



NATIONAL BOARD
OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

NBEO UPDATE WEBINAR

COMPUTER BASED TESTING (CBT)
PART II – PAM / TMOD

NBEO Mission

- **Vision Statement:** Advancing the Assessment of Competence
- **NBEO Mission Statement:** To serve the public and the profession of optometry by developing, administering, scoring, and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competence

Welcome / Introductions

- NBEO sincerely appreciates your participation in this important meeting

- **Board of Directors:**
 - Dr. Nancy Peterson-Klein, President
 - Dr. Larry Davis
 - Dr. Alan King
 - Dr. Dennis Long
 - Dr. Jill R. Martinson-Redekopp
 - Dr. William Rafferty
 - Dr. Melvin Shipp
 - Dr. Christina Sorenson

Welcome / Introductions

- **NBEO staff participating in webinar:**
 - Dr. Jack Terry, Executive Director
 - Dr. Cathy Hines, Director of Part II
 - Ms. Sue Terry, ADA Coordinator
 - Ms. Lynn McLin, Director of Finance

Webinar Focus

- Changes to the Part II examination as the result of converting to CBT format:
 - Pearson VUE testing centers
 - 2-step registration / scheduling process
 - Registration deadlines
 - ADA / non-ADA accommodations information
 - CBT tutorial on web site
- Addition of multiple response (MR) items to Part II
- NBEO Ethics Policy

- If you have questions during the webinar, please type them in the Q & A box
- These questions will be answered at the completion of our presentation
- The phone line will be muted, but will open up for additional questions and comments
- Please mute your own phone or use *6



NBEO Web Site Overview

Check www.optometry.org frequently!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. The header includes the organization's name and tagline, 'Advancing the Assessment of Competence'. Navigation links for 'HOME', 'HELP', and 'FAQ' are in the top right. A search bar is also present. A main menu contains categories like 'Exam Info.', 'Part I (ABS)', 'Part II (PAM/TMOD)', 'Part III (CSE/ISE)', and 'ACMO'. A sidebar on the left offers user account management options. The main content area features a 'WELCOME TO OUR SITE' section with mission and vision statements, a 'TESTPOINTS™ NEWSLETTER' sign-up, and a news item about updated ethics policies.

National Board of Examiners in Optometry
Advancing the Assessment of Competence

HOME HELP FAQ

SEARCH OUR SITE

Go

Search Tips, [click here](#)

Today is: May 2, 2012

Board & Staff Login

WELCOME TO OUR SITE

Mission Statement: To serve the public and the profession of optometry by developing, administering, scoring, and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competence.

Vision Statement: Advancing the Assessment of Competence.

The NBEO web site has been designed to provide comprehensive information about the National Board's examinations. It is intended to help answer your questions, and to assist you in preparing for your licensing examinations. We urge you to study the information on this site carefully.

Everyone associated with the National Board extends their best wishes for your success on the National Board examinations and in your practice of optometry. If you have any questions regarding the examinations or their requirements, please feel free to contact the National Board.

THE NBEO RELEASES UPDATED ETHICS POLICY, ETHICS DILEMMAS CHART, AND ETHICS CANDIDATE AGREEMENT

The NBEO has released its *Ethics Policy*, *Potential NBEO Examination Security Dilemmas*, and *Candidate Exam Conduct and Exam Security Agreement*. You are welcome to print a copy of the NBEO Ethics Policy, the Dilemmas, and/or the Candidate Agreement for easy future reference.

All candidates in the Classes of 2013, 2014, and 2015 are asked to read and assimilate the updated ethics material and then create or access their NBEO Candidate Profile account, and electronically sign the expanded Candidate Agreement. To accomplish this:

ACMO candidates please [click here](#) to obtain more information and begin the registration process.

▶ **TESTPOINTS™ NEWSLETTER**

Want to read the latest news, events, and changes that are happening at the National Board? [Click here](#) to view the most recent TestPoints™ Newsletter.

Previous Issues


Part II - PAM / TMOD Tab

National Board of Examiners in Optometry

Advancing the Assessment of Competence

Exam Info.	Part I (ABS)	Part II (PAM/TMOD)	Part III (CSE/ISE)	ACMO
Registration	Scoring	Ex	ics	Site Map


EXAM REGISTRATION



Ready to sign up for a National Board examination? [Click here](#) to begin the online registration process.

ACMO candidates please [click here](#) to obtain more information and begin the registration process.

TESTPOINTS™ NEWSLETTER



Want to read the latest news, events, and changes that are happening at the National Board?

Part II (PAM)

TMOD

Exam Content Outline

Exam Content Matrix

Sample Test Items

Test Center Locations

Test Accommodation Introduction

Instruction to Candidates

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Assessment of Competenc

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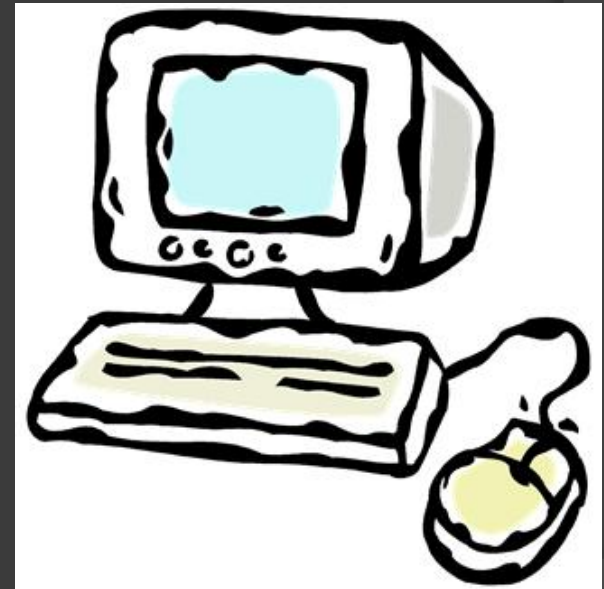
Part II PAM General Information

Exam Info.	Part I (ABS)	Part II (PAM/TMOD)	Part III (CSE/ISE)	ACMO		
Registration	Scoring	Examiners	General Info.	Directory	Ethics	Site Map
						Today is: May 2, 2012

<p>▶ RELATED LINKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> :: Part II (PAM) :: TMOD Exam :: Exam Content Outline :: Sample Test Items :: Exam Content Matrix :: Test Center Locations :: ADA and Non-ADA-Type Disabilities :: Candidate Instructions 	<p>PART II - PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT</p>
<p>▶ NEWS and NOTES</p> <p>:: April 6, 2012 Scores for the February 2012 Part III (CSE) and ISE examinations are now available. - View Now</p> <hr/> <p>:: March 20, 2012 The NBEO has added the ability for candidates to update online their requests for states to receive Official Score Reports (OSR)! - Update Now</p> <hr/> <p>:: March 20, 2012 Registration for the August 2012 Part I (ABS) examination is now available. - Register Now</p> <hr/> <p>:: February 24, 2012 TestPoints Newsletter Winter 2012 is now available. - View Now</p> <hr/> <p>:: February 15, 2012</p>	<p><u>Exam Administration</u></p> <p>Beginning with the April 2012 administration, the Part II – PAM examination will be administered in a computer-based testing (CBT) format. The NBEO has contracted with Pearson VUE for computerized testing services. Pearson VUE's extensive network of more than 200 test centers provides relatively easy access for all candidates to sit for the exam. An interactive tutorial is available to download (click here) which will allow candidates to become familiar with the features of the CBT format.</p> <p>The PAM examination is administered in a single day, over 2 sessions. Each session consists of 30 patient cases with 175 items. Candidates are given 3 ½ hours to complete each session. The morning session includes an additional 15 minutes (for a total time of 3 ¾ hours) which is devoted to a tutorial (identical to the tutorial posted on this web site) and the reading and signing of a non-disclosure agreement (NDA). There is an optional break of up to 45 minutes between the morning and afternoon sessions.</p> <p><u>Eligibility</u></p> <p>Students are first eligible to take the PAM examination midway through the fourth academic year. The targeted administration of PAM (i.e., the administration that most students take when they become eligible) is in December. An additional administration in April provides students with a second opportunity to take Part II prior to graduation.</p> <p><u>Registration and Scheduling</u></p> <p>Candidates wishing to take the PAM or TMOD examinations must register and pay the exam fee using the NBEO's online registration system. Click here to begin the registration process. Upon completion of the NBEO online registration, candidates will receive an automatic email with the following message:</p> <p><i>Your registration was successfully received and will be processed as soon as possible. After your eligibility has been verified, you will be sent an email providing the Pearson VUE contact information for site selection. If you have questions, please contact our Registrar at 704-332-9565.</i></p> <p>Once eligibility is verified, the candidate will receive another email with instructions for contacting Pearson VUE to schedule the exam. The exams are available on a single day only. You may schedule your exam for any time slot that is available on the day, at that site. Click here for a list</p>

Conversion to computer-based testing (CBT) format

- What has changed and what do candidates need to know?



2-Step Process: Registration and Scheduling

➤ Step 1: Registration

- Registration process itself has not changed
- Candidates register on the NBEO's web site
- Once payment is complete and eligibility is confirmed, candidates will receive an email with instructions for contacting Pearson VUE and scheduling an appointment

2-Step Process: Registration and Scheduling

- **Step 2: Scheduling with Pearson VUE**
 - Candidates will receive an email from NBEO with instructions for scheduling their appointments with Pearson VUE
 - Scheduling is done on-line through Pearson VUE's automated system
 - The exam is given on a single day (Dec 4); candidates are making an appointment to take the exam at a specific test center

Pearson VUE Test Centers:

Where will candidates take the exam?

:: March 20, 2012

Registration for the August 2012 Part I (ABS) examination is now available.

- [Register Now](#)

:: February 24, 2012

TestPoints Newsletter Winter 2012 is now available.

- [View Now](#)

:: February 15, 2012

Part III (CSE) registration for entering 4th year students is now available.

- [Register Now](#)

:: January 17, 2012

Registration for the stand-alone Injections Skill (ISE) examination is

Registration and Scheduling

Candidates wishing to take the PAM or TMOD examinations must register and pay the exam fee using the NBEO's online registration system. Click [here](#) to begin the registration process. Upon completion of the NBEO online registration, candidates will receive an automatic email with the following message:

Your registration was successfully received and will be processed as soon as possible. After your eligibility has been verified, you will be sent an email providing the Pearson VUE contact information for site selection. If you have questions, please contact our Registrar at 704-332-9565.

Once eligibility is verified, the candidate will receive another email with instructions for contacting Pearson VUE to schedule the exam. The exams are available on a single day only. You may schedule your exam for any time slot that is available on the day, at that site. **Click [here](#) for a list of Pearson VUE test center locations.** The PAM exam requires an 8-hour time slot; the TMOD exam requires a 4-hour time slot.

Exam Content

The PAM examination will consist of 60 simulated patient cases. The distribution of cases by content area is indicated in the outline below.

Pearson Professional Center Locations

This list of testing center locations is based on information provided by Pearson VUE and is subject to change. It is posted on this web site as a courtesy to NBEO candidates. Seats at each location are limited, so candidates are not guaranteed a seat at a given location. Early registration will increase candidates' chances of securing a seat at their preferred location.

ALABAMA

Birmingham
 Dothan
 Decatur
 Mobile
 Montgomery

ALASKA

Anchorage

ARIZONA

Mesa
 Phoenix
 Tucson

ARKANSAS

Fort Smith
 Little Rock
 Texarkana

DELAWARE

Dover
 Newark

FLORIDA

Altamonte Springs
 Deerfield Beach
 Gainesville
 Jacksonville
 Miami
 Orlando
 Plantation
 Port Charlotte
 St. Petersburg
 Tallahassee
 Tampa

GEORGIA

Albany

KANSAS

Hays
 Topeka
 Wichita

KENTUCKY

Lexington
 Louisville

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge
 Metairie
 Shreveport

MAINE

Bangor
 Westbrook

MISSOURI

Columbia
 Kansas City (2 locations)
 Springfield
 St. Louis (2 locations)

MONTANA

Billings
 Helena

NEBRASKA

Lincoln
 North Platte
 Omaha

NEVADA

Las Vegas
 Reno

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NBEO Testing


The National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) offers three examinations through Pearson VUE: the Advanced Competency in Medical Optometry (ACMO) exam, the Part II – Patient Assessment and Management (PAM) exam, and the Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (TMOD) exam. Candidates should refer to the NBEO's web site www.optometry.org for information about these exams, including content, format, eligibility criteria and scoring, as well as registration requirements and deadlines.








Testing Dates

- **ACMO:** administered one time in 2012 on June 1
- **PAM:** administered twice in 2012 on April 3 and December 4
- **TMOD:** administered twice in 2012 on April 3 and December 4

Registration and Scheduling Information

Candidates wishing to take an NBEO examination must register and pay the examination fee using the NBEO's online registration process at www.optometry.org. Once eligibility is verified and registration is processed, the candidate will receive an email from the NBEO with information about the exam, including the location, date, and time of the exam.



	Locate a Test Center
	Schedule a Test
	Reschedule a Test
	Cancel a Test
	My Account
	View Available Tests
	Customer Service



Home

Test Taker Services

Test Program Solutions

Become a Test Center

Locate a Test Center: National Board of Examiners in Optometry

Display distance format: Miles

1. Locate a test center near you by defining the search criteria below and then click Search. [View Search Tips](#)

Find the closest: 5 centers

* Country: United States

Address:

City: Charlotte

State/Province: North Carolina

ZIP/Postal Code:

Search

2. View test center address, telephone number, and directions by clicking on the test center name.

Test Center	**Distance	City	State/Province	Country
Enter your search criteria above, then click Search.				

IMPORTANT!

- Pearson VUE is reserving ALL of its seats at every test center in the U.S. and Canada (over 3000 slots) on December 4, 2012 for NBEO candidates until 60 days prior to the exam
- All appointments are on a **first-come, first-serve** basis (once registration opens on **August 1, 2012**), so candidates who schedule early will have a wider selection of test locations

IMPORTANT!

- On **October 4, 2012** all remaining seats will be made available to other testing organizations
- After October 4, it may be very difficult for NBEO candidates to secure a seat at a convenient test center

Candidates are urged to register and schedule an appointment with Pearson VUE early in order to secure a seat at a convenient test center location!

Important Registration Dates for the December 2012

Part II – PAM / TMOD exams

- Registration will open on **August 1, 2012**
- Registration deadline is **October 2, 2012**
- Late registration (late fee is \$400) is from **October 3 – 17**, but candidates who register late may have difficulty finding a seat at a convenient Pearson VUE test center

Stand-alone TMOD

- With CBT format, it is now feasible to extract the embedded TMOD exam and offer it as a stand-alone exam
- Candidates who need only a TMOD score may take the 4-hour TMOD-only exam (rather than the entire 8-hour PAM exam)
- Registration / scheduling process is the same as for PAM

Scheduling details

- Once the candidate selects a test center, he or she may be offered a selection of starting times
- Candidates may choose from any of the starting times offered, keeping in mind that the **PAM** examination is scheduled for **8 hours** and the **TMOD-only** exam is scheduled for **4 hours**

Test accommodations for the Pearson VUE Part II – PAM / TMOD exam

- Pearson VUE requires test accommodations to be assigned by NBEO **before** individual Pearson VUE seat reservations are made by candidates
- Therefore, test accommodation application deadline date is **early** in the registration cycle
- **Accommodation deadline date (September 4, 2012)** for the December 2012 Part II exam is **13 weeks before exam date (December 4, 2012)**, unlike traditional NBEO accommodation application deadline dates, which are 11 weeks prior to exam date
- However, the availability of Pearson VUE seats will be **limited** by the time accommodations are assigned if ADA documentation is submitted this late in exam cycle.

Test accommodations for the Pearson VUE Part II – PAM / TMOD exam

- Rather, to obtain an NBEO accommodation decision prior to the opening date of Pearson VUE seat scheduling on **August 1, 2012**, all phases of ADA materials submission to the NBEO must be completed 2 months prior to this date to allow adequate time for processing of the accommodation requests and for a decision to be made.
- Therefore, it is highly recommended that all ADA documentation should be sent to the NBEO by **June 1, 2012** for the December 2012 PAM / TMOD exam administration to allow for timely assignments of accommodations.

Test accommodations for the Pearson VUE Part II – PAM / TMOD exam

- This earlier **June 1, 2012** ADA documentation submission date allows time for:
 - all disability documentation to be received and processed by NBEO
 - finalization of the accommodation decision by NBEO
 - subsequent notification from NBEO to Pearson VUE of assigned accommodations before Pearson VUE exam seat appointments become available to PAM candidates (**August 1, 2012**)

Advantages of earlier ADA deadline

- Moving the **recommended** test accommodation documentation submission date forward to **June 1, 2012** should allow candidates with disabilities the same opportunity to schedule exam seats at their preferred Pearson VUE test centers as all other candidates on the date that seats first can be reserved (**August 1, 2012**)
- For the PAM/TMOD exams only, **the requirement has been waived that candidates must register with NBEO for the exam prior to applying for test accommodations**

NBEO candidates with disabilities should keep in mind that:

- compelling documentation of any disability must be provided to the NBEO shortly after submission of an accommodation application
- all records must be sent to the NBEO directly from the service provider who documents the disability
- the NBEO reserves the right to request additional information to further document the disability and justify the requested accommodation

NBEO candidates with disabilities also should keep in mind that:

- all documentation must be received by the NBEO **before** deadline expiration, including any new records sent in to support an appeal of an accommodation request denial
- all evidence of disability, at each stage of the process, is assessed by a professional external reviewer; this reviewer is allowed a 10-day turnaround time to prepare and send NBEO an assessment report
- *the earlier the application for ADA accommodation for the PAM / TMOD examination, the better!!*

Interactive CBT tutorial

- Explains the mechanics of CBT format
- Identical to the tutorial presented at the test center at the beginning of the exam
- Requires a PC with Windows-based platform

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▶ RELATED LINKS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> :: Part II (PAM) :: TMOD Exam :: Exam Content Outline :: Sample Test Items :: Exam Content Matrix :: Test Center Locations :: ADA and Non-ADA-Type Disabilities :: Candidate Instructions 		PART II - PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT			
▶ NEWS and NOTES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> :: April 6, 2012 Scores for the February 2012 Part III (CSE) and ISE examinations are now available. 		Exam Administration <p>Beginning with the April 2012 administration, the Part II – PAM examination will be administered in a computer-based testing (CBT) format. The NBEO has contracted with Pearson VUE for computerized testing services. Pearson VUE's extensive network of more than 200 test centers provides relatively easy access for all candidates to sit for the exam. An interactive tutorial is available to download (click here) which will allow candidates to become familiar with the features of the CBT format.</p> <p>The PAM examination is administered in a single day, over 2 sessions. Each session consists of 30 patient cases with 175 items. Candidates are given 3 ½ hours to complete each session. The morning session includes an additional 15 minutes (for a total time of 3 ¾ hours) which is devoted to a tutorial (identical to the tutorial posted on this web site) and the reading and signing of a non-disclosure agreement (NDA). There is an optional break of up to 45 minutes between the morning and afternoon sessions.</p>			

Multiple response (MR) items

- MR items introduced on March 2011 ABS
- April 2012 Part II exams included MR items (fewer than 10%)
- MR items will have 2 – 4 correct options
- All of the appropriate options must be selected in order to get the item correct
- The stem of the item indicates how many correct answers there are, and is followed by a statement in parenthesis indicating how many options should be selected

Sample MR item

2. Which 3 of the following are extra-intestinal manifestations of idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease? (Select 3)
- a. Joint inflammation
 - b. Pulmonary infections
 - c. Osteoporosis
 - d. Skin inflammation
 - e. Cardiac arrhythmia
 - f. Orthostatic hypotension

Incomplete MR items

- If a candidate selects fewer than the required number of options, that item will show up as an “incomplete item” on the item review screen at the end of the exam
- This provides an additional safeguard for candidates
- With CBT, candidates are unable to mark more than the required number of options

Ethics Policy

- The NBEO has released its *Ethics Policy, Potential NBEO Examination Security Dilemmas, and Candidate Exam Conduct and Exam Security Agreement*
- Candidates are welcome to print a copy of the NBEO Ethics Policy, the Dilemmas, and/or the Candidate Agreement for easy future reference

ETHICS

NBEO considers a breach of the NBEO Ethics Policy a serious matter and requests that any violations be reported to the National Board Ethics Committee. All allegations will be handled expeditiously through an explicitly defined procedure for enforcement, with confidentiality and due process.

The NBEO enforces its Ethics Policy through the thorough investigation of complaints of violations and by taking disciplinary action against those found guilty of a Policy violation. Consequences include, but are not limited to, the possible cancellation of the related board-exam score and the imposition of a bar from taking NBEO examination(s) for a specific time interval.

NBEO Ethics Policy

Click [here](#) to view.

The **NBEO Ethics Policy** describes all facets of the National Board's zero-tolerance policy toward cheating, as well as the required candidate conduct regarding circumstances related to NBEO examinations, before, during, and after the exams.

Potential NBEO Examination Security Dilemmas

Click [here](#) to view.

A chart of Potential **NBEO Examination Security Dilemmas** presents various student-to-student or student-to-institution scenarios, followed by candidate reactions that would be considered ethically permissible and those that would be deemed unethical.

Candidate Exam Conduct and Exam Security Agreement

Click [here](#) to view.

The **Candidate Exam Conduct and Exam Security Agreement** compiles the basic NBEO Ethics Policy information in contract form, to serve as a binding, formal Agreement between the NBEO and all candidates who intend to take National Board examinations in the future.

Report an Ethics Violation

Click [here](#) to report a possible Ethics violation.

Thank You!

