



Understanding Your Exam Results

Understanding Your Performance

The purpose of this report is to provide you with information to use as an aid to help you prepare for your next attempt at taking the Certification Practical Examination and it is not intended for any other purpose (e.g. employment).

The Passing Score

The passing score is used to separate a candidate's performance into a pass/fail status. The passing score for the overall examination is determined through a systematic process by a panel of subject matter experts.

Minimum Competency

A minimum competency is a standard used to determine candidate performance at each station for the purpose of providing diagnostic feedback. This standard is established through a systematic process by a panel of subject matter experts, and indicates the minimum standard required for meeting basic safety, professionalism and ethical standards of practice. It also safeguards the protection of the public. For detailed information see the *Minimum Competency Profile*.

Reliability of Examination Status

Orthotics Prosthetics Canada, through a careful process, has taken numerous steps to ensure the reliability of the results of their examinations.

Criterion Referenced Examination

The Certification Practical Examinations are criterion-referenced. They consist of stations that assess a candidate's performance with respect to specific criteria and standards required of newly Certified Orthotists/Prosthetists. Criterion-referenced pass/fail standards (passing scores) have been established for each station using examination industry best practices. The standards are performance-based and represent the level of performance necessary to enter practice, as determined by a representative panel of subject matter experts, with guidance from professional examination experts. This approach to making pass/fail decisions ensures that the same ability or performance standard is applied for each exam and it ensures that only candidates who meet or exceed this standard pass the exam.

It is a candidate's level of performance compared to this standard that determines whether the candidate passes or fails, not a comparison of how other candidates performed on the exam.

There is no built-in passing or failing rate with a criterion referenced pass/fail standard. Candidate scores are calculated as per the standardized rating tools and evaluated against the passing score.

In other words, a candidate's overall pass or fail status is a measure of the degree to which the candidate has achieved the absolute standard required of all minimally-competent candidates, rather than an indication of performance compared to other examination writers. This means your examination score is not compared to others who took the exam; rather, your score is based strictly on your own performance in relation to established standards of performance.

Candidate Diagnostic Performance Report

The *Candidate Diagnostic Performance Report* is intended to help you understand your performance in each of the eight (8) stations compared to the minimum competency for each station. It is not intended or designed to be used in determining the passing score or for any other purpose.

You do not need to meet or exceed the minimum standard in all stations in order to pass the examination. It is your overall performance that determines your examination status.