



Past Event: 2021 NCSBN REx-PN Conference - Q&A Session 1 Video Transcript

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Event

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More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/16034.htm>

Presenters

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- [Jason] Hello, everyone. I hope you've enjoyed the presentation so far. I'm Jason Schwartz, Director of Outreach at NCSBN and I'll be the host for today's Q&A sessions. Before we take a look at the questions you've contributed through the online platform, I have three brief announcements to share.

First, the brand new REx-PN website is here. Head rexpn.com to find the most current, accurate information about the exam. We'll drop a link into the chat for you. Check it out, and be sure to share it with your students as well. Second, NCSBN is actively recruiting for item writing and item review committees. This is a great way to contribute to the profession, network with colleagues, and build new skills.

We'll drop a link there as well for you in the chat. Sign up and also feel free to share the link with others who may be interested. Finally, if you have colleagues who were unable to attend today's conference, we will be posting recordings of all the sessions for future viewing. Check back soon.

With that, on to our Q&A. Our first question is for Hong. Hong, can you clarify if all of the standard-setting judges are nurses from Ontario and BC?

- [Hong] Thank you very much Jason for the question. The answer is yes. All the judges of standard-setting are the nurses from Ontario and BC. For the ones we just had in June 2021, we have 12 judges, and all of them are nurses from these two provinces.

Some of them are LPN, some of them are RPN, some of them are RN, some of them are educators, some of them are clinicians, and some of them are newly licensed LPN themselves. So the answer is, yes, all the judges for standard-setting are the nurses from these two provinces.

- Thanks, Jason. In order for the exam to be ready to launch in 2022, we did perform the practice analysis in 2019.

- Thank you very much, Aly. And a follow-up on the practice analysis, did it encompass any nursing specialties?

- Great question. So in short, yes, it does cover nursing specialties. As far as the panel, the practice analysis panel, any of the nurses that represent various practice settings in, you know, various areas, in BC and Ontario, as well as the practice analysis that is sent out to survey those nurses, whatever practice setting they would be working, that would be reflected in the actual data that comes back from the practice analysis survey.

- Okay, thank you, Aly. Hong, a question for you. Besides multiple choice, what other item types would candidates see on the REx-PN?

- Thank you, Jason. Great question. So majority of questions will be multiple-choice items, which only have one key but besides that, we also have multiple response items, which means there are more than one keys. And if you didn't get all keys correct, you got it wrong.

So in order to get a four point or one point, you need to get all correct for multiple response items. And you will also see calculation item, we call it fill-in-blank calculation. As Jacklyn mentioned, you will be able to access the calculator. So that's another type of items.

In terms of how many MC or MR or fill-in-blank items you will get, it will be varied between different candidates, because you know, CAT will administer different items to different candidates. So all the item type you will see from exam will be multiple-choice item, multiple response item, and fill-in-blank calculation items.

And please be note, sometimes those items will have graphics or exhibits.

- Thank you, Hong. A follow-up question there. Is there a particular amount of time that candidates should spend on each of these item types?

- Great question. Well, you know that the total time for Rex-PN is four hours, but we don't have any

- Okay. Hong, I think we may not have had your full audio but I believe your answer was yes, they will see the number.

- Yes.

- Okay. Thank you. Jacklyn, a question for you. When can candidates begin to register for the exam?

- Oh, registration opens December 1st of this year. While the exam will be launched in January, candidates can start the registration process as early as December 1st, 2021.

- Thank you. And Jacklyn, while I have you, is there any residency requirement to register for the exam? For example, will international candidates be able to take the REx-PN?

- It's a great question. So candidates who would like to take the REx-PN do need to be made eligible by either CNO or BCCNM. So my recommendation would be if any international candidates would like to take the REx-PN, they should first contact either CNO or BCCNM to determine eligibility requirements.

That would be my recommendation for internationally testing candidate.

- Jacklyn, more for you. When candidates register for REx-PN are they able to choose the date or is it just provided to them by the system?

- Another great question. So when candidates register to take the REx-PN, they, like I mentioned, they do need to be made eligible. And candidates will be given an authorization to test period, also known as that eligibility period window. So they would have to be able to schedule their appointment within the window frame that their nursing regulatory body determined during that eligibility period.

- Thank you, Jacklyn. Hong, I have a bit of a technical question for you. Does the CAT algorithm begin estimating candidate ability on the 60th item or does it start sooner than that?

- Thank you very much, Jason. Actually, this question will be answered in afternoon session when Shu-chuan has session on Computerized Adaptive Testing. Just give a short answer here is that the computer will recalculate your ability after each item. But when the computer compare your ability to the standard come out starts at 60th operational items.

So the computer will always estimate your ability towards start compared to a standard starting from 60th operational item.

- Thank you, Hong. Jacklyn, I've got another question for you. If candidates want to make notes during the exam, will they have something like an onscreen note pad that they can do that on?

- That's a good question. So candidates are provided an erasable note board when they are at the testing center. So they can have a note board. It's like a dry erase note board with them throughout the exam. It's not on screen. It's actually a pen and a paper.

- Thank you. And Aly, I'm going to route this question to you but it may also be for Jacklyn. Are there any study materials or resource materials that candidates can have access to during testing?

- Great question, Jason. So candidates that are preparing for the exam can find several resources in the REx-PN Resource area on our website. And these resources include the test plan, and a REx-PN practice exam is also available.

- Okay, thank you. And then I probably should have clarified a

developed, it is in English or in French so when the candidates do take it in French, it will be solely in French.

- Yeah. Thank you, Jacklyn. That's right. It was whether students writing in French could toggle to see the English version so I think you've answered that. Hong, I think you may have answered this but just to clarify, are candidates taking the CAT exam able to go backwards and forwards across the items in the exam, or can they only proceed forward?

- Thank you, Jason. The answer is no. You cannot go back and forth. You have to answer each item in order to proceed.

- Okay, thank you. Jacklyn, a question related to accommodations. Is there an ability for some candidates to receive extra time or other testing accommodations that they might require for testing?

- The short answer is yes, of course. This afternoon, I do do a presentation over testing accommodations. So more details will be discussed during that and candidates will be offered testing accommodations. The process, in short, is to request those from the nursing regulatory body. That gets reviewed by CNO or BCCNM and then approved for testing.

Just to spoiler for this presentation this afternoon. The most frequently requested would be extra time or a separate room.

- Thank you, Jacklyn. And Jacklyn, for a candidate who wishes to take the French version of the exam, is that a simple step during the registration process? How do they make that preference known?

- Yes, absolutely. So when candidates wish to write their REx-PN in French, they'll simply register with

those questions forward. Jacklyn, the question for you, is the number of testing centers being increased to accommodate this new exam?

- Well, that's a great question too. So what we have during graduation season is what we call peak season for testing season. And while the physical number of testing centers does not increase, the hours in which they operate do, so that way we can fulfill the need of incoming students during what we call again, peak season or graduation season in the springtime.

- Jacklyn, thank you. So with that, I'd like to close out our first Q&A session. [Inaudible] about a 15-minute break. 35 minutes after the hour, we'll resume the conference. Thank you very much.