



OBTAINING YOUR CRNE RESULTS

This bulletin is the sixth of a series to keep you informed of issues related to the CRNE. It provides information on the steps involved for the preparation of exam results.

Congratulations! You did it! You wrote the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE)!

You are probably asking yourself what happens now. For the next 8-12 weeks, CNA staff, its testing company Assessment Strategies Inc. (ASI), and the provincial and territorial regulatory authorities will be busy preparing for the results mail-out. We have outlined the many steps involved in preparing the exam results to help you better understand the process.

June 2005 marked the launch of the new exam format with both multiple-choice and short-answer questions. To accommodate the additional steps involved in marking the short-answer questions, more time has been allotted to preparing the results.

1) RECEIVING AND SORTING EXAMS

- The day after the exam, ASI staff will begin receiving boxes of exam materials from many writing centres across Canada. It can sometimes take up to seven days for ASI to receive these materials, depending on the point of departure.
- Once received, all exam materials must be sorted, which includes verifying the number of exam books and answer sheets. The time allotted to this process must also allow for any required followup action.

2) MARKING EXAMS AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF EXAM QUESTIONS


- This period is used for marking the exams. The multiple-choice questions on the exam are computer scored. In contrast, the short-answer component (15-25 per cent of the exam) is marked by content experts brought in to Ottawa from across Canada. Working in teams, they use a scoring key to mark each question. *Each question* is statistically analysed to determine its suitability for use in calculating the total score. Questions with poor statistics are not included in the exam results. Keep in mind that because of the high volume of candidates who write the exam, there are a lot of exams to mark.



- Next, the pass mark is input into the computer system. The examination committee for the CRNE rates each question based on the expected performance of an entry-level registered nurse. While rating the questions, the examination committee also considers a variety of factors to ensure that the standard required of candidates on the CRNE is valid and fair. These factors may include information on the preparation of new graduates, data on the performance of candidates on previous administrations of the CRNE and pertinent research findings. This work helps determine the pass mark. The pass mark is therefore not dependant on the performance of the group of candidates writing the exam.
- Your results on the multiple-choice questions and the short-answer questions are combined for a total score on the exam. A pass or fail result is determined by comparing your score to the established examination standard (pass mark). If your score is higher than or equal to the standard, you will be assigned a pass result; if your score is lower than the standard, you will be assigned a fail result.
- Please see CRNE Bulletin #5 entitled *CRNE Standard Setting and Scoring*, available from CNA's website (www.cna-aicc.ca), for more information on the pass mark.

3) MAILING OUT EXAM RESULTS

- The next weeks are extremely busy in preparation for the results mail-out. Your pass or fail result will be sent to your provincial or territorial regulatory authority within 8-12 weeks of the examination date. The regulatory authority will then mail your result to you; how long it takes for you to receive your result from the regulatory authority varies, depending on the jurisdiction. Questions regarding receipt of results should be directed to your provincial or territorial regulatory authority. Also, please remember to contact your provincial or territorial regulatory authority should you have a change of name and/or address.



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For more information mail, fax or e-mail:

Canadian Nurses Association

50 Driveway

Ottawa ON Canada K2P 1E2

Telephone: 1-800-361-8404 or (613) 237-2133

Fax: (613) 237-3520

E-mail: info@cna-aicc.ca

Website: www.cna-aicc.ca