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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

Effective January 1, 2020: NIC now requires ALL candidates who sit for any NIC practical examination to use only viricidal, bactericidal and fungicidal disinfecting WIPES. Spray disinfectant is no longer allowed in the testing rooms and will be confiscated. Candidates may remove wipes from a larger container and place in a closable plastic bag, copy and apply to the outside of the bag the appropriate manufacturers label and utilize in the examination with no issues. This change is in effect now.

TATTOOING EXAMINATION CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Please refer to our website to check for the most updated information at www.psiexams.com

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EXAMINATIONS BY PSI SERVICES LLC

This Candidate Information Bulletin provides information about the examination and application process for becoming licensed as cosmetologists in the State of Virginia. The Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (Department) has contracted with PSI LLC (PSI) to conduct its examinations.

STATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive a Tattooing license in the Commonwealth of Virginia, you must pass a NIC **Theory** examination within one year of the date of your first examination. You must meet **ONE** of the following requirements:

1. Completion of an approved tattooing apprenticeship program in a Virginia licensed tattoo parlor. ***Required Documentation: Completed Apprenticeship Completion Form, which you can download from PSI's website, complete as directed and upload to your PSI account.***
2. Completion of a tattooing training program in a Virginia licensed school of tattooing. ***Required Documentation: Upload to your PSI account your diploma or official school transcript indicating successful completion of the training program.***
3. Completion of a substantially equivalent tattoo training or apprenticeship program (consisting of a minimum of 1500 hours) **and** five hours of board approved health education (including, but not limited to blood borne disease, sterilization and aseptic techniques related to tattooing and first aid and CPR). Both training and education must be obtained outside the Commonwealth of Virginia, but within the United States and its territories. ***Required Documentation: Upload to your PSI account your diploma or official school transcript indicating successful completion of the 1500 hours of training or apprenticeship program or written verification from the Licensing Board in the state where the 1500 hours of training were received and documentation verifying successful completion of the required health education. The original form verifying apprenticeship completion must be mailed directly to PSI. Copies will not be accepted.***
4. Completion of a substantially equivalent tattoo training or apprenticeship program (consisting of less than 1500 hours of training) **and** five hours of board approved health education (including, but not limited to blood borne disease, sterilization and aseptic techniques related to tattooing and first aid and CPR). Both training and education must be obtained outside the Commonwealth of Virginia, but within the United States and its territories. ***Required Documentation: Upload to your PSI account a certificate, diploma or other documentation verifying successful completion of the training or apprenticeship and documentation verifying successful completion of the required health education. The original form verifying apprenticeship completion must be*** **mailed directly to PSI. Copies will not be accepted.**
5. Three years of tattooing work experience within the previous five years **and** five hours of board approved health education (including, but not limited to blood borne disease, sterilization and aseptic techniques related to body-piercing and first aid and CPR). Both work experience and education must be obtained outside the Commonwealth of Virginia, but within the United States and its territories. ***Required Documentation: Upload to your PSI account a completed Training & Experience Verification Form and documentation verifying successful completion of required health education.***
6. Previously licensed in Virginia by examination and past the reinstatement period (two years or more since your previous license expired). ***Required Documentation: PSI will obtain verification from the Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology.***

TEMPORARY PERMITS

If you are requesting the Board to issue a Temporary Permit on your behalf, you must properly complete your application with the required sponsorship information and signatures in place. Once your application has been reviewed and approved, the request for a permit will be processed and forwarded to the Board for final approval and permit issuance. You can expect the temporary permit to be issued approximately five days following approval to take the exam. Temporary Permits are issued only once and are valid for 45 days following the date of your initial examination.

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

Any Candidate who has a conviction must indicate this on their application and submit a Criminal Conviction Reporting Form and a State Police Report requested within the last 3 months by uploading to their home page. Convictions adjudicated as a minor in the juvenile court system do not need to be reported on the application.

Individuals with criminal convictions are required to submit a Virginia State Police Criminal History Report and a criminal conviction reporting form (which you can download from the forms section on PSI's website). The report must include all pages (including the cover sheet) and contain a red stamp. The report may be uploaded to your PSI account if it is in color, to depict the red stamp.

EXPIRED LICENSE

How to Reinstate an Expired License

1. If your license has been expired for less than two years, contact the Board at (804) 367-8509.
2. If your license has been expired for more than two years, apply directly with PSI and follow the prompts. You will be required to take both the current theory and practical examinations again.

ENDORSEMENT LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

If you hold a license in a state other than Virginia, contact the Board at (804) 367-8509.

EXAMINATION ELIGIBILTY REQUIREMENTS

Become eligible to take the examination:

Complete the *Licensure by Examination Application* online at vacos.useclarus.com**.** NOTE: The on-line system allows for the uploading of documents such as the Training and Experience Verification Form, proof of identification, and any supporting documentation required to complete the application. Payment for the on-line application is required to be made in the form of a credit/debit card.

If you are unable to submit your application online, you may mail the completed application, including all required documents to:

PSI/Virginia Barber Cosmetology Program
PO Box 887
Wheat Ridge, CO 80034
www.psiexams.com
vacos@psionline.com
va.cos.brighttrac.com
(855) 229-9302

- Within 5 calendar days of the application received date, you will be notified, via email, that your application has been approved or that your application is deficient (specifying the outstanding requirements).
- Upon approval, PSI will email a confirmation notice. You will then be responsible for contacting PSI to pay and schedule for the examination.
- You must pass both a NIC Theory and Practical (if applicable) examination within one year of the initial examination date.
- If you fail the examination, you may retest an unlimited number of times during the one (1) year eligibility period.
- Applications are valid for one (1) year and you must submit a new application and fee if you have failed to pass both portions of the examination. You will need to retake the entire examination including any previously passed parts.

  NOTE: All fees are **non-refundable** and **non-transferable.**

FIRST TIME CANDIDATES

Application Requirements

As a part of the application, the following items must be uploaded to your account with PSI:

- A current 2” x 2” passport color photo taken within the last six months to reflect your current appearance. It must be sized so that your head is approximately 1 inch from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head. It must be taken in front of a plain, white background and be a full-face view, directly facing the camera with a neutral facial expression. Selfies are not accepted. If these requirements are not met, you will receive notification that you need to submit a new photo and your application will remain incomplete until the photo meets the requirements.
- Any required documents that coincide with your method of applying for Licensure (i.e. Virginia education requires Training and Experience and Verification form).
- Criminal history (if applicable).
- A copy of Social Security Card or VA DMV Photo ID (Driver’s License). Please upload the document that matches what you provided on the DPOR application.
- Examination Agreement Form: Please select a practical location and sign the Informed Consent and Waiver Agreement section. Once completed, please upload this Agreement to your account. This form can be found under Virginia’s Forms section online.

If you are not approved because of an incomplete application, discrepancies, missing documentation, including signatures, you will be contacted by PSI and your application will be pending until you make the necessary and requested corrections.

Should any document listed above be under a different name than the name provided on your application, legal documentation of name change (i.e. marriage certificate, divorce decree, petition for name change) must be uploaded to your PSI account.

EXAMINATION SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

Once you are approved by the Department, you will receive an email confirmation from PSI. It is your responsibility to contact PSI to pay and schedule for the examination.

EXAMINATION FE ES

Practical Examination	**$86**
Theory Examination	**$86**
Practical Examination (Retake)	**$86**
Theory Examination (Retake)	**$86**

NOTE: EXAMINATION FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE. THE EXAMINATION FEE IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PAYMENT.

ON-LINE (WWW.PSIEXAMS.COM)

For the fastest and most convenient test scheduling process, it is recommended that candidates register for the exams using the Internet. Candidates register online by accessing PSI's registration website at www.psiexams.com. Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.

- Candidates will need to Log onto PSI's website and create an account. Email address and first and last name are required. The information provided must match exactly with the information PSI has on file. For candidates that may have registered before, **check the box next to** "*Check here to attempt to locate existing records for you in the system*".
- Candidates will be asked to select the examination and enter their PSI ID# which is included in the authorization to test email that is sent by PSI once the application is determined to be complete. The record will be found and the candidate will now be ready to pay for and schedule the exam. Candidates will enter their zip code and a list of the testing sites closest to the zip code entered will appear. The candidate will select the desired test site and available dates will appear. For issues with scheduling contact PSI at (833) 310-6427 for help.

TELEPHONE (833-310-6427)

For telephone registration, you will need a valid credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). PSI registrars are available Monday through Friday between 7:30 am and 10:00 pm, and Saturday-Sunday between 9:00 am and 5:30 pm, Eastern Time.

RESCHEDULING/CANCELING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your *cancellation notice is received 2 days before the scheduled examination date*. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on the previous Saturday. You may call PSI at (833) 310-6427.

Note: A voicemail or email message is not an acceptable form of cancellation. Please use the PSI Website or call PSI to speak directly to a Customer Service Representative.

RETAKING A FAILED EXAMINATION

It is not possible to make a new examination appointment on the same day you have taken an examination; this is due to processing and reporting results. A candidate who tests unsuccessfully on a Wednesday can call the next day, Thursday, and retest as soon as Friday, depending upon space availability. You may access a registration form at www.psiexams.com. You may also call PSI at ((833) 310-6427.

MISSED APPOINTMENT OR LATE CANCELLATION

If you miss your appointment, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled. Further you will forfeit your examination fee, if you:

- Do not cancel your appointment 2 days before the scheduled examination date;
- Do not appear for your examination appointment;
- Are not checked in by your scheduled start time;
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS

All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and reasonable accommodations may be made in meeting a candidate's testing needs. Candidates with disabilities or those who require reasonable and appropriate testing accommodations are not guaranteed improved performance or test completion.

Applicants with disabilities or those who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination should request for alternative arrangements by Clicking Here.

Requirements for exam accommodation requests:

You are required to submit documentation from the medical authority or learning institution that rendered a diagnosis. Verification must be uploaded to PSI on the letterhead stationery of the authority or specialist and include the following:

- Description of the disability and limitations related to testing
- Recommended accommodation/modification
- Name, title and telephone number of the medical authority or specialist
- Original signature of the medical authority or specialist

If you are requesting the following, please select Other.

- ❒ ESL Accommodation (If English is not your primary language and you are taking the English version of the examination), you may qualify for additional time for your test by requesting an ESL authorization from PSI, specifically time and a half. Please include:
  - A personal letter requesting the authorization; and
  - A letter from your English instructor or sponsoring company (on company letterhead), certifying that English is not your primary language.

EXAMINATION SITE CLOSING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. PSI personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. However, you may check the status of your examination schedule by calling (833) 310-6427. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible. You may also check our website at www.psiexams.com.

THEORY EXAMINATION SITE LOCATIONS

Following are the examination centers where you may take the Virginia licensing examinations. Virginia candidates can only test at the examination centers listed below. They are not allowed to test out-of-state.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
205 S. Whiting St
The Landmark Building, Suite 608
Alexandria, VA 22304
The Brainseed Testing Center is located at 205 S. Whiting Street, Suite 608 (6th floor), Alexandria, VA 22304. The Center is located within The Landmark Building and is easily accessible from I-395. From the North or South, take Exit #3A (Duke/Landmark. Take a right on S. Walker, right on Stevenson Avenue and a left on to S. Whiting Street. Free parking is available above ground and in the underground parking garage.

From the East, take the Capital Beltway (I-95 South) to I-395 North. Take a right on S. Walker, right on Steven Avenue and a left on to S. Whiting Street. Free parking is available above ground and in the underground parking garage. Call 703-825-3036 if location assistance is needed.

ASHBURN AREA
44075 Pipeline Plaza No. 115
Ashburn, VA 20147
Directions from Dulles Airport:Take Route 28 North. Take the VA-625 W ramp to Pacific Blvd. South/Ashburn Continue straight on Farmwell Rd for 3/4 miles. Turn Left onto Pipeline Plaza, Located just before PNC Bank, Before Intersection of Ashburn Village Blvd & Farmwell Rd.

Directions from Rt 28. From Rt 28 go towards CARMAX / WEGMANS Take the VA-625 W ramp to Waxpool Road, Pacific Blvd South/Ashburn Continue on Farmwell Rd Arrive at Ashburn Village Blvd & Farmwell Rd Turn Left onto Pipeline Plaza. Next to PNC Bank.

CHARLOTTESVILLE
2114 Angus Road, Suite #105-B
Charlottesville, VA 22901
If going West on US-250, turn right onto US-29N/N Emmet St. Continue on Emmet Street and turn left on Angus Rd.
If going East on US-250, turn left onto US-29N/N Emmet St. Continue on Emmet Street and turn left on Angus Rd.

FREDERICKSBURG AREA
2217 Princess Anne Street, Suite 105-11
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
From Richmond: 95S exit 130A, SR-3E 1.5 miles, turn right on US-1N. Go 1.7 miles, turn right on Princess Anne St., go 0.3 miles. Turn left into General Washington Executive Center across from Carl's Ice Cream. From Washington DC: 95S exit 133A toward Falmouth. Go approximately 2 miles, turn right on Route 1S. Go over bridge and turn left on Princess Anne St., go 0.3 miles. Turn left into General Washington Executive Center, across from Carl's Ice Cream.

HARRISONBURG AREA
2322 Blue Stone Hills Drive, Suite 280
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Chestnut Ridge Road and then take the first right on to Blue Stone Hills Drive. The Center is the second building on the right.

HERNDON AREA
205 Van Buren St., Ste 140
Herndon, VA 20170
Start on Saarinen Cir toward Dulles Access Rd. Merge onto VA-267 E/Dulles Access Toll Rd toward Herndon/Chantilly/Fairfax Co Pkwy. Take exit, EXIT 10, toward Herndon/Chantilly. Turn left onto VA-228/Centreville Rd. Continue to follow VA-228. Turn right onto Herndon Pkwy. Turn right onto Van Buren St.

NORFOLK AREA
861 Glenrock Rd., Ste 105
Norfolk, VA 23502
Take Ramp onto US-13 (North Military Hwy)-0.6 miles and then Turn RIGHT (East) onto Poplar Hall Dr-0.5 miles, then turn left (North) onto Glenrock Rd-(drive approx.1/2 block)-0.1 miles. Arrive-Circle East Building on left at Mall (Parking) Entrance. When you come into the lobby, take the first hallway to the right, first door on the right.

RICHMOND
Moorefield VI Building
620 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 205
Richmond, VA 23236
From I-64E, take the Parham Rd exit and turn right. N Parham Rd/VA-73 S becomes VA-150 S/Chippenham Pkwy. Merge onto VA-76 S/Powhite Pkwy. Merge onto Midlothian Turnpike West. Turn left on Moorefield Park Dr.

ROANOKE AREA
5115 Bernard Dr, Suite 104
Roanoke, VA 24018
From VA-419 – Head southeast on VA-419 towards Springwood Park Dr. Turn right onto Bernard Dr. The office will be on the left. If you reach Penn Forest Blvd, you've gone too far. When you come into the main entrance, take the stairs or elevator down to the first floor.
From US-220 S – Take ramp right for US-220BR/VA-419 North toward Salem. Turn right onto VA-419N/Electric Road. Bear left onto Bernard Dr. The office will be on the left. If you reach Penn Forest Blvd, you've gone too far. When you come into the main entrance, take the stairs or elevator down to the first floor.

VIENNA AREA
1919 Gallows Rd, Suite 360
Vienna, VA 22182
From I-495 S – Take exit 47 A-B to merge onto VA-7 W/Leesburg Pike towards Tyson's Corner. Use the left lane to turn left onto Gallows Rd. Turn left at the first cross street onto Boone Blvd. The complex will be your right. The building where the test center is located is on the left side of the circle drive. Take the elevator to the third floor. The test center is in suite 360.

Surface and garage parking is available on site. The first hour is free. It is $4 for 1-2 hours and $6 for anything above that. Parking will be validated. Please give yourself extra time to park when arriving to take your exam.

VIRGINIA BEACH
484 Viking Dr, Suite 105
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
From I-264E – take exit 19A for Lynnhaven Pkwy S. Merge onto Lynnhaven Pkwy S. In about ½ mile turn right onto Viking Dr. The office is in the second building on the right.

From VA-615/Princess Anne Rd going north – turn left onto Seaboard Plaza. In about 2.5 miles turn left onto VA-149/Princess Anne Rd. In 1 mile, turn right onto VA-410/Holland Rd. In about 4 miles, turn right onto VA-414N/Lynnhaven Pkwy. In roughly 2.5 miles, turn left onto Viking Dr. The office is in the second building on the right.

Suite 105 is located on the first floor. For easiest access, park on the left side of the lot. If you enter on the south side entrance (this would be the entrance on the left side of the building when looking straight at the building), the PSI test center will be the first door on your left once you walk in.

PRACTICAL EXAMINATION SITE LOCATIONS

CHESAPEAKE
Hampton Inn & Suites
1421 North Battlefield Blvd
Chesapeake, VA 23320
Follow I-95 S and I-64 E to Chesapeake. Take exit 290A-290B from I-64 E. Merge onto N Battlefield Blvd. Make a U-turn at Volvo Pkwy. Turn right onto Coastal Way, then turn left.

SPRINGFIELD
Comfort Inn
6560 Loisdale Court
Springfield, VA 22150
Head south on VA-617 S / Amherst Ave toward Cumberland Ave. Turn left onto VA-789 / Commerce St. Keep straight onto Loisdale Rd.

RICHMOND
Homewood Suites
5996 Audubon Dr
Sandston, VA 23150
Follow I-64 W to VA-156 N/S Airport Dr in Varina. Take exit 197B from I-64 W. Turn right onto VA-156 N/S Airport Dr. Make a U-turn at Eastpark Ct. Turn left onto Audubon Dr.

LYNCHBURG
Hampton Inn & Suites
3600 Liberty Mountain Dr
Lynchburg, VA 24502
Follow US-29 S toward Danville. Turn left onto Liberty Mountain Dr.

ROANOKE
Hampton Inn & Suites
5033 Valley View Blvd
Roanoke, VA 24001
Follow I-581 S/US-220 S. Take exit 3E for VA-101 E/Hershberger Rd toward Airport. Merge onto VA-101 E/Hershberger Rd NW. Turn right onto Valley View Blvd NW, then left, then turn right.

REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION SITE

On the day of the examination, you should arrive at least 30 minutes before your appointment. This extra time is for sign-in, identification, and familiarizing you with the examination process. *If you arrive late, you may not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination registration fee.*

For security and identification purposes, all candidates will have their fingerprint taken during the examination check-in.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AT EXAMINATION SITE

You must provide 2 forms of VALID (not expired) identification. One must be a VALID form of government-issued identification (Driver's License, State ID, Passport, Military ID) which bears your signature and has your photograph. The second ID must have your signature and preprinted legal name. **All identification provided must match the legal name that you registered under to take the examination. If the name in the PSI system does not match the name on your government-issued ID and 2nd form of ID, you will not be permitted to take the examination and the examination fee will be forfeited.**

SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following security procedures apply during examinations:

- Word-for-word translation dictionaries are not allowed.
- Calculators are not allowed.
- All personal belongings of candidates should be placed in the secure storage provided at each site prior to entering the examination room. Personal belongings **include**, **but are not limited to**, the following items:
  - **Electronic devices of any type, including cellular / mobile phones, recording devices, electronic watches, cameras, pagers, laptop computers, tablet computers (e.g., iPads), music players (e.g., iPods), smart watches, radios, or electronic games.**
  - **Bulky or loose clothing or coats** that could be used to conceal recording devices or notes. For security purposes outerwear such as, but not limited to: open sweaters, cardigans, shawls, scarves, hoodies, vests, jackets and coats are not permitted in the testing room. **In the event you are asked to remove the outerwear, appropriate attire, such as a shirt or blouse should be worn underneath.**
  - **Hats or headgear not worn for religious reasons** or as religious apparel, including hats, baseball caps, or visors.
  - **Other personal items**, including purses, notebooks, reference or reading material, briefcases, backpacks, wallets, pens, pencils, other writing devices, food, drinks, and good luck items.
- Although secure storage for personal items is provided at the examination site for your convenience, PSI is not responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of any personal belongings or prohibited items brought to, stored at, or left behind at the examination site. PSI assumes no duty of care with respect to such items and makes no representation that the secure storage provided will be effective in protecting such items. If you leave any items at the examination site after your examination and do not claim them within 30 days, they will be disposed of or donated, at PSI's sole discretion.
- Person(s) accompanying an examination candidate may not wait in the examination center, inside the building or on the building's property. This applies to guests of any nature, including drivers, children, friends, family, colleagues or instructors.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- During the check in process, all candidates will be asked if they possess any prohibited items. Candidates may also be asked to empty their pockets and turn them out for the proctor to ensure they are empty. The proctor may also ask candidates to lift up the ends of their sleeves and the bottoms of their pant legs to ensure that notes or recording devices are not being hidden there.
- Proctors will also carefully inspect eyeglass frames, tie tacks, or any other apparel that could be used to harbor a recording device. Proctors will ask to inspect any such items in candidates' pockets.
- If prohibited items are found during check-in, candidates shall put them in the provided secure storage or return these items to their vehicle. PSI will not be responsible for the security of any personal belongings or prohibited items.
- Any candidate possessing prohibited items in the examination room shall immediately have his or her test results invalidated, and PSI shall notify the examination sponsor of the occurrence.
- Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance on an examination, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulations will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination center. All such instances will be reported to the examination sponsor.
- Once candidates have been seated and the examination begins, they may leave the examination room only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. Candidate will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

TAKING THE THEORY EXAMINATION (COMPUTER BASED)

The examination will be administered via computer. You will be using a mouse and computer keyboard.

IDENTIFICATION SCREEN

You will be directed to a semiprivate testing station to take the examination. When you are seated at the testing station, you will be prompted to confirm your name, identification number, and the examination for which you are registered.

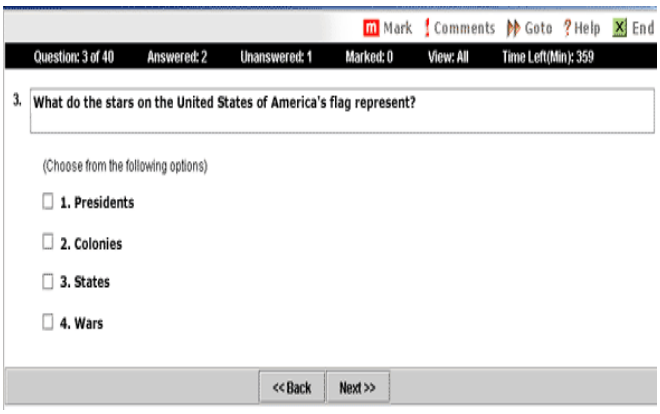
TUTORIAL

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial is provided on the computer screen. The time you spend on this tutorial, up to 15 minutes, DOES NOT count as part of your examination time. Sample questions are included following the tutorial so that you may practice answering questions, and reviewing your answers.

TEST QUESTION SCREEN

The "function bar" at the top of the test question provides mouse-click access to the features available while taking the examination.

One question appears on the screen at a time. During the examination, minutes remaining will be displayed at the top of the screen and updated as you record your answers.



IMPORTANT: After you have entered your responses, you will later be able to return to any question(s) and change your response, provided the examination time has not run out.

EXAMINATION REVIEW

While taking the theory examination, examinees will have the opportunity to provide comments on any questions. Comments may be entered by clicking the Comments link of the function bar of the test question screen.

These comments will be analyzed by PSI examination development staff. PSI does not respond to individuals regarding these comments, all substantive comments are reviewed. **This is the only review of examination materials available to candidates.**

SCORE REPORTING

Examination results for both theory and practical are provided to you immediately following completion of the examination. The minimum score required to pass both the theory and practical examination is 75. When you complete the examination, you will receive a score report indicating "FAIL" or "PASS".

DUPLICATE SCORE REPORTS

You may request a duplicate score report after completing the examination by emailing scorereport@psionline.com or by calling (833) 310-6427.

PREPARATION TIPS FOR THE THEORY EXAMINATION

The following suggestions will help you prepare for the examination.

- Planned preparation increases your likelihood of passing.
- Start with a current copy of this Candidate Information Bulletin and use the examination content outline as your starting point.
- Take notes on what you study. Putting information in writing helps you commit it to memory and it is also an excellent business practice. Underline or highlight key ideas that will help with a later review.
- Discuss new terms or concepts as frequently as you can with colleagues. This will test your understanding and reinforce ideas.
- Your studies will be most effective if you study frequently, for periods of about 45 to 60 minutes. Concentration tends to wander when you study for longer periods of time.

EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

PRACTICAL EXAMINATION DRESS CODE

You should dress professionally, as you would when you are working in a shop. You are not allowed to have your name, your school name, or a shop name on your professional attire or kit.

THEORY EXAMINATION

The Virginia NIC Theory Examination includes Virginia State Laws and Regulations.

- 10 Virginia State questions are included within the Virginia NIC Theory Examination.

The reference for these questions are found in the Virginia Board for Barbers & Cosmetology Regulations: http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/BarberCosmo/. Click on the "Laws and Regulations" tab. Following is the correct regulation for each profession.

- Cosmetology, Barber, Nail Tech, Wax Tech - 18 VAC 41-20
- Esthetician, Master Esthetician - 18 VAC 41-70
- Tattooer, Permanent Cosmetic Tattooer (PCT), Master PCT - 18 VAC 41-50
- Body Piercing - 18 VAC 41-60

Please note that the Virginia State Law questions are only provided in English.

NIC EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINES

Please see the following NIC Content Outline pages with details on what you will be tested on for both your theory and practical examinations, a checklist of items that will be needed for your practical examination, and references used for both examinations.

NATIONAL TATTOOING
THEORY EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN (CIB)

EXAMINATION CONTENT AND IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

Please visit your examination provider's website for the most current bulletin prior to testing.

The National Tattooing Theory Examination is the licensure examination for Tattooing practitioners, which is developed by the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC). This bulletin contains IMPORTANT INFORMATION regarding the examination, including content outline covered by the theory examination, sample questions and answers. The time allowed for the Tattooing Theory Examination is 90 minutes.

For each NIC National Theory Examination, there are TWO (2) parts to every Candidate Information Bulletin (CIB) stored as separate documents:

- ***Examination Content*** and ***Important Instructions*** – This document provides information about the scope of content covered in the Theory examination and information and guidelines related to administration of the Theory examination.
- ***References – This document provides a list of references used to develop and support the content covered in the examination.***

BE CERTAIN TO DOWNLOAD AND/OR PRINT, AND REVIEW BOTH DOCUMENTS THAT MAKE UP THE NIC EXAMINATION CIB.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CAREFULLY!

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Do not leave the examination area without permission. Permission must be obtained to leave the examination area for any reason, including restroom usage or at the completion of the examination. Picture ID is required for re-entry into examination.
- With the exception of verbal instructions, the proctors and examination administration personnel are not allowed to communicate with candidates.
- If you have an emergency situation please notify the proctor.
- The following provides examples of materials and actions that are prohibited during the examination administration:
    - Possession of cellular phones, pagers, tablets, computers, projectors, cameras, or any other electronic or recording devices, printed materials, or handwritten notes.
    - Communicating to other candidates.
    - Exhibiting disruptive behavior.
        - *The above referenced items or actions are not an exhaustive list. Failure to comply with any of these conditions or exhibiting ANY behavior that suggests an effort to cheat will result in your immediate dismissal from the examination and your actions reported to the proper authorities.*

TATTOOING THEORY EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE

The following outlines the scope of content covered by the NIC National Tattooing Theory Examination. The percentages represent the percentage if items from each domain. The examination is comprised of 110 items of which 100 items are weighted and contribute to the candidate's final score.

DOMAIN 1: SCIENTIFIC CONCEPTS (55%)

A. Infection Control and Safety Practices

1. Identify how disease and infection are caused and transmitted
2. Recognize purpose and/or effects of infection control
   - a. Levels of infection control:
     - i. Sanitation/Cleaning
     - ii. Disinfection
     - iii. Sterilization
   - b. Process of infection control (e.g., dispensing of products, disposal of soiled materials, storage of supplies):
     - ii. Prevent cross-contamination
     - iii. Differentiate between the purpose of single- and multi-use items (e.g., equipment, supplies, materials, tools)
3. Identify first aid and CPR procedures
4. Recognize requirements of federal agencies:
   - a. Blood exposure and contact procedures (OSHA, CDC)
   - b. Safety and Data Sheets (OSHA)

B. Human Anatomy and Physiology

1. Identify functions and structure of the skin
2. Identify signs and symptoms of conditions, disorders, and diseases of the skin

C. Recognize Basic Chemistry of Inks Used in Tattooing

DOMAIN 2: Tattoo Procedures and Services (45%)

A. Client Consultation, Analysis and Documentation for Tattoo Services

1. Obtain informed consent
2. Recognize client expectations
   - a. Explain permanency of tattoo
   - b. Verify design, spelling and location of tattoo
3. Evaluate client's skin and identify contraindications:
   - a. General health
   - b. Skin disorders & diseases
4. Explain pre- and post-treatment instructions
5. Establish/Maintain client records (e.g., service history, client card, medical history)
6. Recognize skin preparation procedures

B. Tools and Equipment Used for Tattoo Services

1. Maintenance and storage of equipment, supplies, materials
2. Comprehend function and operation
   - a. Hand/Manual
   - b. Rotary/Pen
   - c. Coil

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3. Differentiate between needle options and selections
   a. Magnified needle inspection (eye loupe)
   b. Needle grouping types
   c. Needle properties
   d. Needle making
4. Recognize tattoo application concepts
   a. Outlining
   b. Shading
   c. Coloring
   d. Application of design to skin

TATTOOING THEORY EXAMINATION SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The following sample questions are similar to those presented in the NIC Tattooing Theory Examination. Each item has four answer options. Only one option is correct or the answer. An answer key is provided following the sample questions. Performance on the sample questions may not represent performance on the NIC examination.

1. What is occurring when the autoclave is venting?
   (A) Release of pressure
   (B) Pressure is building
   (C) Machine is warming up
   (D) Machine is operating at full capacity

2. A sterilized bottle of tattoo ink remains sterile until it is
   (A) placed on the station.
   (B) opened.
   (C) touched.
   (D) placed in storage.

3. An effective consent or release form should disclose
   (A) client professional occupation.
   (B) client dietary preferences.
   (C) client medical conditions.
   (D) client financial information.

4. What are the basic ingredients in tattoo ink?
   (A) Pigment, oil, witch hazel, alcohol
   (B) Distilled water, pigment, glycerin, alcohol
   (C) Dye, distilled water, alcohol, witch hazel
   (D) Food coloring, glycerin, witch hazel, alcohol

5. Building up the thickness of line work is known as?
   (A) line weight.
   (B) shading.
   (C) color packing.
   (D) outline.

KEY: 1: C, 2: B, 3: C, 4: B, 5: A

NATIONAL TATTOOING EXAMINATION REFERENCES

The following sources are used by NIC to develop and support National Tattooing Theory Examination content. References are listed alphabetically with the most recent copyright date presented first. NIC uses the most recent versions for item and examination development.

Milady Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2013, Edition: 11
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Procedure Manual
2013 Edition
Association of Professional Piercers (APP)
P.O. Box 1287
Lawrence, KS 66044
http://www.safepiercing.org/publications/procedure-manual/

NIC Infection Control and Safety Standards
Adopted 1998: Revised October 2002, Revised August 2014
National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology
http://nictesting.org/memberinfo/NIC_Health_&_Safety_Standards-_Aug_2014.pdf

NIC NATIONAL EXAMINATION REFERENCES

NIC Infection Control and Safety Standards
Adopted 1998: Revised October 2002, Revised August 2014
National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology
http://nictesting.org/memberinfo/NIC_Health_&_Safety_Standards-_Aug_2014.pdf

NIC Cleaning and Disinfecting of Circulating and Non Circulating Tubs and Spa's for All Industry Modalities
NIC, Inc., August 2007
www.nictesting.org

NIC NATIONAL BARBER STYLING EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady's Standard Professional Barbering
5th Ed. 2011
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

NIC NATIONAL BODY PIERCING EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2013, Edition: 11
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Procedure Manual
2013 Edition
Association of Professional Piercers (APP)
P.O. Box 1287
Lawrence, KS 66044
http://www.safepiercing.org/publications/procedure-man

The Piercing Bible: The Definitive Guide to Safe Body Piercing
Elayne Angel
2009
Random House/Crossing Press
http://www.infinitebody.com/shop/the-piercing-bible.html

NIC NATIONAL COSMETOLOGY EXAMINATION REFERENCES

CLiC INTERNATIONAL Cosmetology Career Concepts
2014
CLiC INTERNATIONAL
396 Pottsville / Saint Clair Highway
Pottsville, PA 17901
www.clicusa.com

Milady Standard Cosmetology
2016
Milady
20 Channel Center Street
Boston MA 02210
www.milady.cengage.com

Milady Standard Cosmetology
2012
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Salon Fundamentals Cosmetology
2014, 1st printing, 3rd Edition, September 2014
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

Salon Fundamentals Cosmetology
2011, 4th printing, 2nd Edition, December 2011
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

NIC NATIONAL ELECTROLOGY EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady's Hair Removal Techniques: A Comprehensive Manual, 2004, Bickmore, Helen, R.,
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065
(800) 730-2214
www.Milady.com

Electrolysis, Thermolysis, and the Blend The Principles and Practices of Permanent Hair Removal,
9th ed., 1994
Arroway Publishing

NIC NATIONAL ESTHETICS EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady's Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2013, 11th Edition
Joel Gerson, Janet D'Angelo, Sallie Deitz et al
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919

Milady's Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2009, 10th Edition
Joel Gerson, Janet D'Angelo, Sallie Deitz et al
Delmar
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919

www.milady.cengage.com

Salon Fundamentals Esthetics – A Resource for Your Skin Care Career
2007, 11th printing, 2nd Edition, August 2013
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

www.delmar.cengage.com

Salon Fundamentals Esthetics – A Resource for Your Skin Care Career
2007, 10th printing, 2nd Edition, September 2012
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

NIC NATIONAL AP ESTHETICS EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady Standard Esthetics: Advanced
2013, 2nd edition
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Milady's Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2013, 11th Edition
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Skin Care Beyond the Basics
2012, 4th Edition
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

NIC NATIONAL INSTRUCTOR EXAMINATION REFERENCES

McKeachie's Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research,
and Theory for College and University Teachers
Fourteenth Edition, 2014
Wadsworth
20 Davis Drive
Belmont, CA 94002-3098

McKeachie's Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research,
and Theory for College and University Teachers
Thirteenth Edition, 2011
Wadsworth
20 Davis Drive
Belmont, CA 94002-3098

(800) 354-9706
http://www.cengage.com/us/#

(800) 354-9706
http://www.cengage.com/us/#

Milady's Master Educator
Student Course Book
Third Edition, 2014
Author: Letha Barnes
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065
(800) 347-7707
www.milady.com

Mindful Teaching Pro eBook 101.1 – 701.6
2013
Pivot Point International
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
(800) 886-4247
http://www.pivot-point.com/

NIC NATIONAL MANAGER EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Cosmetology Career Concepts
2014
CLiC INTERNATIONAL
396 Pottsville / Saint Clair Highway
Pottsville, PA 17901
www.clicusa.com

Cosmetology
Today's Class Course eBook
2015
https://www.todaysclass.com/

Milady Standard Cosmetology
2016
Milady
20 Channel Center Street
Boston MA 02210
www.milady.cengage.com

Salon Fundamentals Cosmetology
2014, 1st printing, 3rd Edition, September 2014
Pivot Point International, Inc.

World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

Successful Salon & Spa Management
2012
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

NIC NATIONAL NAIL TECHNOLOGY EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady's Standard Nail Technology
2011, 6th Edition
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Milady's Standard Nail Technology
2007, 5th Edition, Revised Edition
Thompson Delmar Learning Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park NY 12065-2919
www.milady.com

Nail Technician
2007 2.1 Edition
Author: Randy Rick
CLiC INTERNATIONAL
396 Pottsville/Saint Clair Highway
Pottsville PA 17901
www.clicusa.com

Nail Technician
2007 1st Edition
Author: Randy Rick
CLiC INTERNATIONAL
396 Pottsville/Saint Clair Highway
Pottsville PA 17901
800-207-5400
www.clicusa.com

Salon Fundamentals Nails – A Resource for Your Skin Care Career
2007, 10th printing, 1st Edition, June 2013
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

Salon Fundamentals Nails – A Resource for Your Skin Care Career
2007, 7th printing, 1st Edition, October 2011
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

NIC NATIONAL NATURAL HAIR STYLING EXAMINATION REFERENCES

CLiC INTERNATIONAL Cosmetology Career Concepts
2014

CLiC INTERNATIONAL
396 Pottsville / Saint Clair Highway
Pottsville, PA 17901
www.clicusa.com

Milady Standard Cosmetology
2016
Milady
20 Channel Center Street
Boston MA 02210
www.milady.cengage.com

Milady Standard Cosmetology
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Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Milady Standard Natural Hair Care and Braiding
2014
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919
www.milady.cengage.com

Salon Fundamentals Cosmetology
2014, 1st printing, 3rd Edition, September 2014
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

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2011, 4th printing, 2nd Edition, December 2011
Pivot Point International, Inc.
World Headquarters
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201
800-886-4247
www.pivot-point.com

NIC NATIONAL TATTOOING EXAMINATION REFERENCES

Milady Standard Esthetics: Fundamentals
2013, Edition: 11
Milady
5 Maxwell Drive
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Procedure Manual
2013 Edition
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P.O. Box 1287
Lawrence, KS 66044
http://www.safepiercing.org/publications/procedure-manual/

NIC INFECTION CONTROL AND SAFETY STANDARDS

DISINFECTION

~Prior to use on any client, all non-porous tools and implements or multi-use items must be cleaned **AND** disinfected. Items must be cleaned with soap and warm water or a chemical cleaner. The items must then be disinfected by complete immersion in an EPA registered, bactericidal, virucidal, fungicidal (*Formulated for Hospitals*) disinfectant that is mixed and used according to the manufacturer's directions. When allowed by state rule/law, disinfectant sprays **OR** wipes that are bactericidal, virucidal and fungicidal are acceptable forms of disinfection following proper cleaning of the item.
Note: Porous items are considered to be single use items and can **NOT** be disinfected. These items are single use and are to be disposed of in the trash immediately after use.

~Tools, implements, and multi-use items **MUST** stay immersed or visibly moist with disinfectant for the entire contact time listed on the manufacturer's label to be effective.

~All disinfectant solutions must be mixed and changed per the manufacturer's instructions.

HAND WASHING

~Thoroughly wash hands and the exposed portions of arms with soap and water before providing services to each client and anytime hands become contaminated.

NAIL TECHNOLOGY

~Liquid Monomer containing Methyl Methacrylate (MMA) is prohibited for use during NIC National practical examinations.
~Due to the testing environment, NIC requires low odor/odorless nail products be used during the NIC National practical examinations.

NIC Blood Exposure Procedure

The following guidelines should be used if a blood exposure should occur during a service:

Who is bleeding?

Client

1. Stop Service.
2. Put gloves on.
3. If appropriate, assist client to sink and rinse the injured area under running water.
4. Pat dry with a new, clean, disposable towel.
5. Offer/apply antiseptic & adhesive bandage.
6. Place all single use items in a bag and place in a trash receptacle.
7. Remove all implements from station and properly clean and disinfect.
8. Clean and disinfect work area.
9. Remove and dispose of gloves.
10. Wash hands.
11. Return to service.

Licensee

1. Stop Service.
2. Explain the situation and excuse yourself from the service.
3. If appropriate, rinse injured area under running water.
4. Pat dry with a new, clean, disposable towel.
5. Apply antiseptic & adhesive bandage.
6. Put gloves on.
7. Place all single use items in a bag and place in a trash receptacle.
8. Remove all implements from the work area and properly clean and disinfect.
9. Clean & disinfect work area.
10. Remove and dispose of gloves.
11. Wash hands.
12. If necessary cover injured area with a protective finger cot or new glove.
13. Return to service.

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