



National Home Inspector
Examination®



EBPHI ACHIEVES INDEPENDENT ACCREDITATION OF THE NATIONAL HOME INSPECTOR EXAMINATION®

The Buros Center for Testing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln recently conferred upon the Examination Board of Professional Home Inspectors (EBPHI) accreditation of its National Home Inspector Examination® (NHIE).

The Buros audit program provides evaluations of the psychometric quality of proprietary testing programs. The full two-stage program includes a general audit of processes and procedures employed by the testing program and a focused evaluation of specific tests within the testing program. EBPHI has achieved both Stage One and Stage Two Accreditation.

STAGE ONE

In 2019, EBPHI was awarded Stage One Accreditation for its National Home Inspector Examination. Stage One is based on a thorough review of the testing program itself.

In the notification letter to EBPHI, Kurt F. Geisinger, Ph.D., Director, Buros Center for Testing, wrote *“We not only find that you meet our standards for Stage One*

Accreditation, but we also find that you are thoroughly, competently, and appropriately meeting the mission of the EBPHI, and therefore, the needs of the public, who require protection from the hands of the individuals not appropriately qualified to practice in the realm of home inspection". He went on write "The primary purpose of the test you develop, administer, and use in the protection of the public is clear and implicit in all the work that you are doing. We believe that states that employ the NHIE are being very well served."

STAGE TWO

In 2020, EBPHI was awarded Stage Two Accreditation for its National Home Inspector Examination. Stage Two Accreditation is a complement to Stage One Accreditation and is based on a review of data resulting from tests administered by the testing program within an annual testing cycle. Stage Two typically focuses on individual test forms and involves a review of test-form-specific psychometric information. For the National Home Inspector Examination, the psychometric properties of items and exams administered in the 2019 calendar year were evaluated. Review Elements for the Stage Two Accreditation of the National Home Inspector Examination included: exam specification adherence and QA, administration records, examinee performance, exam score reliability, equating, item statistics, item drift, item exposure, and maintenance actions.

Regarding the Stage Two evaluation, Carina M. McCormick, Ph.D., Research Associate, Buros Center for Testing, especially noted that the test has very high reliability associated with the scores, well surpassing what many psychometricians consider minimum requirements for high stakes testing. She wrote, “Our rigorous evaluation included review of 10 elements...No elements received a rating of Not Met, indicating quality across the elements of the program. This is indeed an accomplishment of which EBPHI may be proud.”

A Buros audit offers proprietary testing programs an opportunity to have an independent agency review their policies and procedures to ensure they are maintaining a standard of quality as measured by the testing industry. The Buros audit review is based on the extent to which the testing program demonstrates meeting the Buros *Standards for Accreditation of Testing Programs*, which have been updated to reflect current guidelines from the testing community. In particular, the Buros *Standards for Accreditation of Testing Programs* are highly consistent with the 2014 *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, jointly published by the American Educational Research Association (AERA), the American Psychological Association (APA), and the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME).

At the end of each phase of the audit, Buros provided EBPHI with record of adherence to these standards. After being awarded accreditation from Buros, testing programs can promote their commitment to quality as evidenced by this comprehensive external review and can market their testing programs as meeting accepted testing standards.

The Examination Board of Professional Home Inspectors is a 501(c)(6) not for profit organization, established in 1999, whose mission is “to develop and maintain high-stakes examinations for the real estate inspection profession and to advocate for high standards for the profession”. EBPHI is governed by a 12-member volunteer Board of Directors. Currently, the NHIE is accepted in 35 states as a requirement for home inspection licensure.

For more information, please visit <https://nationalhomeinspectorexam.org/> or contact Dee Kring, CAE, CMP, Executive Director at dkring@executiveoffice.org or call 847-298-7750.