

New process for the Nursing Assistant Exam

Washington is changing the process for completing the nursing assistant exam. The purpose is to increase students' access to skills testing following graduation.

- New process starts October 1, 2023.
- Registration for October skills testing slots starts now. (See steps below.)

Important Information

- **Graduates beginning their testing process October 1 or later will take the skills test first.**
 - Graduates are expected to pass the skills test before registering for the written test.
 - This change will save steps and time in testing and certification processes.
- **For October skills test dates, many approved nursing assistant training programs will schedule and provide skills tests for their current and previous graduates.**
 - View [list of the programs](#) ready to provide skills testing to their graduates.
 - More programs will begin providing skills testing in November or December.
 - By 2024, most programs will provide skills testing routinely immediately after graduation.
- **Graduates will no longer register for skills tests on Credentia365.**
 - They will continue to use Credentia365 to get their Candidate Identification (ID) number and register for the written (or oral) exam.
- **For October skills test dates, graduates will use these new steps to register and test.**

New Skills Test Registration Process

For graduates from approved Washington state Nursing Assistant Training programs:

Step 1: Get a Credentia Candidate ID number.

- [Create a Credentia365 account](#) and verify your email address.
- You need a Candidate ID number to:
 - Register for the skills test.
 - Register for the written (or oral) test.
 - Ensure your results are processed quickly.

Step 2: Register for the skills test.

- **Option A: Register with your training program**, if your training program is ready to provide skills testing
 - If your [training program offers testing](#), the program will reach out to you about available skills test dates and the registration and payment process.
 - Please wait for the program to contact you (or check the program's website for information). Contacting the program now will cause delays in scheduling.
- **Option B: Register through [WABON online scheduling](#)** if your training program is NOT providing skills testing at this time.
 - Use [WABON online scheduling](#) to register for a test location, date, and time.
 - The test site will follow up regarding their process for paying the skills test fee.

Step 3: Register for the written (or oral) test AFTER you pass the skills test.

Step 4: Apply for your nursing assistant-certified (NAC) credential with the [Department of Health \(DOH\)](#), if you have not already done so.

For Other Eligible Candidates (i.e., nursing students, military trained, out-of-state):

- Begin with Step 4 to gain your authorization to test, which is required prior to testing.
- Then follow Steps 1-3 in order.

Other Information

- Overall cost of the nursing assistant exam is the same, but the amounts paid for each part of the exam have changed.
 - Skills test fee will be \$100.
 - Written (or oral) test fee will be \$55.

Helpful Resources

- Program list: [Nursing Assistant Programs providing Skills Testing in October 2023](#)
- 1-page chart: [4-step nursing assistant exam process](#) (PDF)
- Video: [Nursing Assistant Exam Changes for October 2023 Overview](#) (YouTube)
- Presentation: [Nursing Assistant Exam Changes Overview](#) (PDF)