Intent

The intent of this directive is to allow Live Remote Proctored cognitive examinations and to specify the conditions and standards associated with a Live Remote Proctored Cognitive Examination.

Scope

This directive applies to Live Remote Proctored Cognitive Examinations, whether for National Registry certification, recertification by examination, or assessment examinations offered to State EMS Offices. This directive applies solely to the examination process and does not affect any policies, directives or procedures related to eligibility for certification.

Definitions

Live Remote Proctored Cognitive Examination (LRP Cognitive Examination) - shall mean an examination offered by secure internet connection, in which the candidate's examination is observed by a live test administrator (e.g., proctor) using audio and video monitoring through the internet connection.

Directive

The National Registry will temporarily offer LRP Cognitive Examinations during response to and recovery from the national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. LRP Cognitive Examinations are administered in a secure and standardized manner. Requirements for secure examination administration are made available to candidates.

Design of Live Remote Proctored Examinations

Passing standards and test plans for LRP Examinations are identical to examinations offered through the Pearson VUE test centers via computer-based testing. Standards related to proof of identity are established by Pearson Vue.

The forms for the LRP Cognitive Examinations are the same as the Pearson VUE on-site computer-based testing.

Examination Delivery

Live Remote Proctored Cognitive Examinations are offered exclusively through Pearson VUE's Online Proctored Testing Option Network. Technical specifications for the candidate's computer are provided to candidates prior to testing by Pearson VUE. Candidates without access to computers and network connections to Pearson VUE must complete their examinations at Pearson VUE test centers. Candidates for LRP Cognitive Examinations must comply with all Pearson VUE policies and procedures related to LRP Cognitive Examinations and National Registry policies and procedures for examination administration.

A live test administrator must proctor all LRP Cognitive Examinations. Live Remote Proctored sessions are video, and audio recorded for review if needed. Accommodations for extra time will be available through LRP Cognitive Examinations, but readers and most other accommodations are not available.

The examination forms, administration time, and number of allowed attempts within the candidate's eligibility are the same for both LRP Cognitive Examinations and for examinations administered at Pearson VUE test centers.

If the proctor observes irregular behavior during the examination, the examination will be terminated, and the case reviewed. If the investigation confirms irregular behavior during the examination, the examination attempt will be invalidated and future attempts must be conducted at Pearson VUE test centers, if eligible. Availability of future examinations may be limited in accordance with the Disciplinary Action Policy.

If an examination ends prior to completion due to technical issues without fault of the candidate and Pearson VUE could not restart or continue the examination, the result from that examination will be reviewed for potential nullification or other consideration. If a candidate completed more than 30% of the total examination time, the examination would count as an attempt at the cognitive examination.

If a technical error occurs during a LRP Cognitive Examination and the candidate and Pearson VUE can restart or continue the examination to full completion without the candidate's request to reschedule at the time of the error, the reported results will be upheld.

Duration of Availability

Live Remote Proctored Cognitive Examinations will be limited to the time period necessary for response and recovery from the national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, as determined by the National Registry Executive Director.

Applications for Live Remote Proctored Examinations

A candidate must meet all eligibility and application requirements to apply for cognitive examination. Once all requirements are met, including payment of the examination, an Authorization to Test (ATT) will be made available. The candidate will select a test administration mode (Remote Proctored Examination or Pearson VUE test center) in the Pearson VUE application webpage. Candidates will be allowed to change the mode of examination administration until the time of their scheduled examination.

Rationale

Access to Pearson VUE test centers during the national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is significantly limited due to government restrictions and requirements for social distancing. Live Remote

Proctored Examinations were authorized by the Board of Directors on March 19, 2020, to ensure availability of cognitive examinations during the response to and recovery from the national emergency.

Related Policies and Procedures

20-RESOLUTION-04 -Resolution for the Board of Directors for the National Registry to Encourage Governors to Open PVTCs & To Explore Options for Cognitive Examination

51.02 Disciplinary Action Policy

62.01.02 Handling Irregular Behavior

62.01.03 Sanctions for Irregular Behavior

References

Pearson VUE OnVUE Policies and Procedures

Automated Handling of OnVUE Technical Revokes – A description for Pearson VUE clients

Document History			
Version #	Approval date	Effective date	Revision Summary
01	04-20-2020	04-20-2020	Policy created and approved by National Registry Executive Director
02	02-08-2021	02-08-2021	Approved by the National Registry Executive Director
03	09-08-2021	09-08-2021	Approved by the National Registry Executive Director
		01-19-2022	Changed from Directive to Policy per Policy on Policies