

# District Of Columbia Nurse Aide

Written (or Oral) Examination & Skills Evaluation

## Candidate Handbook

January 2024



**Credentia**



**NNAAP**  
National Nurse Aide Assessment Program  
An NCSBN® Examination

# It all starts here!

Reviewing this handbook is a big step toward your success.



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# Quick Reference

## CREDENTIALIA EXAMINATION AND SCHEDULING SERVICES

1025 Greenwood Blvd.  
Suite 401  
Lake Mary, FL 32746

### Hours of Operation

Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(Eastern Time Zone)

### Create or Log into your CNA365 account to:

- Change your current address and phone number.
- Submit Correction Form to update name, date of birth or social security number before your exam has been scheduled.
- Obtain and submit an Examination Testing Application.
- Check Testing Application status.
- Find test sites and availability.
- Schedule, reschedule or cancel an examination.
- View exam details such as examination type, scheduled time, date, and location.
- View Score report.
- Submit and review a Grievance application for completed examination.
- Submit an excused absence application.

### Contact Customer Service when:

- Problem occurs when creating CNA365 Account.
- Did not receive activation link.
- Problem occurs when applying an assigned voucher code.
- Testing Application Issue.
- Received an error message when scheduling examination.
- Score report not viewable in CNA365 after 24 hours.
- Call 888-204-6249

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH NURSE AIDE REGISTRY

### Managed by Credentia

1025 Greenwood Blvd.  
Suite 401  
Lake Mary, FL 32746

### Hours of Operation:

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone)

### Create or Log into your CNA365 account to:

- Change your current address and phone number.
- Submit Correction Form to update name, date of birth or social security number once you are on the Registry.
- Obtain and submit application for Reciprocity.
- Check Reciprocity Application status.
- Obtain and submit Renewal Registry Application for continued enrollment.
- Check Renewal Registry Application status
- Request and submit a Duplicate Registration Request.
- View Registration.
- Obtain a Test Application because your Nurse Aide Registration has lapsed.

### Contact Customer Service to:

- Problem occurs when creating CNA365 Account.
- Did not receive activation link.
- Cannot view registry details.
- Order Candidate Handbooks.
- Call 888-204-6249

## DC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

### Board of Nursing

899 North Capitol Street, NE Suite 200 Washington, DC 20002

(877) 672-2174

Web site: <http://dchealth.dc.gov/bon>

Email: [bon.dc@dc.gov](mailto:bon.dc@dc.gov)

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday

8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (EST)

Go to the Board of Nursing Website (<http://dchealth.dc.gov/bon>) to:

- View or download the Nurse Aide Candidate Handbook
- Download a copy of the District of Columbia Certified Nurse Aide Regulations
- Find a list of Board Approved Nurse Aide Programs
- Obtain information regarding endorsement
- Search the Nurse Aide Registry

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NNAAP® Written Exam Content Outline and Practical Skills Listing  
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# Introduction

Welcome and congratulations on your decision to take the professional Nurse Aide's Test. This handbook is designed for candidates who want to be listed on the District Of Columbia Nurse Aide Registry. It tells you how to apply for and take the National Nurse Aide Examination.

This handbook will answer many of your questions about the test. Please take the time to read it and keep it so you can refer back to it whenever you have a question about the test.



VISIT resource center for additional info  
[https://credentia.com/about-us/  
nurse-aide-resource-center](https://credentia.com/about-us/nurse-aide-resource-center)

## THE NATIONAL NURSE AIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (NNAAP®)

The National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP®) was developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc., The NNAAP Examination is an evaluation of nurse aide-related knowledge, skills and abilities. Its purpose is to determine if you understand and can safely perform the job of an entry-level nurse aide.

## ABOUT CREDENTIALIA

This handbook was created by Credentia in partnership with the District Of Columbia Department of Health. Credentia is a nationally recognized provider of testing services. We score and report the results of the District Of Columbia Nurse Aide Registry test. Credentia also processes applications, schedules examinations and administers the tests.

## CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

To be hired as a Certified Nurse Aide in the District of Columbia and have direct contact with residents or beneficiaries, you must pass a criminal background check and your name may not appear on any Nurse Aide abuse registry. See 17 DCMR § 9603. After passing the Nurse Aide exam, you will be instructed to go to: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/criminal-background-check> to find instructions on registering, paying and scheduling your fingerprint scan for the background check. You must pass the background check in order to be placed on the Registry. If you have any questions regarding the criminal background check requirement, please contact the Criminal Background Unit of the Health Regulation & Licensing Administration at (202) 442-9004.

## EXAM OVERVIEW

There are two parts of the NNAAP Examination, the Written (or English or Spanish Oral) Examination and the Skills Evaluation. You must pass both parts in order to be listed on the District Of Columbia Nurse Aide Registry.

## THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION

The written part of your test is made of seventy (70) multiple-choice questions written in The English or Spanish Oral Examination. Sample examination questions are provided in this handbook.

Please note: If you have a hard time reading English, you can take an Oral Examination instead of the Written Examination.

An English or Spanish Oral Examination includes sixty (60) multiple-choice questions plus ten (10) reading comprehension/word recognition questions. If you want to take the Oral Examination, you must request it when you submit your registration form.

## THE SKILLS EVALUATION

For the Skills portion of your test, you will be asked to perform five (5) randomly selected nurse aide skills. You will be rated on these skills by a Nurse Evaluator.

# Eligibility

This section explains:

- What you need to do to become a nurse aide in District Of Columbia
- What you need to do before you can take the NNAAP test

## ELIGIBILITY FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A NURSE AIDE

All candidates applying to take the NNAAP Examination in District Of Columbia **MUST** complete an Application for Registration by Competency Examination online at [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc). You must pass both parts of the examination within 2 year time period to be apart of the DC Nurse Aide Registry. Candidates are permitted three (3) attempts to pass the exam. After a third failure, you must complete another Nurse Aide training program and submit another application for examination.

## LIGHTDUTY

Candidates are prohibited from taking the Skills Evaluation if on limited activity or light duty due to medical reasons. Candidates must be able to complete required skills included in the Skills Evaluation. Candidates on light duty can't take the Skills Evaluation; however, they can take the written/oral exam. Medical documentation stating return to full duty is required to take the skills evaluation.

D-1

You have completed a DC Department of Health approved training program within the last twenty-four (24) months and are not currently listed on the DC Nurse Aide Registry or on a Nurse Aide registry in another state. You will be required to attach a copy of your training certificated during the application process.

D-2

You have completed equivalent practical nursing or registered nursing "Fundamentals of Nursing" course with a clinical component in the USA.

D-4

You have trained as an RN or LPN outside the United States within the last thirty-six (36) months. Attach a copy of your foreign credentials certification. You must attach a CGFNS report that confirms you were trained as a nurse in your home country. Enter 99910 in Section 4 of the application.

D-5

You are taking the NNAAP® Examination for re-application to obtain a current certification after it has expired **LESS** than twenty-four (24) months.

# Online Registration and Scheduling

Online registration is the best way to register for your examination.





## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

After finishing a District Of Columbia state-approved training course, you can create an online account with Credentia's CNA365 system. The Credentia CNA365 system makes online registration quick and easy, and much faster than mailing a paper application.

- To create a CNA365 account, go to [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc). Click the "CNA365 Login" button on the top of the District Of Columbia nurse aide website.
- You can pay by credit card or pre-paid credit card (American Express, MasterCard, Visa, or electronic voucher). Fees are non-refundable and non-transferable once you've paid.
- For exams at test center locations, you'll need to make an online reservation using a laptop. Using your phone or a tablet is not recommended. You need to make your reservation at least ten (10) calendar days before the test date.
- For Written or Oral online exams, you can schedule an exam as early as one day following registration, depending on exam availability.
- You'll need to complete your online application in CNA365 but you can ask someone from your nurse aide training program or facility employer for help in completing the application.

## EXAM FEES

The fees have been established for the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program in District Of Columbia:

Under federal and District Of Columbia laws, nursing homes are required to pay the NNAAP fees for their nurse aide employees, including individuals required to re-test.

Payment must be made in the form of a credit card, debit card single-use card or electronic voucher. Vouchers can be purchased by the training programs.

Fees are not refundable.

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Written Examination            | \$55  |
| Oral Examination (English)     | \$55  |
| Oral Examination ONLY (SPANSH) | \$55  |
| Skills Evaluation ONLY         | \$110 |

## SCHEDULING YOUR EXAM

You can complete your profile (demographics) and application. Once your application is approved, your Home Page will state "click here to schedule your examination:

- Select (Skills Evaluation). Select the test site you want to use and a calendar will appear with available test dates highlighted. Then select the date you want
- Select (Written) or (Oral English). Select the test site you want to use and a calendar will appear with available test dates highlighted. Then select the date you want
- Proceed to checkout and select your form of payment. When completed, you will receive a Confirmation Notice and Receipt of Payment via email.

When completed, you will receive a Confirmation Notice and Receipt of Payment via email.



## ACCOMMODATIONS

Credentia complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and will provide reasonable accommodations to anyone with a documented disability who might need a little help in accessing the test.

Test accommodations may include things like:

- A separate testing room
- Extra testing time
- A Reader or Recorder, for individuals with mobility, hearing or vision difficulties who cannot read or write on their own

Test accommodations will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If you're requesting accommodations because of a disability, you must provide proof of your condition.

This may include:

- Supporting documents from the professional who diagnosed the condition
- A description of past accommodations that you have received

Please visit [www.credentia.com/accommodations\\_full](http://www.credentia.com/accommodations_full) details on the accommodations process and required supporting documentation.

## TESTING LOCATIONS

**In-Facility Testing (INF)** – In-facility testing is when your state-approved Training Program Nurse Aide instructor has made arrangements with Credentia to test at your training program on a specific date. Please make certain you know your in-facility (INF) Code and test date when you are completing your registration.



# Cancellations

You can easily cancel or reschedule an exam online using your CNA365 account. Go to [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc) and click on “How to Cancel or Reschedule an Exam” in the Resources section of the webpage.

Remember: You need to cancel or reschedule your Online Written (or Oral) examination at least 48 hours (2 days) before your scheduled test time.

If you are unable to attend your test, you must call Credentia Customer Service at least ten (10) calendar days before the test date to reschedule (Saturday and Sunday and national holidays are not considered calendar days). If you don't call Credentia at least ten (10) calendar days before your test date to reschedule, and do not show up for your scheduled test, you will be responsible for the test fee. Your fee will not be refunded and cannot be transferred to a new test date, and you may not give your test date to another person.

- If you do notify Credentia in time, there is no penalty, and your fee may be transferred to your new test date. If your employer paid your test fee, you should tell them about missing the test or rescheduling. Let them know how you have handled rescheduling and when you plan to take the test again.
- If you do not report to the testing location on the day of your scheduled test, you will be considered a “no-show” and you will not get your testing fee back. An unexcused absence will also count as one of your 3 “opportunities” to pass the test.

## RESCHEDULING

You can use your CNA365 account to reschedule your exam. Go to [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc) and click on “How to Cancel or Reschedule an Exam” in the Resources section of the webpage. If you want to reschedule by phone, call 888-204-6249. You can reschedule your exam one time and you must contact Credentia at least ten (10) calendar days before your exam.

## REFUNDS

Once payment of exam fees is received, NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED.

## ABSENCE POLICY

Candidates who are late or absent from an exam may submit an excused absence via CNA365 within 14 calendar days of the exam date for the following reasons:

- Illness of yourself or a member of your household
- Death in the family
- Traffic accident or ticket
- Court appearance or jury duty
- Military duty
- Weather emergency
- Incarceration

Your request must include documentation or verification for the cause of the absence. For example, if you are absent because of jury duty, you must upload a copy of the court notice. In the case of illness, verification from a medical provider must be included in your request. Please note, a request takes approximately 3-5 calendar days to review. The decision of Credentia to approve or deny the excused absence will be final.

## WEATHER EMERGENCIES

A test center/online examination will be delayed or cancelled only in emergencies. If severe weather or a natural disaster makes the test site inaccessible or unsafe, the examination will be delayed or cancelled. In the event of an examination change due to a weather emergency, candidates will be contacted with the information on file by phone and email of cancellation.

# Exam Day

## TAKING YOUR EXAM ONLINE

You can take your Written/Oral exam from home or work through Credentia online proctoring. A live proctor (someone who supervises the test) will securely monitor you through the webcam on your workstation. Online exams also offer you more scheduling flexibility than test center exams to fit with your schedule.

Please visit [www.credentia.com/online-exams](http://www.credentia.com/online-exams) for information on what to expect and how to best prepare for your online exam. We also recommend that you click on the “Policies & Procedures” link on this webpage to review the exam rules and procedures.

### WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- The right computer – a desktop, laptop or Chromebook with a single monitor (no smartphones or tablets). Visit [www.credentia.com/online-exams](http://www.credentia.com/online-exams) to view or download system requirements.
- A private room – if you don’t have access to a private room, check with your training program or local library for availability.
- A mobile device – the proctor will need to see all around your exam area with a 360-degree room scan. Please be sure you have a smartphone or tablet (Apple or Android) that can do this using our free app.

### WHAT TO DO IN THE DAYS BEFORE YOUR ONLINE EXAM:

- Run a system test – make sure to do the required system test and exam simulation before exam day. Visit [www.credentia.com/online-exams](http://www.credentia.com/online-exams) and select the “Run System Test” button.
- Find your testing space – you need a quiet area in your home or office to take your exam
- Get your ID ready – you are required to have two (2) forms of official ID with a signature (one must be a photo identification). Photocopies of identification will NOT be accepted. Examples of identification you can use include:
  - Driver’s license
  - Social Security card
  - Clinic card
  - Credit card
  - Library card
  - State-issued identification card
  - Passport
  - Alien registration card

The name on your identification must be the same as the name you used on the application to register for the examination.

If you do not have proper identification, you will not be allowed to take the test and your examination fee will not be refunded.

**IMPORTANT:** If you can’t take the test because of this, it still counts as one of your 3 chances to take the exam because you were not prepared — please have the correct forms of identification!



GO ONLINE to learn more about what to expect before your testing day and the day of testing [credentia.com/test-center-exams](http://credentia.com/test-center-exams)

## WHAT TO DO ON YOUR ONLINE EXAM DAY

### STEP 1: Prepare your testing space

- Quiet: no background noise and tell members of your household you are taking your test.
- Well lit: proctors must be able to see you and your testing space well.
- Privacy: no one else in the room.
- Remove prohibited items: clear workstation area to expedite room scan.
- Restroom/Beverages: use restroom and prepare beverages before exam.

### STEP 2: Have your ID ready

Have your government-issued photo ID with you. (See list or proper identification in section above.)

### STEP 3: Prepare your computer

- Disconnect any additional monitors and close all other open applications.
- Have your chargers (laptop, smart phone or tablet) plugged in or nearby.
- Use a wired internet connection rather than WiFi, if possible.
- If using WiFi, we recommend at least 3Mbps and ask that other people in your house do not use the internet during your exam.
- Disconnect any VPNs or firewalls if you have them.

### STEP 4: Download the ExamRoom 360 app

Download the ExamRoom 360 app to your smartphone or tablet and have your CNA365 login credentials available (the user name and password for your Credentia CNA365 account). This app is required to complete a 360 degree room scan.

### STEP 5: Check in for your exam

- You can begin to check in up to 30 minutes before your appointment. Your onboarding agent will make sure everything is ready for your exam before introducing your proctor (the test supervisor).
- How to check in: Go to [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc) and click the “CNA365 login” button. Once logged in, find your scheduled exam and select the “Start Exam” button.





# Exam Day

## TAKING YOUR EXAM AT A TEST CENTER

### CHECKING IN

- You must arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled time for BOTH the written examination and for the skills evaluation. If you are late you will not be allowed to test and your fees will not be refunded.

PLEASE NOTE: You will be required to check in for both the written examination and for the skills evaluation. You will be required to present proper identification.

### WHAT TO BRING

You MUST have the following items with you when you take the NNAAP Examination:

- Two (2) forms of official (current, not expired), legible, signature-bearing identification, one of which must be photo identification
- Three (3) No. 2 pencils (sharpened)
- Eraser
- Analog watch with a sweeping seconds hand (not a digital or Smartwatch)

**No other materials will be allowed.**

### PROPER IDENTIFICATION

You are required to bring two (2) forms of official, signature-bearing identification to the test site (one of which must be



GO ONLINE to learn more about what to expect before your testing day and the day of testing [credentia.com/test-center-exams](https://www.credentia.com/test-center-exams)

a photo identification). Photocopies of identification will NOT be accepted. Examples of proper identification include:

- Driver's license
- Your Social Security card
- Clinic card
- Credit card
- Library card
- State-issued identification card
- Passport
- Alien registration card

The name on your identification must be the same as the name you used on the application to register for the examination.

If you do not bring proper identification, you will not be allowed to test and your examination fee will not be refunded. This absence will count as one of your 3 opportunities to test because you were not prepared with the correct forms of identification.

### SECURITY AND CHEATING

If you give help to or receive help from anyone during the NNAAP Examination, the examination will be stopped. The incident will be reported to the District Of Columbia Department of Health for review and your examination will not be scored (see Testing Policies).

Please note that all examination questions, each form of the examination, and all other examination materials are copyrighted by, the property of or licensed to Credentia. Consequently, any distribution of the examination content or materials through any form of reproduction or through oral or written communication, is strictly prohibited and punishable by law. Anyone who removes or tries to remove examination material or information from the test site will be prosecuted.

### TESTING POLICIES

The following policies are observed at each test site.

## LATENESS

Plan to arrive thirty (30) minutes before the examination starts. If you are late for your scheduled examination or do not bring all your required materials, you will NOT be allowed to test and your examination fee will NOT be returned.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cellular phones, beepers, or any other electronic devices are not permitted to be used and must be turned off during testing, and there is no place for storage of personal belongings at the test sites.

## STUDY AIDS

You are not permitted to take personal belongings such as briefcases, large bags, study materials, extra books or papers into the examination room. Any such materials brought into the examination room will be collected and returned to you when you have completed the examination. Credentia is not responsible for lost or misplaced items.

## EATING/DRINKING/SMOKING

You are not permitted to eat, drink or smoke during the examination.

## MISCONDUCT

If you are discovered causing a disturbance of any kind or engaging in any kind of misconduct, you will be dismissed from the examination and reported to the Department of Health. Decisions regarding disciplinary measures are the responsibility of that agency.

## GUESTS/VISITORS

No guests, visitors, pets or children are allowed at the test sites.

# The Written (or Oral) Exam

## WRITTEN EXAM AT A TEST CENTER

The Nurse Evaluator will hand out materials and give instructions for taking the Written Examination. The Written Examination has seventy (70) multiple-choice questions. You will have two (2) hours to complete the Written Examination. You will be told when fifteen (15) minutes are left to finish. Fill in only one (1) oval on the answer sheet for each question. Markings in the test booklet will not be accepted as answers. Your answers must appear on the separate answer sheet. Sample questions for the Written Examination are located on page 15.

## ORAL EXAM AT A TEST CENTER

The Oral Examination consists of sixty (60) multiple-choice questions and ten (10) reading comprehension questions and is given on an MP3 player. Each of the sixty (60) multiple-choice questions will be repeated two (2) times, after which you mark your answer on an answer sheet. The reading comprehension questions test your knowledge of and familiarity with common, job-related words. Each of these words is repeated three (3) times. You have two (2) hours to complete the entire Oral Examination. You must pass both the multiple-choice and reading comprehension sections in order to pass the Oral Examination.

# The 2024 National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP®) Written (Oral) Examination Content Outline

The revised content outline is based on the findings from the 2019–2020 Job Analysis and Knowledge, Skill, and Ability Study of Nurse Aides published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in 2023. The examination content outline will be effective April 2024.

The NNAAP written examination is comprised of 70 multiple-choice items; 10 of these items are pretest (non-scored) items on which statistical information will be collected. The NNAAP oral examination is comprised of 60 multiple-choice items and 10 reading comprehension (word recognition) items.



| Content Domain                       | 2024 Content Outline        |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                      | Weighting of Content Domain | Weighting of Content Domain |
| <b>I. Physical Care Skills</b>       |                             |                             |
| A. Activities of Daily Living        | 22%                         | 13                          |
| 1. Hygiene, Dressing and Grooming    |                             |                             |
| 2. Nutrition and Hydration           |                             |                             |
| 3. Elimination                       |                             |                             |
| 4. Rest/Sleep/Comfort                |                             |                             |
| B. Basic Nursing Skills              | 35%                         | 21                          |
| 1. Infection Control                 |                             |                             |
| 2. Safety/Prevention/Emergency       |                             |                             |
| 3. Technical Procedures              |                             |                             |
| 4. Data Collection and Reporting     |                             |                             |
| C. Self Care/Independence            | 7%                          | 4                           |
| <b>II. Psychosocial Care Skills</b>  |                             |                             |
| A. Emotional and Mental Health Needs | 8%                          | 5                           |
| B. Spiritual and Cultural Needs      | 2%                          | 1                           |
| <b>III. Role of the Nurse Aide</b>   |                             |                             |
| A. Communication                     | 7%                          | 4                           |
| B. Client Rights                     | 8%                          | 5                           |
| C. Legal and Ethical Behavior        | 5%                          | 3                           |
| D. Member of the Health Care Team    | 6%                          | 4                           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>100%</b>                 | <b>60</b>                   |

# Sample Questions

The following questions are samples of the kinds of questions that you will find on the Written Examination. Check your answers to these questions in the box below.

1. The client's call light should always be placed:  
(A) on the bed  
(B) within the client's reach  
(C) on the client's right side  
(D) over the side rail
2. Which of the following items is used in the prevention and treatment of bedsores or pressure sores?  
(A) rubber sheet  
(B) air mattress  
(C) emesis basin  
(D) restraint
3. When caring for a dying client, the nurse aide should:  
(A) keep the client's room dark and quiet  
(B) allow client to express his feelings  
(C) change the subject if client talks about death  
(D) contact the client's minister, priest or rabbi
4. What does the abbreviation ADL mean?  
(A) Ad Lib  
(B) As Doctor Likes  
(C) Activities of Daily Living  
(D) After Daylight
5. After giving a client a back rub, the nurse aide should always note:  
(A) the last time the client had a back rub  
(B) any change in the client's skin  
(C) client's weight  
(D) amount of lotion used
6. How should the nurse aide communicate with a client who has a hearing loss?  
(A) face the client when speaking  
(B) repeat the statement  
(C) shout so that the client can hear  
(D) use a high-pitched voice

## Correct Answers

1. B    2. B    3. B    4. C    5. B    6. A

# Self-Assessment Reading Test

The two (2)-part Self-Assessment Reading Test that appears below will help you decide if you should consider taking the Oral Examination instead of the Written Examination. To complete the reading test, follow the instructions provided below and select the answer to each question. When you have completed the reading test, you will be able to determine the number of questions you answered correctly.

## PART 1: VOCABULARY

1. Circle the best answer to each question.
2. When you have finished, check your answers using the answer key on page 17.
3. Count up the number of correct answers.
4. If your score is less than 17, you may have difficulty reading the Written Examination and should consider taking the Oral Examination.

1. You go to a doctor when you \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) feel sleepy  
(B) need socks  
(C) feel sick  
(D) need money  
(E) need clothes
2. A person who flies an airplane is its \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) pilot  
(B) steward  
(C) mother  
(D) surgeon  
(E) director
3. You use a \_\_\_\_\_ to write.  
(A) bow  
(B) calculator

- (C) pencil  
(D) carpenter  
(E) needle
4. To exit a room means to \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
(A) enter  
(B) leave  
(C) forget  
(D) read  
(E) interrupt
5. A wedding is a joyous \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) focus  
(B) vehicle  
(C) balloon  
(D) occasion  
(E) civilization
6. To require something means to \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
(A) need  
(B) have  
(C) forget  
(D) understand  
(E) hear
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ something to find its length.  
(A) slice  
(B) lock  
(C) measure  
(D) force  
(E) tape
8. Soup is served in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) plate  
(B) bowl  
(C) fork  
(D) chair  
(E) closet
9. To accompany someone means to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) disagree with him  
(B) work for him

- (C) go with him  
(D) speak to him  
(E) choose him
10. A nursing home resident receives \_\_\_\_\_ from the staff.  
(A) quality  
(B) fame  
(C) interruption  
(D) care  
(E) work
11. Medicine is used to \_\_\_\_\_ pain.  
(A) widen  
(B) conjure  
(C) enliven  
(D) increase  
(E) relieve
12. To drench the flowers means to \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
(A) steam  
(B) drink  
(C) touch  
(D) soak  
(E) anger
13. A bicycle is a means of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) nourishment  
(B) transportation  
(C) prediction  
(D) collision  
(E) walking
14. When someone speaks in a whisper, it may be difficult to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) deceive  
(B) understand  
(C) frighten  
(D) estimate  
(E) regulate



## PART 2: COMPREHENSION

In this part of the reading test you will be provided with a series of brief paragraphs. You are to read each paragraph and then answer the questions that appear after the paragraph.

There are many different kinds of fish. All fish live in water. They use their tails and fins to swim.

15. Fish live in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) cups  
(B) houses  
(C) air  
(D) water  
(E) fountains
16. Fish use their \_\_\_\_\_ to swim.  
(A) tails  
(B) heads  
(C) gills  
(D) lungs  
(E) floats

Maria grew up on a farm. She loved the work on the farm. She knew when all of the crops had to be planted. She would like a job on a farm or in a flower garden.

17. Maria has had experience as a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) guide  
(B) farmer  
(C) driver  
(D) nurse  
(E) teacher
18. She would like to work in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) an office  
(B) a library  
(C) a garden  
(D) a hospital

(E) a supermarket

19. As a child Maria lived \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) in the city  
(B) in an apartment  
(C) on a farm  
(D) in a large house  
(E) on the beach

Carolyn has a good job. She is a nurse in a large hospital. Every day she can help many people. She enjoys this very much. She also makes a good salary. Each month she can pay her bills and save some money.

20. Carolyn works in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) hospital  
(B) doctor's office  
(C) garage  
(D) school  
(E) library
21. One of the things Carolyn enjoys is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) working in an office  
(B) helping people  
(C) reading books  
(D) working late hours  
(E) driving a car

22. With her salary she can pay her bills and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) buy furniture  
(B) give to charity  
(C) save money  
(D) buy new clothes  
(E) pay for college

This completes the Self-Assessment Reading Test.

### Answers

- |      |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 7. C  | 13. B | 19. C |
| 2. A | 8. B  | 14. B | 20. A |
| 3. C | 9. C  | 15. D | 21. B |
| 4. B | 10. D | 16. A | 22. C |
| 5. D | 11. E | 17. B |       |
| 6. A | 12. D | 18. C |       |

If your score is less than 17, you may have difficulty reading the Written Examination and should consider taking the Oral Examination in place of the Written Examination.



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# The Skills Evaluation



## WHAT TO EXPECT

### SETTING

The Skills Evaluation is set up to look like an actual care-giving situation. The Skills Evaluation area will look like your work setting. It will have all the equipment needed to perform the assigned skills. The Skills Evaluation will be given by a Nurse Aide Evaluator. Before your Skills Evaluation begins, the evaluator will show you where equipment is and answer questions about using the equipment. Please arrive 30 minutes early. Please plan to spend the day. See pages 23-30 for the complete skills listing.

### WHO WILL ACT AS A CLIENT

The part of the “client” will be played by a candidate who will act like an elderly person. While you perform the skills, speak to the client as you would speak to an actual client in a nurse aide work setting. It’s good to speak to the client not only because it is part of quality care, but also because it will help you to relax as you perform the skills.

Please note, you cannot get help from anyone during the Skills Evaluation, and you must speak to the client in English so that the evaluator can understand and correctly score the evaluation. If either one of you gives help or receives help during the test or you and the client are talking in a language other than English, the test will be stopped.

### CANDIDATE VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

You will need to act as a candidate volunteer for another nurse aide’s Skills Evaluation and play the role of a nursing home patient (client). You will get instructions on how you should act in your role as the client. You must wear flat, slip-on, non-skid shoes; a loose-fitting top with short sleeves that can be rolled up to the shoulder or tank top; and loose fitting pants that can be rolled up. You will have to put a gown on over your clothing. In no case should anyone remove clothing down to undergarments.

Before starting the test, you should tell the evaluator about any food or latex allergy or sensitivity to skin soaps or lotion. If you have trouble with any range of motion, you should tell the evaluator before you start.

You should not come to the test site with open sores on the skin. Candidates with any open sores on their skin should reschedule their skills test to a later date.

### THE TASKS

The NNAAP Skills List shows all of the skills that you may be asked to do during the Skills Evaluation. The skills have been broken down into steps.

A step that is highlighted in bold type is called a Critical Element Step. Critical Element Steps are important steps that must be performed correctly in order for you to pass the skill. If you leave out a Critical Element Step or do not perform a Critical Element Step correctly, you will not pass the skill. However, if you perform only the Critical Element Step correctly, you do not automatically pass that skill. You must also correctly perform enough steps to meet the passing standard (or cut score) for each skill.

Before your Skills Evaluation begins, the Nurse Aide Evaluator will give you an instruction card that will list the five (5) skills selected for you to perform. Hand-washing will always be one of the skills to be performed. The remaining four (4) skills are randomly chosen from the skills listings on pages 23 to 30 of this handbook. You should perform the skills in the order they are listed on the instruction card.

- If you make a mistake, say so, and you will be instructed to tell the evaluator which step(s) is to be corrected and then to perform the step(s). You will not have to redo the entire skill, just the steps you want to correct. There are some exceptions to this rule. If you don’t put on gloves or take them off when required, and the evaluator reminds you to do that, then you will not get credit for trying to correct this step.
- If you want to correct a step that must be done in order — a step that has to be performed before or after another step — and you forget to say when the corrected step should be performed, you will not get credit for the correction.
- Once you begin a new skill, you can’t go back to correct the skill that came before it.

- The Nurse Aide Evaluator will not answer questions during the Skills Evaluation and will not tell you whether you performed a skill correctly. You may not receive help from anyone during the Skills Evaluation. If you do have any questions, please ask them before the Skills Evaluation begins.
- One (1) of the four (4) randomly selected skills will include a measurement skill (see the section below, Recording A Measurement, for more information on measurement skills).
- You must successfully complete five (5) out of the five (5) skills in the skill form to pass the Skills Evaluation. You will have 30 minutes to demonstrate all 5 skills. When 25 minutes have elapsed the Nurse Aide Evaluator will tell you that you have 5 minutes left.
- When you have finished your Skills Evaluation, the evaluator will tell you to wash your hands. This will not affect your score, but you must wash your hands as a hygiene measure.

## RECORDING A MEASUREMENT

For your Skills Evaluation, you must perform one measurement skill, such as blood pressure, radial pulse, respirations, urine output or weight. You will be given a special form, called a Recording Sheet for Measurement Skills, to write down the measurement. For example, if performing the Measures and Records Blood Pressure skill, you will write the complete systolic and diastolic pressures of your blood pressure reading in a box labeled Candidate Results.

On the following page is a copy of the recording sheet that will be used during the skills exam. You must record your results in the Candidate Results box on this sheet. This sheet will be used to record the results of the following measurement skills:

- Measures and Records Blood Pressure
- Measures and Records Weight of Ambulatory Client
- Measures and Records Urinary Output
- Counts and Records Radial Pulse
- Counts and Records Respirations

## TIPS FOR THE SKILLS EVALUATION

- You will be expected to perform the skills just like you would in a nursing home setting. When water is required, you must use running water. You will be required to perform the Hand Hygiene skill.
- For your skills evaluation, you don't have to wash your hands for each skill. You can just tell the evaluator "Now I would wash my hands." You don't have to wash them each time, as long as you tell the evaluator when you would wash them if this were a real situation.
- For all steps other than hand-washing, you must actually perform the skill in order to get credit. You can't tell the evaluator what you would do for simulating a step. You have to actually do the step.
- After you have introduced yourself to the client for the first time, it is not necessary for you to introduce yourself each time you begin a new skill.
- To receive full credit for a measurement skill, you must accurately make the required measurement and then write that measurement on the Recording Sheet for Measurement Skills. The evaluator will provide the Recording Sheet to you at the test site. A sample of the Recording Sheet is shown on page 23 of this handbook. It's best for you to become familiar with the Recording Sheet before your scheduled test date.
- You must know how to use both a standing and a non-digital bathroom scale and must know how to set both types of scales to zero.
- You may not bring any of your own equipment to the test site (like a transfer/gait belt).
- It is important for you to place the call signal within the client's reach whenever you leave the client.
- Where the word "client" appears, it refers to the person receiving care.



## RECORDING SHEET FOR MEASUREMENT SKILLS

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Test Site ID \_\_\_\_\_

CANDIDATE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CANDIDATE ID \_\_\_\_\_

EVALUATOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EVALUATOR ID \_\_\_\_\_

### SKILL TESTED

*Evaluator must check one box next to the skill being tested.*

- |                                         |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood Pressure | <input type="checkbox"/> Respirations |
|                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Urine Output |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radial Pulse   | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight       |

| CANDIDATE RESULTS | EVALUATOR RESULTS |
|-------------------|-------------------|
|                   |                   |

## Skills Listing

The skills that follow are arranged in alphabetical order, except for the Hand Hygiene (Hand Washing) skill. Hand Hygiene is listed first as a reminder of the importance of performing this skill before all other skills. The numbered lines below each skill are the steps needed to perform that skill. Critical Element Steps are in bold type.

### SKILL 1 — HAND HYGIENE (HAND WASHING)

- 1 Address client by name and introduces self to client by name
- 2 Turns on water at sink
- 3 Wets hands and wrists thoroughly
- 4 Applies soap to hands
- 5 Lathers all surfaces of wrists, hands and fingers producing friction, for at least 20 (twenty) seconds, keeping hands lower than the elbows and the fingertips down**
- 6 Cleans fingernails by rubbing fingertips against palms of the opposite hand
- 7 Rinse all surfaces of wrists, hands and fingers, keeping hands lower than the elbows and the fingertips down**
- 8 Uses clean, dry paper towel/towels to dry all surfaces of fingers, hands and wrists starting at fingertips then disposes of paper towel/towels into waste container
- 9 Uses clean, dry paper towel/towels to turn off faucet then disposes of paper towel/towels into waste container or uses knee/foot control to turn off faucet
- 10 Does not touch inside of sink at any time

### SKILL 2 — APPLIES ONE KNEE-HIGH ELASTIC STOCKING

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Client is in supine position (lying down in bed) while stocking is applied
- 4 Turns stocking inside-out, at least to the heel
- 5 Places foot of stocking over toes, foot and heel
- 6 Pulls top of stocking over foot, heel and leg
- 7 Moves foot and leg gently and naturally, avoiding force and over-extension of limb and joints



8 **Finishes procedure with no twists or wrinkles and heel of stocking, if present, is over heel and opening in toe area (if present) is either over or under toe area; if using a mannequin, candidate may state stocking needs to be wrinkle-free**

9 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

10 After completing skill, wash hands

### SKILL 3 — ASSISTS TO AMBULATE USING TRANSFER BELT

1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible

2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door

3 **Before assisting to stand, client is wearing non-skid shoes/ footwear**

4 Before assisting to stand, bed is at a safe level

5 Before assisting to stand, checks and/or locks bed wheels

6 **Before assisting to stand, client is assisted to sitting position with feet flat on the floor**

7 Before assisting to stand, applies transfer belt securely at the waist over clothing/gown

8 Before assisting to stand, provides instructions to enable client to assist in standing including prearranged signal to alert client to begin standing

9 Stands facing client positioning self to ensure safety of candidate and client during transfer. Counts to three (or says other prearranged signal) to alert client to begin standing

10 On signal, gradually assists client to stand by grasping transfer belt on both sides with an upward grasp (candidate's hands are in upward position), and maintaining stability of client's legs by standing knee to knee or toe to toe with client

11 Walks slightly behind and to one side of client for a distance of ten (10) feet, while holding onto the belt

12 Assists client to bed and removes transfer belt

13 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

14 After completing skill, wash hands

### SKILL 4 — ASSISTS WITH USE OF BEDPAN

1 Explains procedure speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible

2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door

3 Before placing bedpan, lowers head of bed

4 Puts on clean gloves before placing bedpan under client

5 Places bedpan correctly under client's buttocks

6 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands

7 After positioning client on bedpan and removing gloves, raises head of bed

8 Toilet tissue is within reach

9 Hand wipe is within reach and client is instructed to clean hands with hand wipe when finished

10 Signaling device within reach and client is asked to signal when finished

11 Puts on clean gloves before removing bedpan

12 Head of bed is lowered before bedpan is removed

13 Ensures client is covered except when placing and removing bedpan

14 Empties and rinses bedpan and pours rinse into toilet

15 Places bedpan in designated dirty supply area

16 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands

17 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

### SKILL 5 — CLEANS UPPER OR LOWER DENTURE

1 Puts on clean gloves before handling denture

2 Bottom of sink is lined and/or sink is partially filled with water before denture is held over sink

3 Rinses denture in moderate temperature running water before brushing them

4 Applies denture toothpaste to toothbrush

5 Brushes all surfaces of denture

6 Rinses all surfaces of denture under moderate temperature running

water

- 7 Rinses denture cup and lid
- 8 Places denture in denture cup with moderate temperature water/solution and places lid on cup
- 9 Rinses toothbrush and places in designated toothbrush basin/container
- 10 Maintains clean technique with placement of toothbrush and denture
- 11 Sink liner is removed and disposed of appropriately and/or sink is drained
- 12 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands

## SKILL 6 — COUNTS AND RECORDS RADIAL PULSE

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Places fingertips on thumb side of client's wrist to locate radial pulse
- 3 Count beats for one full minute
- 4 Signaling device is within reach
- 5 Before recording, washes hands
- 6 **Records pulse rate within plus or minus 4 beats of evaluator's reading**

## SKILL 7 — COUNTS AND RECORDS RESPIRATIONS

- 1 Explains procedure (for testing purposes), speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Counts respirations for one full minute
- 3 Signaling device is within reach
- 4 Before recording, washes hands
- 5 **Records respiration rate within plus or minus 2 breaths of evaluator's reading**

## SKILL 8 — DONNING AND REMOVING PPE (GOWN AND GLOVES)

- 1 Picks up gown and unfolds
- 2 Facing the back opening of the gown places arms through each sleeve
- 3 Fastens the neck opening
- 4 Secures gown at waist making sure that back of clothing is covered by gown (as much as possible)
- 5 Puts on gloves
- 6 Cuffs of gloves overlap cuffs of gown
- 7 **Before removing gown, with one gloved hand, grasps the other glove at the palm, remove glove**
- 8 **Slips fingers from ungloved hand underneath cuff of remaining glove at wrist, and removes glove turning it inside out as it is removed**
- 9 Disposes of gloves into designated waste container without contaminating self
- 10 After removing gloves, unfastens gown at waist and neck
- 11 After removing gloves, removes gown without touching outside of gown
- 12 While removing gown, holds gown away from body without touching the floor, turns gown inward and keeps it inside out
- 13 Disposes of gown in designated container without contaminating self
- 14 After completing skill, washes hands

## SKILL 9 — DRESSES CLIENT WITH AFFECTED (WEAK) RIGHT ARM

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Asks which shirt he/she would like to wear and dresses him/her in shirt of choice
- 4 Avoids overexposure of client by ensuring client's chest is covered
- 5 Removes gown from the left (unaffected) side first, then removes gown from the right (affected/weak) side

- 6 Before dressing client, disposes of gown into soiled linen container
- 7 Assists to put the right (affected/weak) arm through the right sleeve of the shirt before placing garment on left (unaffected) arm**
- 8 While putting on shirt, moves body gently and naturally, avoiding force and over-extension of limbs and joints
- 9 Finishes with clothing in place
- 10 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position
- 11 After completing skill, washes hands

### SKILL 10 — FEEDS CLIENT WHO CANNOT FEED SELF

- 1 Explains procedure to client, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Before feeding, looks at name card on tray and asks client to state name
- 3 Before feeding client, client is in an upright sitting position (75-90 degrees)**
- 4 Places tray where the food can be easily seen by client
- 5 Candidate cleans client's hands before beginning feeding
- 6 Candidate sits in a chair facing client during feeding
- 7 Tells client what foods and beverage are on tray
- 8 Asks client what he/she would like to eat first
- 9 Using spoon, offers client one bite of each type of food on tray, telling client the content of each spoonful
- 10 Offers beverage at least once during meal
- 11 Candidate asks client if they are ready for next bite of food or sip of beverage
- 12 At end of meal, candidate cleans client's mouth and hands
- 13 Removes food tray
- 14 Leaves client in upright sitting position (75-90 degrees) with signaling device within client's reach
- 15 After completing skill, washes hands

### SKILL 11 — GIVES MODIFIED BED BATH (FACE AND ONE ARM, HAND AND UNDERARM)

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Removes gown and places directly in soiled linen container while ensuring client's chest and lower body is covered
- 4 Before washing, checks water temperature for safety and comfort and asks client to verify comfort of water
- 5 Puts on clean gloves before washing client.
- 6 Beginning with eyes, washes eyes with wet washcloth (no soap), using a different area of the washcloth for each stroke, washing inner aspect to outer aspect then proceeds to wash face**
- 7 Dries face with dry cloth towel/washcloth
- 8 Exposes one arm and places cloth towel underneath arm
- 9 Applies soap to wet washcloth
- 10 Washes fingers (including fingernails), hand, arm and underarm keeping rest of body covered
- 11 Rinses and dries fingers, hand, arm and underarm
- 12 Moves body gently and naturally, avoiding force and over-extension of limbs and joints
- 13 Puts clean gown on client
- 14 Empties, rinses, and dries basin
- 15 Places basin in designated dirty supply area
- 16 Disposes of linen into soiled linen container
- 17 Avoids contact between candidate clothing and used linens
- 18 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands
- 19 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

## SKILL 12\* — MEASURES AND RECORDS ELECTRONIC BLOOD PRESSURE

\*STATE SPECIFIC (EVALUATOR: DO NOT SUBSTITUTE THIS SKILL FOR SKILL 23 'MANUAL BLOOD PRESSURE')

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Has client assume a comfortable lying or sitting position
- 4 Client's arm is positioned at level of heart with palm up and upper arm is exposed
- 5 Selects appropriate cuff size
- 6 Feels for brachial artery on inner aspect of arm, at bend of elbow
- 7 Places blood pressure cuff snugly on client's upper arm and sensor/ arrow is over the brachial artery site
- 8 Turns on the machine and ensures device is functioning. If the machine has different settings for infants, children and adults, selects the appropriate setting.
- 9 Pushes start button. If cuff inflates to more than 200 mm Hg then stops machine and uses cuff on client's other arm.
- 10 Waits until the blood pressure reading appears on the screen and for the cuff to deflate, then removes the cuff
- 11 Signaling device is within reach
- 12 Before recording, washes hands
- 13 After obtaining reading using BP cuff, records both systolic and diastolic pressures exactly as displayed on the digital screen**

## SKILL 13 — MEASURES AND RECORDS URINARY OUTPUT

- 1 Puts on clean gloves before handling bedpan
- 2 Pours the contents of the bedpan into measuring container without spilling or splashing urine outside of container
- 3 Rinses bedpan and pours rinse into toilet
- 4 Measures the amount of urine at eye level with container on flat surface (if between measurement lines, round up to nearest 25 ml/cc)

- 5 After measuring urine, empties contents of measuring container into toilet
- 6 Rinses measuring container and pours rinse into toilet
- 7 Before recording output, removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands
- 8 Records contents of container within plus or minus 25 ml/cc of evaluator's reading**

## SKILL 14 — MEASURES AND RECORDS WEIGHT OF AMBULATORY CLIENT

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Client has non-skid shoes/footwear on before walking to scale
- 3 Before client steps on scale, candidate sets scale to zero
- 4 Asks client to step on center of scale and obtains client's weight
- 5 Asks client to step off scale
- 6 Before recording, washes hands
- 7 Records weight based on indicator on scale. Weight is within plus or minus 2 lbs of evaluator's reading (If weight recorded in kg weight is within plus or minus 0.9 kg of evaluator's reading).**

## SKILL 15 — PERFORMS MODIFIED PASSIVE RANGE OF MOTION (PROM) FOR ONE KNEE AND ONE ANKLE

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Ensures that client is supine in bed and instructs client to inform candidate if pain is experienced during exercise
- 4 While supporting the leg at knee and ankle, bends the knee and then returns leg to client's normal position (flexion/extension) (AT LEAST 3 TIMES unless pain is verbalized). Moves joints gently, slowly and smoothly through the range of motion, discontinuing exercise if client verbalizes pain.**

- 5 **While supporting the foot and ankle close to the bed, pushes/pulls foot toward head (dorsiflexion), and pushes/pulls foot down, toes point down (plantar flexion) (AT LEAST 3 TIMES unless pain is verbalized). Moves joints gently, slowly and smoothly through the range of motion, discontinuing exercise if client verbalizes pain.**
- 6 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position
- 7 After completing skill, washes hands

## SKILL 16 — PERFORMS MODIFIED PASSIVE RANGE OF MOTION (PROM) FOR ONE SHOULDER

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Instructs client to inform candidate if pain experienced during exercise
- 4 **While supporting arm at the elbow and at the wrist, raises client's straightened arm from side position upward toward head to ear level and returns arm down to side of body (flexion/extension) (AT LEAST 3 TIMES unless pain is verbalized). Moves joint gently, slowly and smoothly through the range of motion, discontinuing exercise if client verbalizes pain.**
- 5 **While supporting arm at the elbow and at the wrist, moves client's straightened arm away from the side of body to shoulder level and returns to side of body (abduction/adduction) (AT LEAST 3 TIMES unless pain is verbalized). Moves joint gently, slowly and smoothly through the range of motion, discontinuing exercise if client verbalizes pain.**
- 6 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position
- 7 After completing skill, washes hands

## SKILL 17 — POSITIONS ON SIDE

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Before turning, lowers head of bed
- 4 Raises side rail on side to which body will be turned

- 5 Candidate assists client to slowly roll onto side toward raised side rail
- 6 Places or adjusts pillow under head for support
- 7 Candidate repositions arm and shoulder so that client is not lying on arm
- 8 Supports top arm with supportive device
- 9 Places supportive device behind client's back
- 10 Places supportive device between legs with top knee flexed; knee and ankle supported
- 11 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position
- 12 After completing skill, washes hands

## SKILL 18 — PROVIDES CATHETER CARE FOR FEMALE

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Before washing, checks water temperature for safety and comfort and asks client to verify comfort of water
- 4 Puts on clean gloves before washing
- 5 Places linen protector under perineal area including buttocks before washing
- 6 Exposes area surrounding catheter (only exposing client between hip and knee)
- 7 Applies soap to wet washcloth
- 8 **While holding catheter at meatus without tugging, cleans at least four inches of catheter from meatus, moving in only one direction, away from meatus, using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke**
- 9 **While holding catheter at meatus without tugging, using a clean washcloth, rinses at least four inches of catheter from meatus, moving only in one direction, away from meatus, using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke**
- 10 While holding catheter at meatus without tugging, dries at least four inches of catheter moving away from meatus using a dry cloth towel/ washcloth
- 11 Empties, rinses and dries basin



- 12 Places basin in designated dirty supply area
- 13 Disposes of used linen into soiled linen container and disposes of linen protector appropriately
- 14 Avoids contact between candidate clothing and used linen
- 15 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands
- 16 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

## SKILL 19 — PROVIDES FOOT CARE ON ONE FOOT

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Before washing, checks water temperature for safety and comfort and asks client to verify comfort of water
- 4 Basin is in a comfortable position for client and on protective barrier
- 5 Puts on clean gloves before washing foot
- 6 Client's bare foot is placed into the water
- 7 Applies soap to wet washcloth
- 8 Lifts foot from water and washes foot (including between the toes)
- 9 Foot is rinsed (including between the toes)
- 10 Dries foot (including between the toes) with dry cloth towel/washcloth
- 11 Applies lotion to top and bottom of foot (excluding between the toes) removing excess with a towel/washcloth
- 12 Supports foot and ankle during procedure
- 13 Empties, rinses and dries basin
- 14 Places basin in designated dirty supply area
- 15 Disposes of used linen into soiled linen container
- 16 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands
- 17 Signaling device is within reach

## SKILL 20 — PROVIDES MOUTH CARE

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Before providing mouth care, client is in upright sitting position (75-90 degrees)
- 4 Puts on clean gloves before cleaning mouth
- 5 Places cloth towel across chest before providing mouth care
- 6 Secures cup of water and moistens toothbrush
- 7 Before cleaning mouth, applies toothpaste to moistened toothbrush
- 8 Cleans mouth (including tongue and all surfaces of teeth), using gentle motions**
- 9 Maintains clean technique with placement of toothbrush
- 10 Candidate holds emesis basin to chin while client rinses mouth
- 11 Candidate wipes mouth and removes clothing protector
- 12 Disposes of used linen into soiled linen container
- 13 Rinses toothbrush and empties, rinses and dries basin
- 14 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands
- 15 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

## SKILL 21 — PROVIDES PERINEAL CARE

(Peri-Care) for Female

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door
- 3 Before washing, checks water temperature for safety and comfort and asks client to verify comfort of water
- 4 Puts on clean gloves before washing perineal area
- 5 Places pad/ linen protector under perineal area including buttocks before washing
- 6 Exposes perineal area (only exposing between hips and knees)
- 7 Applies soap to wet washcloth

**8 Washes genital area, moving from front to back, while using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke**

**9 Using clean washcloth, rinses soap from genital area, moving from front to back, while using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke**

10 Dries genital area moving from front to back with dry cloth towel/washcloth

11 After washing genital area, turns to side, then washes rectal area moving from front to back using a clean area of washcloth for each stroke.

12 Using clean washcloth, rinses soap from rectal area, moving from front to back, while using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke

13 Dries rectal area moving from front to back with dry cloth towel/washcloth

14 Repositions client

15 Empties, rinses and dries basin

16 Places basin in designated dirty supply area

17 Disposes of used linen into soiled linen container and disposes of linen protector appropriately

18 Avoids contact between candidate clothing and used linen

19 Removes and disposes of gloves (without contaminating self) into waste container and washes hands

20 Signaling device is within reach and bed is in low position

## **SKILL 22 — TRANSFERS FROM BED TO WHEELCHAIR USING TRANSFER BELT**

1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and directly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible

2 Privacy is provided with a curtain, screen or door

3 Before assisting to stand, wheelchair is positioned alongside of bed, at head of bed facing foot or foot of bed facing head

4 Before assisting to stand, footrests are folded up or removed

5 Before assisting to stand, locks wheels on wheelchair

6 Before assisting to stand, bed is at a safe level

7 Before assisting to stand, checks and/or locks bed wheels

**8 Before assisting to stand, client is assisted to a sitting position with feet flat on the floor**

9 Before assisting to stand, client is wearing shoes

10 Before assisting to stand, applies transfer belt securely at the waist over clothing/gown

11 Before assisting to stand, provides instructions to enable client to assist in transfer including prearranged signal to alert when to begin standing

12 Stands facing client positioning self to ensure safety of candidate and client during transfer. Counts to three (or says other prearranged signal) to alert client to begin standing.

13 On signal, gradually assists client to stand by grasping transfer belt on both sides with an upward grasp (candidate's hands are in upward position) and maintaining stability of client's legs by standing knee to knee or toe to toe with the client

14 Assists client to turn to stand in front of wheelchair with back of client's legs against wheelchair

15 Lowers client into wheelchair

16 Positions client with hips touching back of wheelchair and transfer belt is removed

17 Positions feet on footrests

18 Signaling device is within reach

## SKILL 23\* — MEASURES AND RECORDS MANUAL BLOOD PRESSURE

\*STATE SPECIFIC (EVALUATOR: DO NOT SUBSTITUTE THIS SKILL FOR SKILL 12 'ELECTRONIC BLOOD PRESSURE')

- 1 Explains procedure, speaking clearly, slowly and correctly, maintaining face-to-face contact whenever possible
- 2 Before using stethoscope, cleans bell/diaphragm and earpieces of stethoscope with alcohol
- 3 Client's arm is positioned with palm up and upper arm is exposed
- 4 Feels for brachial artery on inner aspect of arm, at bend of elbow
- 5 Places blood pressure cuff snugly on client's upper arm, with sensor/arrow over brachial artery site
- 6 Earpieces of stethoscope are in ears and bell/diaphragm is over brachial artery site
- 7 Candidate inflates cuff between 160mm Hg to 180 mm Hg. If beat heard immediately upon cuff deflation, completely deflate cuff. Reinflate cuff to no more than 200 mm Hg.
- 8 Listens consistently and notes the first sound (systolic reading) and last sound (diastolic reading) (If rounding needed, measurements are rounded to the nearest 2 mm of mercury)
- 9 Removes cuff
- 10 Signaling device is within reach
- 11 Before recording, washes hands
- 12 **After obtaining reading using BP cuff and stethoscope, records both systolic and diastolic pressures each within plus or minus 8 mm of evaluator's readings**

# Exam Results

You will get a notification email from CNA365 when a new exam score has been posted to your online account. To see your score report, please login to your CNA365 account by clicking the “CNA365 Login” button on the top of the District Of Columbia nurse aide website page at [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc).

Score reports are generally available within a few hours after the day’s testing event is completed. If it has been more than 24 hours and you’re not able to see your score report in CNA365, please contact customer service at 800-457-6752.

## SCORE REPORTING

Credentia will provide you with your official examination results within a few hours after a testing event is completed for the day. Score reports are provided online and are available for you to print or download. Examinations results will not be given over the telephone nor can they be sent by Credentia to your employer.

## IF YOU RECEIVE A FAILING SCORE

- If you fail the Written (or Oral) Examination or the Skills Evaluation, your Score Report will tell you how to retake either or both parts.
- If you fail either part of the NNAAP Examination three (3) times, you will need to complete another training program and retake BOTH parts of the NNAAP Examination, not just the part that was failed.
- In addition, if you were scheduled to take the exam 3 times and did not become licensed — either as a result of failing the exam or absence(s) — you will need to retrain.
- If you are either an E3 or an E4 candidate (see page 7), you have **ONLY ONE** attempt to pass the examination. If you fail, you **MUST** retrain and reapply under eligibility route E0.

See Registration and Scheduling for more details.

## HOW TO READ A FAILING SCORE REPORT

If you don’t pass the Skills Evaluation, you’ll get a Failing Score Report. The score report will list the five (5) skills that you performed and a score of Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory for each skill. Any skill with an Unsatisfactory result is considered a failed skill. You need a Satisfactory result on all five (5) skills in order to pass the Skills Evaluation.

**IMPORTANT:** Use your Failing Score Report to help you study for when you retake the Skills Evaluation. A failed skill will show the reason for the failure, and you can use this information to make sure you do this the skill correctly when you retake it. Find the skill you failed, and study the steps, especially steps listed as Unsatisfactory on the score report.

In the example below, a candidate got an Unsatisfactory on the skill Hand Hygiene. The numbers 1, 5 and 10 printed below the skill refer to steps that were missed or performed incorrectly. To study for retaking the Skills Evaluation, you should turn to the Skills Listing in this handbook, look for the Hand Hygiene skill, and review all the steps, especially steps 1, 5 and 10.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NNAAP® EXAMINATION RESULTS

| Exam: Skills                                      | Result: Fail   |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Skills Performance:</b>                        |                |
| Hand Hygiene<br>1, 5, 10                          | Unsatisfactory |
| Provides Mouth Care                               | Satisfactory   |
| Written Examination only                          | Satisfactory   |
| Measures and Records Blood Pressure               | Satisfactory   |
| Puts One Knee-High<br>Elastic Stocking on Client  | Satisfactory   |
| Assists Client to Ambulate using<br>transfer belt | Satisfactory   |

A sample of a Failing Score Report

## PASSING

Once you have passed both the written (or Oral English or Spanish) Examination and the Skills Examination, you will be sent to the DC registry department who will validate your background check before placing you on the DC Nurse Aide Registry. A Registry Certificate (also known as a Notice of Enrollment) will be sent after you successfully complete both the Written (or Oral English or Spanish) Examination and the Skills Evaluation. You must show this card to your employer. Do not make any changes to your Registry Certificate. Any changes to the Registry Certificate could affect your status as a Nurse Aide.

**NOTE: Certification is valid for the time period indicated on the certificate and will expire if not renewed.**

## Grievance Process

All grievances must be in writing and submitted through the online system. The candidate must provide as much detail as possible in the grievance form. The grievance must be submitted within 30 days of the candidate's exam date. After receipt of the grievance form, the complaint will be investigated.

Once the investigation is complete, Credentia will send email correspondence back to the candidate informing him/her of the outcome of the investigation. If the grievance is substantiated, the candidate will be allowed to retest at no additional cost.

For details on how to submit a grievance, visit [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc) and click on "Grievances" in the Resources section of the webpage. You will receive a response within 30 days of receipt

## The Registry

### CNA365 ONLINE RENEWAL

Credentia's CNA365 system allows for an online registration renewal process. Approximately sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of your registry Certificate, you will be sent an email renewal reminder. CNA365 allows individuals to:

- Renew their nurse aide registration
- Update their address (during and outside the renewal registration process)
- Initiate name and social security number changes

For detailed instructions how to renew online, visit [www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc](http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc) and select "How to Renew Your Registration" in the Nurse Aide Registry Resource.



# Frequently asked Questions

DC Nurse Aide Registry



| QUESTION                                                                   | ANSWER AND REFERENCE (WHERE APPLICABLE)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. How do I become a CNA?                                                  | You must successfully complete an approved training program and pass both portions of the examination within two (2) years of training at an approved testing site. Check the Exam Overview Section of this handbook for other options.                                                                                      |
| 2. May I perform the duties of a Nurse Aide before I am certified?         | For Nurse Aides, if you have been employed, you have 120 days (4 months) in which to become certified.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3. How do I arrange for Special accommodations?                            | Special requests must be submitted and approved prior to testing. Documentation from your physician or other qualifying professional must be included with the request. Please refer to the Accommodations section of the candidate handbook for details.                                                                    |
| 4. How do I decide which exam to take?                                     | An Oral Examination in English may be substituted for the Written examination if you have difficulty reading English. It contains ten (10) reading comprehension questions in which you must identify job-related words.                                                                                                     |
| 5. Is there a time limit in which I must pass both exams?                  | For the Nurse Aide currently working in a healthcare setting, you have 4 months to become certified.<br><br>For all other Nurse Aides applicants, you must pass both exams within 24 months of the completion of your training program.                                                                                      |
| 6. Can I register for an exam or check my scores online?                   | Registration must be done online.<br><br>Results are available online in your candidate account.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7. What form of payment do you accept and may I take it to the test site?  | All payments must be made online with a credit card, debit card or electronic voucher. NO form of payment will be accepted at the test site.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 8. What is the next test date?                                             | Login to your Credentia CNA365 account to view test dates                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9. How long will it take me to find out if I passed or failed?             | To access your score report, please log into your account at CNA365. Score reports are generally available within a few hours after a testing event is completed for the day. If it has been more than 24 hours and you are unable to view your score report in the portal, please contact customer service at 877-833-4542. |
| 10. How do I verify my certification status?                               | If you are certified, your name will be on the DC Nurse Aide Registry.<br>You may verify at: <a href="https://cna365.examroom.ai/registry/?StateCode=DC">https://cna365.examroom.ai/registry/?StateCode=DC</a>                                                                                                               |
| 11. How do I change my name and/ or address?                               | Mailing addresses can be changed online. Name changes require proof of the name change - i.e. marriage or divorce documents, etc.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 12. My certification expired. How do I renew it or become certified again? | Nurse Aides must retrain and retest when the certification has expired more than 24 months.<br>Nurse Aides who have expired certifications less than 24 months may reinstate the certification by providing proof of the performance of nursing services for pay and twenty four (24) continuing education hours.            |

| QUESTION                                                                                | ANSWER AND REFERENCE (WHERE APPLICABLE)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13. I'm moving to or from another state. May I perform nurse aide duties in that state? | <p>If you are moving TO DC, and you have been certified in another state, you may obtain certification by contacting Credentia: <a href="http://www.credentia.com/test-takers/dc">www.credentia.com/ test-takers/dc</a></p> <p>If you are moving FROM DC to another jurisdiction, you should contact the Board of Nursing or Department of Health for that state, to obtain state requirements.</p> |









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