyze the ABFSE curriculum against the NBE blueprint and map each NBE task to the curriculum.
- Analyze your curriculum using NBE topic area results and other sources.
- If applicable, evaluate the structure and effectiveness of any review course you are using.
- If offered, analyze the effectiveness of the capstone exam or practice NBE, i.e. student performance in topic/task areas and effectiveness of the exam.
- Share with students the opportunities to take the pre-NBE and receive topic or task-level feedback.
- Review admissions and progress/promotion policies to ensure that capable students enter and complete the program.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the ABFSE office.

See also the April 2020 considerations on next page.



April 2020

Considerations for ABFSE programs with Low NBE Pass Rates

COA offers the following suggestions for program's seeking to improve NBE pass rates.

- Curriculum mapping to verify that ABFSE curriculum is included in program course content.
- Apply the NBE task analysis blueprint to program course content.
- Develop a plan for continuous tracking of the NBE performance data provided by ICFSEB.
- Analyze aggregate performance in NBE subject areas for multiple years.
- Identify courses that can be tied to low performing areas on the NBE
  - Review frequency, type and level of course assessment. (and overall program assessment)
  - Review instructional methodologies.
  - Review student evaluations of courses and instructors.
- Evaluate communication between program administration and instructors.
- Review program admissions criteria.
- Review the requirements that students must fulfill to be certified to take the NBE. e.g. exit exam; review course; GPA

Other questions to consider:

How does the program address basic study skills?

Are adequate student support services provided?

Are students exposed to computer based testing prior to taking the NBE?

If a capstone course is used, is it designed as an overall program summary or NBE Review?