



Candidate Information Bulletin

State of Nevada

Certified Nursing Assistant Examination

At a glance

The Nevada State Board of Nursing (NSBN) certifies, regulates and disciplines the practice of Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs). The NSBN has various requirements for becoming a CNA including establishing eligibility by taking a state-approved training program; qualifying, taking and successfully passing the Nursing Assistant Competency Exam; and endorsement.

The NSBN has contracted with Prometric Inc. to develop and administer its competency exam. This bulletin contains an overview of preparing for and taking the competency exam.



To be eligible to take the CNA competency exam

- 1 Submit a completed and signed Application for Certified Nursing Assistant to the NSBN. The application form is available by calling the NSBN or by submitting a request online at www.nursingboard.state.nv.us.

Once the NSBN determines you are eligible to take the competency exam, the NSBN will notify Prometric.

- 2 You will then need to contact one of the three colleges approved to administer the exam (see Page 2) and schedule an appointment to take the exam.

Part of the scheduling process will include paying the appropriate testing fees (see Page 3) prior to an appointment date being confirmed.

- 3 Prepare for your exam using the content outlines in this guide. (See Page 9.)

- 4 Bring the necessary identification to the test center and take your exam. (See Page 6.)



To get answers not provided in this bulletin

Direct all questions and requests for information about the exam to:

Prometric

1260 Energy Lane, St. Paul, MN 55108

Phone: 866.837.1416

Fax: 800.813.6670

www.prometric.com/NurseAide/NV

Direct questions about applications and certification to:

Nevada State Board of Nursing

2500 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 207

Las Vegas, NV 89102-4392

Phone: 702.486.5800; 888.590.6726

E-mail: nursingboard@nsbn.state.nv.us

www.nursingboard.state.nv.us

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Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to take the Nursing Assistant Competency Exam and be granted permanent certification in Nevada, the NSBN requires you to submit:

- A completed and signed application form, along with a \$50 application fee.
- A copy of your certificate of successful completion (within the past two years) of a state-approved training program that meets current OBRA requirements, or a transcript showing the completion of “nursing fundamentals.”
- Your fingerprint reports that have been cleared by the NSBN.

To obtain more information on becoming a CNA or to obtain an application, contact the NSBN online at www.nursingboard.state.nv.us or by calling 702.486.5800. When calling, be sure to identify yourself as a CNA applicant.

Scheduling the exam

After your application has been reviewed and approved, the NSBN will notify Prometric of your eligibility to test. Three weeks from the date you mailed your application, you can confirm your eligibility to test by contacting the NSBN or by calling one of the test sites.

Once you verify your eligibility, you will need to contact one of the three approved test center locations. When you contact a test center, they will identify their procedures for scheduling an appointment. This includes paying the test fees to the test center before an appointment will be confirmed.

You must take and pass the competency exam within **one year** of the date your application is received by the NSBN. To pass the competency exam, you must pass both the Clinical Skills Test and the Written or Oral (Knowledge) Test.



Important You have three opportunities to take and pass both parts of the competency exam. Each attempt requires the payment of a new test fee. If you fail either part of the exam three times, you must retrain before you can retest.

Approved test center locations

Nevada Nursing Assistant Competency Exam approved test site locations are:

- **College of Southern Nevada**, 6375 W Charleston Blvd., B149, Las Vegas, NV 89146, 702.651.5795.
- **Great Basin College**, 1500 College Pkwy., Elko, NV 89801, 775.753.2216.
- **Truckee Meadows Community College**, 7000 Dandini Blvd., Reno, NV 89512, 775.673.7115.

Testing is administered approximately once a month at each of these locations. Testing in Las Vegas and Reno is offered on Saturdays; however, these test sites have the option of offering local candidates the opportunity to take their Written or Oral (Knowledge) Test on a different day of the week. Most candidates will take the Written or Oral (Knowledge) Test and the Clinical Skills Test on the same day.



Note Test sites will verify a candidate's eligibility before scheduling the candidate for testing. Candidates whose applications have not been reviewed and approved by the NSBN will not be scheduled for any exam.

Special test considerations

ADA accommodation. If you require testing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), this request must accompany your application submitted to the NSBN. Reasonable testing accommodations are provided to allow candidates with documented disabilities, which are recognized under the ADA, an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. Candidates should submit professional documentation of the disability with their application to help determine the necessary testing arrangements. Thirty days' advance notice is required for all testing arrangements. There is no additional charge for these accommodations.

English as a Second Language (ESL) accommodation. The Nevada Nursing Assistant Competency Exam is administered in English only. Translators are not permitted and translation dictionaries may not be used during the exam. ESL candidates should review the "Oral Test" section on Page 4 to determine if this might be an option for them.

Fee information

Test fees are payable by money order or cashier's check payable to the college where the candidate is testing. Company checks paid by a nursing home employer or training program are also accepted. Personal checks and cash are not accepted.

Tests and related fees are as follows:

Service at College of Southern Nevada	Fee
Clinical Skills and Written (Oral) tests - first-time tester	\$120
Clinical Skills Retake Only	\$90
Written (or Oral) Retake Only	\$30

Service at Great Basin College	Fee
Clinical Skills and Written (Oral) tests - first-time tester	\$90
Clinical Skills Retake Only	\$60
Written (or Oral) Retake Only	\$30

Service at Truckee Meadows Community College	Fee
Clinical Skills and Written (Oral) tests - first-time tester	\$120
Clinical Skills Retake Only	\$90
Written (or Oral) Retake Only	\$30

Refund policy. Test fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable. Candidates who fail to complete testing during their eligibility period will not be refunded any unused test fees, nor will test fees be carried over to a new eligibility period.

Rescheduling and retesting

If you need to reschedule an appointment, you must contact the test site directly.

If absent or late. If you miss your appointment or arrive late and are not allowed to test, you will forfeit your test fees and will be required to repay fees to reschedule another appointment.

Retesting. You have three opportunities to take and pass both parts of the competency exam. Each attempt requires the payment of a new test fee. You are only required to retake the test you failed.

If you fail the test(s), and remain eligible to retest, you may retake the test(s) on the same day at the discretion of the test site based on availability of testing appointment(s) and ability to pay the required testing fees. However, this option is not encouraged since candidates are not likely to have adequate opportunity to prepare for retesting.

Emergency closing. Severe weather or an emergency could require canceling scheduled exams. If the site is closed, your exams will be rescheduled without a rescheduling fee.

Exam information

The Nursing Assistant Competency Exam consists of two separate tests. One test is a **Written (Knowledge) Test**. The other test is a hands-on skills demonstration referred to as the **Clinical Skills Test**. You may take the tests in either order. You are not required to pass one test before taking the other.



Note You have three opportunities to take and pass both parts of the competency exam. If you fail either the Clinical Skills Test or Written or Oral Test three times, you will be required to retrain before being allowed to retest.

Written (Knowledge) Test overview

The Written (Knowledge) Test consists of 60 multiple-choice questions that evaluate your nursing assistant knowledge and skills. You will have 90 minutes to complete the test. The content outline on Page 9 is the basis for the Written Test. The outline lists all topics covered in the exam.

You will take your test on a computer. You do not need computer experience to take the Written Test. You will use a computer mouse to select answers. You will receive a tutorial before the test begins to practice using the computer functions.

The review features:

- Moving the mouse and using the mouse to select answers.
- Marking a question for review.
- Viewing a summary list of questions showing answered and unanswered questions.
- Submitting the test for scoring.

Oral Test

The Written (Knowledge) Test may be taken in an oral form. During an Oral Test, you will be given a headset and will hear the questions read to you while reading and answering questions on the computer. You may replay questions as many times as needed.

The oral administration may be helpful to candidates who have a reading disability, limited reading skills or for those candidates who consider English their second language. The Reading Assessment on Page 10 may help candidates determine if they should consider taking the Written Test by oral administration.

If you would like to take the Oral Test, you **must** advise the test site at the time you schedule your exam appointment. This request **cannot** be made on the day of testing.

Practice Exam

A Nurse Aide Practice Exam is available online at www.prometric.com/NurseAide/NApracticeexam.htm. The practice exam is created in the same format and uses the same question types as the actual certification exam. The practice exam will also help you become familiar with the computer-based testing process.

During the practice exam, you will get immediate feedback to correct and incorrect responses as well as overall feedback at the end of the session. If you like, you may print out the final practice exam results to help you with further test preparation.

The Nurse Aide Practice Exam contains 50 questions. The fee for each practice exam is \$10 and is payable online using a credit or debit card at the time you purchase the practice exam.

Sample Test

A Nurse Aide Certification Sample Test is located on Page 12 of this bulletin. The sample test is intended to help you become familiar with the exam format. How well you do on this sample test does not predict your results on your actual test.

Clinical Skills Test overview

The Clinical Skills test is a timed test. The skills that you will be asked to perform are assigned by computer at the time you are scheduled for testing. For your test, you will be scored on five skills. While performing three assigned skills, you will also be scored on two additional skills — Handwashing and Indirect Care. Indirect Care is care related to resident rights and preferences, communication with the resident, resident safety, comfort and needs, and infection control.

The amount of time you will have to take your test is based on the skills you are asked to perform. The times for this test vary since some skills take longer to perform than other skills. When you are given the instructions for the skills on your test, you will be told how much time you have for your test. You will be reminded how much time you have just before you begin your test. The time allowed for the Clinical Skills test ranges from 31 minutes to 40 minutes based on the skills you are asked to perform.

To pass the Clinical Skills Test, you must pass all five skills. To pass a skill, you are not required to perform the skill perfectly, but you are required to demonstrate competency of the skill. Each skill has a list of checkpoints.

The Nursing Assistant Evaluator (NAE) will watch you perform the skill and compare your performance to the checkpoints for the skill. A Clinical Skills Checklist is available online at www.prometric.com/NurseAide/NV.

The rules for the Clinical Skills Test allow you to make corrections while performing a skill. You must tell the NAE that you are making a correction during the skill and you must actually perform the correction. Once you have completed a skill, and have indicated to the NAE that you are done with the skill, you may not go back to correct a previous skill. There are times when a safety issue will be addressed by the NAE. If a safety issue has occurred, you will not be able to make a correction.

The NAE who administers the Clinical Skills Test is not permitted to teach, coach, or discuss your results or performance with you.

While you are waiting to take the Clinical Skills test, you will be given a copy of the **General Instructions for the Nurse Aide Clinical Skills Test** to read. These

instructions describe the basic rules for the test and other candidate considerations.

Resident actor

You may be asked to volunteer to act as the resident for another candidate testing on the same day. Specific instructions explaining this will be read before the test begins. The skills that may be performed on you when playing the role of the resident include:

Skills to be performed	
Assisting you to walk	Moving you from the bed into a wheelchair
Brushing your teeth	Moving your arm or leg through simple exercises
Changing bed linens while you are in bed	Placing you on a bedpan (clothes on)
Cleaning and shaping your nails	Taking your blood pressure
Feeding you a small snack	Turning you on your side in bed
Measuring your breathing	Washing and applying lotion to one foot
Measuring your pulse	

When you are playing the role of the resident, you must be able to participate in the skills identified above. If you are unable to participate in any of the skills, speak with the NAE administering the test when you check in at the test site.

Stopping the testing of a skill

During the Clinical Skills Test, the NAE can stop the testing of a skill if the resident actor/volunteer is in danger.

What to bring to the exam

You should arrive at the test site at least **15 minutes before** your scheduled exam appointment. This allows time for you to sign in and for staff to verify your identification.

Identification

You must present **two** valid, nonexpired, forms of identification before you can test.

- 1 The first identification must be government-issued (e.g., driver’s license, state-issued identification card, military identification or passport) that contains:
 - **Both** a current photo and your signature; and
 - The name that exactly matches the name used on the application submitted to the NSBN (including designations such as “Jr.” and “III”).
- 2 The second form of identification must include your name and signature. Examples of acceptable second forms of identification include a library card, hunting license, Social Security card or a credit card. Copies will not be accepted.

Social Security number

You will also need to provide your Social Security number. You are not required to provide the actual Social Security card unless choosing to use the Social Security card as the second form of identification.



Important Failure to provide appropriate identification at the time of the exam is considered a missed appointment and you will be required to pay another exam fee before rescheduling your exam. If you cannot provide the identification listed above, contact Prometric **before** scheduling your appointment to arrange an alternative way to meet this requirement.

Test center personnel have the right to refuse admission to any candidate when the identification presented:

- Appears to have been falsified or tampered with.
- Has a photo that does not appear to resemble the candidate testing.
(Please make sure your identification has a recent photograph.)
- Has a signature that does not match the candidate's.

Late arrivals

If you are late for your testing appointment, you will be denied entrance into the test and you will forfeit your test fees. You will be required to pay another fee to reschedule another appointment.

What to wear

It is recommended that a uniform or scrubs and flat, nonskid, closed-toed shoes be worn. You may be refused entrance into the test if you fail to dress appropriately. If you are not allowed to take your test, you will lose your test fees and will have to pay another fee to reschedule your exam.



Note Completing both the Clinical Skills and Written (Oral) tests may take several hours. It is recommended that you bring snacks and/or lunch and beverages (nonalcoholic). While eating and drinking are not allowed during the test, you will be directed to areas where you are allowed to eat while waiting to test. Do not depend on vending machines being available at the test center.

Security procedures

The following regulations and procedures apply at each test center. Failure to follow any of these security procedures may result in the disqualification of your exam. Prometric and test site personnel reserve the right to audiotape and videotape any test session.

Personal items

- You **must not** bring any personal/unauthorized items into the test center. Such items include but are not limited to: cell phones, PDAs, pagers, cameras, recording devices, photographic equipment, watches, outerwear, hats, food, drinks, purses, briefcases, backpacks, and notebooks.

Breaks

- If you leave the testing room while a test is in progress, you must sign out/in on the roster and you will lose test time.
- You are not allowed to use any electronic devices or phones during breaks.

Visitors

- No guests, visitors or family members are allowed in the testing room.

Weapons

- Weapons are not allowed at the test center.

Misconduct or disruptive behavior

- Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct or disruptive or offensive behavior may be dismissed from the exam. If dismissed, exam results will be invalid. Examples are: giving or receiving help, **cell phones ringing in the test center**, resident actors talking, prompting or moving when not directed to do so, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, using rude or offensive language and behavior that delays or interrupts testing.



Important Every time you enter the test room, you will be asked to turn your pockets inside out to confirm that you have no prohibited items. The test center administrator will collect any materials that violate the rules.

If questions arise. Test center administrators are not allowed to answer any questions pertaining to the exam content. If you do not understand a question on the test, you should answer the question to the best of your ability.

Copyrighted questions. All test questions are the property of Prometric Inc. and are protected by copyright. Federal law provides severe civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or exhibition of copyrighted materials.

Your exam results

Written or Oral (Knowledge) Test. You will be given a printed score report immediately after finishing your computerized test. The score report will list an overall result, either pass or fail. Test site personnel are not permitted to discuss your results or performance with you. All test results are reported to the NSBN within five days of the test date.

Clinical Skills Test. The NSBN has authorized the test sites the option of choosing whether candidates will be issued results on the day of testing or if the results will be mailed. The NAEs administering the Clinical Skills Test **are not** permitted to discuss your test results or performance with you.

Retesting. If you must retest because you failed the Written or Oral (Knowledge) Test or the Clinical Skills Test, you may apply to take only the test you failed. You have three attempts to pass each test. You must retrain if you fail any test three times.

Change of address or name. You are responsible for keeping your information current with the NSBN. Should your address change, you must notify the NSBN, in writing or online at www.nursingboard.state.nv.us, within 30 days of the change (NAC 632.205). There is no charge for updating your address with the NSBN.

Appeals process

Our goal is to provide a quality exam and a pleasant testing experience for every candidate. If you are dissatisfied with either and believe we can correct the problem, we would like to hear from you. We provide an opportunity for general comments at the end of your exam. Your comments will be reviewed by our personnel, but you will not receive a direct response.

Your appeal letter must provide your name and Social Security number, the exam title, the date you tested and the details of your concern, including all relevant facts. Be sure to include your signature and return address. Mail your appeal letter to:

Prometric
ATTN: Appeals Committee
1260 Energy Lane
St. Paul, MN 55108

The Appeals Committee will review your concern and send you a written response within 10 business days of receipt. **Faxed appeals will not be accepted** because an original signature is required.

Exam Content Outline



The following outline describes the content of the Nursing Assistant Competency Exam. The Written (Knowledge) Test and Clinical Skills Test contain questions on the topics listed in the outline.

Written (Knowledge) Test Content Outline 60 questions—90 minute time limit

Note: Ten questions on this test are used for statistical purposes only and will not be included in the scoring process.

The areas of nursing assistant knowledge covered in the test are listed below.

- I. Role of the Nursing Assistant**
 - A. Job duties and responsibilities—reporting, personal health and safety, resident’s rights, values, ethics, and legal considerations, reporting abuse and neglect
 - B. The health care team—care plans, resident care conferences, roles of team members
 - C. Communication skills
- II. Promotion of Health and Safety**
 - A. Accident prevention
 - B. Infection control
 - C. Use of restraints
 - D. Fire prevention and safety
 - E. Educating residents about health and safety
- III. Promotion of Function and Health of Residents**
 - A. Personal care skills—feeding, bathing, perineal care, nail care, skin care, toileting, grooming, dressing
 - B. Health maintenance—hydration and nutrition, protective devices, mobility and ambulation, range of motion, turning and positioning, transfer and appliances, bowel and bladder training, grooming, self care, assistive devices
 - C. Age-related changes
 - D. Psycho-social needs
- IV. Basic Nursing Skills**
 - A. Routine situations—vital signs, height, weight, skin, blood pressure, elimination, circulation, dietary, alertness, memory loss, confusion, sadness, fear, anxiety, withdrawn behavior
 - B. Emergency situations—chest pain, respiratory distress, choking, seizures, falls, difficulty swallowing, diabetes, level of consciousness
- V. Specialized Care**
 - A. Physical problems—hearing and vision loss, speech difficulty, mobility, paralysis, incontinence, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, catheter, tube feeding, oxygen therapy, dietary restrictions, pain
 - B. Psychological problems—confusion, memory loss, anxiety, combativeness, depression, fear, grief, pain
 - C. Care of the dying resident

Clinical Skills

The clinical skills that you may be asked to perform during the test are listed below. A checklist for these skills may be found online at www.prometric.com/NurseAide/NV.

Handwashing Note: Your handwashing technique is evaluated at the beginning of the test. This skill is not prompted, which means you will not be told to wash your hands. Nursing assistants are expected to know to wash their hands before and after physical contact (touching) with the resident.

- I. Clinical Skills List**
 - A. Ambulate the resident using a transfer/gait belt
 - B. Assist resident needing to use a bedpan
 - C. Change bed linen while the resident remains in bed
 - D. Change resident’s position to a supported side-lying position
 - E. Dress a resident who has a weak arm
 - F. Empty contents of resident’s urinary drainage bag, and measure and record urine output on an Intake and Output (I&O) form
 - G. Feed a resident who is sitting in a chair
 - H. Measure and record the resident’s blood pressure
 - I. Measure and record a resident’s radial pulse
 - J. Measure and record a resident’s respirations
 - K. Provide catheter care to a female resident who has an indwelling urinary catheter
 - L. Provide foot care to a resident who is sitting in a chair
 - M. Provide mouth care to a resident who has a denture
 - N. Provide mouth care to a resident who has teeth
 - O. Provide perineal care to a female resident who is incontinent of urine
 - P. Provide resident hand and nail care
 - Q. Provide resident a partial bed bath and back rub
 - R. Provide resident with passive range of motion (ROM) exercises to one elbow and wrist
 - S. Provide resident with passive range of motion (ROM) exercises to one shoulder
 - T. Provide resident with passive range of motion (ROM) exercises to one hip, knee and ankle
 - U. Transfer the resident from the bed into a wheelchair using a pivot technique and a transfer/gait belt

Reading Assessment



This reading assessment is designed to help you decide if you have the reading skills needed to take the Written Test.

There are seven short paragraphs below. After each paragraph, there are three questions. Each question has five choices. Only one choice is correct. Circle the one correct answer.

After you are done, a key is provided for you to score the assessment. If you answered 13 or more questions correctly, you most likely have the reading skills needed to take the Written exam. If you get 12 or fewer questions correct, you should consider taking the Oral Test (see Page 4).

It was spring. The young girl breathed the warm air, threw off her shoes and began to run. Her arms swung. Her feet hit sharply and evenly against the ground. At last she felt free.

1. What time of year was it?
 - (A) Summer
 - (B) Fall
 - (C) Spring
 - (D) December
 - (E) July

2. What was the young girl doing?
 - (A) Running
 - (B) Jumping
 - (C) Going to sleep
 - (D) Driving a car
 - (E) Fighting

3. How did she feel?
 - (A) Hot
 - (B) Free
 - (C) Angry
 - (D) Cold
 - (E) Unhappy

There were footsteps and a knock at the door. Everyone inside stood up quickly. The only sound was that of the pot boiling on the stove. There was another knock. No one moved. The footsteps on the other side of the door got quieter and quieter as the person walked away.

4. The people inside the room
 - (A) hid behind the stove.
 - (B) stood up quickly.
 - (C) ran to the door.
 - (D) laughed out loud.
 - (E) began to cry.
5. What was the only sound in the room?
 - (A) People talking
 - (B) Birds singing
 - (C) A pot boiling
 - (D) A dog barking
 - (E) A man shouting

6. The person who knocked at the door finally
 - (A) walked into the room.
 - (B) sat down outside the door.
 - (C) shouted for help.
 - (D) walked away.
 - (E) broke down the door.

Jesse could smell the fish market long before he could see it. As he came closer he could hear merchants calling out about fresh catches and buyers arguing about prices. Soon he could see the market itself, brightly lit and colorful. He could see fishing boats coming in. Their decks were covered with silver-gray fish.

7. What kind of market did Jesse see?
 - (A) A vegetable market
 - (B) A meat market
 - (C) A fish market
 - (D) A flower market
 - (E) A fruit market
8. What does he see coming in?
 - (A) Tug boats
 - (B) Rowboats
 - (C) Passenger boats
 - (D) Fishing boats
 - (E) Sailboats

9. What covered the decks of the boats?
 - (A) Rope
 - (B) People
 - (C) Car
 - (D) Boxes
 - (E) Fish

Tiger is a large, yellow cat. At night she prowls outside and is very fierce. When she hears a noise, she lowers her head and walks with stiff legs. All the other cats are afraid to come into her yard.

10. When does Tiger prowl?
 - (A) At dawn
 - (B) At dinnertime
 - (C) In the afternoon
 - (D) In the morning
 - (E) At night

11. What does Tiger do when she hears a noise?

- (A) She runs away
- (B) She walks with stiff legs
- (C) She hides under the bushes
- (D) She walks on tiptoe
- (E) She pretends she doesn't hear it

12. Who is afraid to come into her yard?

- (A) All the other cats
- (B) The dog next door
- (C) The people who live in the house
- (D) The mail carrier
- (E) Most of the birds

The model number of this radio is A-707. Weak sound may indicate weak batteries. Replace with fresh batteries. Failure of the radio to operate may indicate a loose connection. All connections should be checked. If the radio still does not work properly, bring it to our service department, 17-B West 17th Street.

13. What is the model number of the radio?

- (A) A-707
- (B) 17-B
- (C) W-17
- (D) B-17
- (E) AB-17

14. What should be done if the sound is weak?

- (A) Use weak batteries
- (B) Send the model number to the service department
- (C) Replace the batteries with fresh batteries
- (D) Replace the connections

15. What is the address of the service department?

- (A) 17-A West 17th Street
- (B) 17-B West 17th Street
- (C) 17-A West 7th Street
- (D) A-707 West 71st Street
- (E) 17-B West 71st Street

The cat brushed against the old woman. The woman did not move. She stood and stared into the window of the house. The party inside looked warm and friendly; no one noticed her. The old woman walked sadly on, followed by the cat.

16. What kind of animal was with the woman?

- (A) Mouse
- (B) Dog
- (C) Horse
- (D) Cat
- (E) Bird

17. What did the woman see inside the house?

- (A) A party
- (B) Some dogs
- (C) An old man
- (D) A meeting
- (E) A salesclerk

18. The woman is described as being?

- (A) Old
- (B) Young
- (C) Thin
- (D) Fat
- (E) Small

His pen dropped from his hand. His head began to nod. All at once he was asleep. Everyone in the room laughed, for he had come to work only five minutes ago.

19. What dropped from his hand?

- (A) A pen
- (B) A pencil
- (C) A piece of paper
- (D) A telephone
- (E) A book

20. What was he doing after his head began to nod?

- (A) Talking
- (B) Sleeping
- (C) Crying
- (D) Laughing
- (E) Leaving

21. When had he come to work?

- (A) Half an hour ago
- (B) Three hours ago
- (C) Yesterday
- (D) Five minutes ago
- (E) Forty minutes ago

Answer Key		
1 – C	8 – D	15 – B
2 – A	9 – E	16 – D
3 – B	10 – E	17 – A
4 – B	11 – B	18 – A
5 – C	12 – A	19 – A
6 – D	13 – A	20 – B
7 – C	14 – C	21 – D

Number Correct

13 to 21: You most likely have the reading skills to take the Written exam.

12 or less: You may prefer to take the oral version of the Written exam.

Nurse Aide Certification Sample Test

PROMETRIC



Notice: This Sample Test is provided as a courtesy to individuals who are preparing to take a Prometric Nurse Aide Competency Examination. You are reminded that how well you do on these practice questions, does not predict results on your actual examination.

Directions: This test contains 50 questions. Each question has four suggested answers, (A),(B), (C) or (D). For each question, choose the ONE that best answers it.

-
1. A resident often carries a doll with her, treating it like her baby. One day she is wandering around crying that she can't find her baby. The nurse aide should
 - (A) ask the resident where she last had the doll.
 - (B) ask the activity department if they have any other dolls.
 - (C) offer comfort to the resident and help her look for her baby.
 - (D) let the other staff know the resident is very confused and should be watched closely.
 2. A nurse aide is asked to change a urinary drainage bag attached to an indwelling urinary catheter. The nurse aide has never done this before. The best response by the nurse aide is to
 - (A) change the indwelling catheter at the same time.
 - (B) ask another nurse aide to change the urinary drainage bag.
 - (C) change the bag asking for help only if the nurse aide has problems.
 - (D) ask a nurse to watch the nurse aide change the bag since it is the first time.
 3. Before feeding a resident, which of the following is the best reason to wash the resident's hands?
 - (A) The resident may still touch his/her mouth or food.
 - (B) It reduces the risk of spreading airborne diseases.
 - (C) It improves resident morale and appetite.
 - (D) The resident needs to keep meal routines.
 4. Which of the following is a job task performed by the nurse aide?
 - (A) Participating in resident care planning conferences
 - (B) Taking a telephone order from a physician
 - (C) Giving medications to assigned residents
 - (D) Changing sterile wound dressings
 5. Which of the following statements is true about range of motion (ROM) exercises?
 - (A) Done just once a day
 - (B) Help prevent strokes and paralysis
 - (C) Require at least ten repetitions of each exercise
 - (D) Are often performed during ADLs such as bathing or dressing
 6. While the nurse aide tries to dress a resident who is confused, the resident keeps trying to grab a hairbrush. The nurse aide should
 - (A) put the hairbrush away and out of sight.
 - (B) give the resident the hairbrush to hold.
 - (C) try to dress the resident more quickly.
 - (D) restrain the resident's hand.
 7. A resident who is lying in bed suddenly becomes short of breath. After calling for help, the nurse aide's next action should be to
 - (A) ask the resident to take deep breaths.
 - (B) take the resident's vital signs.
 - (C) raise the head of the bed.
 - (D) elevate the resident's feet.
 8. A resident who has cancer is expected to die within the next couple of days. Nursing care for this resident should focus on
 - (A) helping the resident through the stages of grief.
 - (B) providing for the resident's comfort.
 - (C) keeping the resident's care routine, such as for bathing.
 - (D) giving the resident a lot of quiet time and privacy.

9. While giving a bedbath, the nurse aide hears the alarm from a nearby door suddenly go off. The nurse aide should
 - (A) wait a few minutes to see if the alarm stops.
 - (B) report the alarm to the charge nurse immediately.
 - (C) make the resident being bathed safe and go check the door right away.
 - (D) stop the bedbath and go check on the location of all assigned residents.
10. Gloves should be worn for which of the following procedures?
 - (A) Emptying a urinary drainage bag
 - (B) Brushing a resident's hair
 - (C) Ambulating a resident
 - (D) Feeding a resident
11. When walking a resident, a gait or transfer belt is often
 - (A) worn around the nurse aide's waist for back support.
 - (B) used to keep the resident positioned properly in the wheelchair.
 - (C) used to help stand the resident, and then removed before walking.
 - (D) put around the resident's waist to provide a way to hold onto the resident.
12. Which of the following statements is true about residents who are restrained?
 - (A) They are at greater risk for developing pressure sores.
 - (B) They are at lower risk of developing pneumonia.
 - (C) Their posture and alignment are improved.
 - (D) They are not at risk for falling.
13. A resident has diabetes. Which of the following is a common sign of a low blood sugar?
 - (A) Fever
 - (B) Shakiness
 - (C) Thirst
 - (D) Vomiting
14. When providing foot care to a resident it is important for the nurse aide to
 - (A) remove calluses and corns.
 - (B) check the feet for skin breakdown.
 - (C) keep the water cool to prevent burns.
 - (D) apply lotion, including between the toes.
15. When feeding a resident, frequent coughing can be a sign the resident is
 - (A) choking.
 - (B) getting full.
 - (C) needs to drink more fluids.
 - (D) having difficulty swallowing.
16. When a person is admitted to the nursing home, the nurse aide should expect that the resident will
 - (A) have problems related to incontinence.
 - (B) require a lot of assistance with personal care.
 - (C) experience a sense of loss related to the life change.
 - (D) adjust more quickly if admitted directly from the hospital.
17. A resident gets dressed and comes out of his room wearing shoes that are from two different pairs. The nurse aide should
 - (A) tease the resident by complimenting the resident's sense of style.
 - (B) ask if the resident realizes that the shoes do not match.
 - (C) remind the resident that the nurse aide can dress the resident.
 - (D) ask if the resident lost some of his shoes.
18. A resident's wife recently died. The resident is now staying in his room all the time and eating very little. The best response by the nurse aide is to
 - (A) remind the resident to be thankful for the years he shared with his wife.
 - (B) tell the resident that he needs to get out of his room at least once a day.
 - (C) understand the resident is grieving and give him chances to talk.
 - (D) avoid mentioning his wife when caring for him.
19. When a resident refuses a bedbath, the nurse aide should
 - (A) offer the resident a bribe.
 - (B) wait awhile and then ask the resident again.
 - (C) remind the resident that people who smell don't have friends.
 - (D) tell the resident that nursing home policy requires daily bathing.

20. When a resident is combative and trying to hit the nurse aide, it is important for the nurse aide to
- (A) show the resident that the nurse aide is in control.
 - (B) call for help to make sure there are witnesses.
 - (C) explain that if the resident is not calm a restraint may be applied.
 - (D) step back to protect self from harm while speaking in a calm manner.
21. During lunch in the dining room, a resident begins yelling and throws a spoon at the nurse aide. The best response by the nurse aide is to
- (A) remain calm and ask what is upsetting the resident.
 - (B) begin removing all the other residents from the dining room.
 - (C) scold the resident and ask the resident to leave the dining room immediately.
 - (D) remove the resident's plate, fork, knife, and cup so there is nothing else to throw.
22. Which of the following questions asked to the resident is most likely to encourage conversation?
- (A) Are you feeling tired today?
 - (B) Do you want to wear this outfit?
 - (C) What are your favorite foods?
 - (D) Is this water warm enough?
23. When trying to communicate with a resident who speaks a different language than the nurse aide, the nurse aide should
- (A) use pictures and gestures.
 - (B) face the resident and speak softly when talking.
 - (C) repeat words often if the resident does not understand.
 - (D) assume when the resident nods his/her head that the message is understood.
24. While walking down the hall, a nurse aide looks into a resident's room and sees another nurse aide hitting a resident. The nurse aide is expected to
- (A) contact the state agency that inspects the nursing facility.
 - (B) enter the room immediately to provide for the resident's safety.
 - (C) wait to confront the nurse aide when he/she leaves the resident's room.
 - (D) check the resident for any signs of injury after the nurse aide leaves the room.
25. Before touching a resident who is crying to offer comfort, the nurse aide should consider
- (A) the resident's recent vital signs.
 - (B) the resident's cultural background.
 - (C) whether the resident has been sad recently.
 - (D) whether the resident has family that visits routinely.
26. When a resident is expressing anger, the nurse aide should
- (A) correct the resident's misperceptions.
 - (B) ask the resident to speak in a kinder tone.
 - (C) listen closely to the resident's concerns.
 - (D) remind the resident that everyone gets angry.
27. When giving a backrub, the nurse aide should
- (A) apply lotion to the back directly from the bottle.
 - (B) keep the resident covered as much as possible.
 - (C) leave extra lotion on the skin when completing the procedure.
 - (D) expect the resident to lie on his/her stomach.
28. A nurse aide finds a resident looking in the refrigerator at the nurses' station at 5 a.m. The resident, who is confused, explains he needs breakfast before he leaves for work. The best response by the nurse aide is to
- (A) help the resident back to his room and into bed.
 - (B) ask the resident about his job and if he is hungry.
 - (C) tell him that residents are not allowed in the nurses' station.
 - (D) remind him that he is retired from his job and in a nursing home.
29. Which of the following is true about caring for a resident who wears a hearing aid?
- (A) Apply hairspray after the hearing aid is in place.
 - (B) Remove the hearing aid before showering.
 - (C) Clean the earmold and battery case with water daily, drying completely.
 - (D) Replace batteries weekly.

30. Residents with Parkinson's disease often require assistance with walking because they
- (A) become confused and forget how to take steps without help.
 - (B) have poor attention skills and do not notice safety problems.
 - (C) have visual problems that require special glasses.
 - (D) have a shuffling walk and tremors.
31. A resident who is inactive is at risk of constipation. In addition to increased activity and exercise, which of the following actions helps to prevent constipation?
- (A) Adequate fluid intake
 - (B) Regular mealtimes
 - (C) High protein diet
 - (D) Low fiber diet
32. A resident has an indwelling urinary catheter. While making rounds, the nurse aide notices that there is no urine in the drainage bag. The nurse aide should first
- (A) ask the resident to try urinating.
 - (B) offer the resident fluid to drink.
 - (C) check for kinks in the tubing.
 - (D) obtain a new urinary drainage bag.
33. A resident who is incontinent of urine has an increased risk of developing
- (A) dementia.
 - (B) urinary tract infections.
 - (C) pressure sores.
 - (D) dehydration.
34. When cleansing the genital area during perineal care, the nurse aide should
- (A) cleanse the penis with a circular motion starting from the base and moving toward the tip.
 - (B) replace the foreskin when pushed back to cleanse an uncircumcised penis.
 - (C) cleanse the rectal area first, before cleansing the genital area.
 - (D) use the same area on the washcloth for each washing and rinsing stroke for a female resident.
35. Which of the following is considered a normal age-related change?
- (A) Dementia
 - (B) Contractures
 - (C) Bladder holding less urine
 - (D) Wheezing when breathing
36. A resident is on a bladder retraining program. The nurse aide can expect the resident to
- (A) have a fluid intake restriction to prevent sudden urges to urinate.
 - (B) wear an incontinent brief in case of an accident.
 - (C) have an indwelling urinary catheter.
 - (D) have a schedule for toileting.
37. A resident who has stress incontinence
- (A) will have an indwelling urinary catheter.
 - (B) should wear an incontinent brief at night.
 - (C) may leak urine when laughing or coughing.
 - (D) needs toileting every 1-2 hours throughout the day.
38. The doctor has told the resident that his cancer is growing and that he is dying. When the resident tells the nurse aide that there is a mistake, the nurse aide should
- (A) understand that denial is a normal reaction.
 - (B) remind the resident the doctor would not lie.
 - (C) suggest the resident ask for more tests.
 - (D) ask if the resident is afraid of dying.
39. A slipknot is used when securing a restraint so that
- (A) the restraint cannot be removed by the resident.
 - (B) the restraint can be removed quickly when needed.
 - (C) body alignment is maintained while wearing the restraint.
 - (D) it can be easily observed whether the restraint is applied correctly.
40. When using personal protective equipment (PPE) the nurse aide correctly follows Standard Precautions when wearing
- (A) double gloves when providing perineal care to a resident.
 - (B) a mask and gown while feeding a resident that coughs.
 - (C) gloves to remove a resident's bedpan.
 - (D) gloves while ambulating a resident.
41. To help prevent resident falls, the nurse aide should
- (A) always raise siderails when any resident is in his/her bed.
 - (B) leave residents' beds at the lowest level when care is complete.
 - (C) encourage residents to wear larger-sized, loose-fitting clothing.
 - (D) remind residents who use call lights that they need to wait patiently for staff.

42. As the nurse aide begins his/her assignment, which of the following should the nurse aide do first?
- (A) Collect linen supplies for the shift
 - (B) Check all the nurse aide's assigned residents
 - (C) Assist a resident that has called for assistance to get off the toilet
 - (D) Start bathing a resident that has physical therapy in one hour
43. Which of the following would affect a nurse aide's status on the state's nurse aide registry and also cause the nurse aide to be ineligible to work in a nursing home?
- (A) Having been terminated from another facility for repeated tardiness
 - (B) Missing a mandatory infection control inservice training program
 - (C) Failing to show for work without calling to report the absence
 - (D) Having a finding for resident neglect
44. To help prevent the spread of germs between patients, nurse aides should
- (A) wear gloves when touching residents.
 - (B) hold supplies and linens away from their uniforms.
 - (C) wash hands for at least two minutes after each resident contact.
 - (D) warn residents that holding hands spreads germs.
45. When a sink has hand-control faucets, the nurse aide should use
- (A) a paper towel to turn the water on.
 - (B) a paper towel to turn the water off.
 - (C) an elbow, if possible, to turn the faucet controls on and off.
 - (D) bare hands to turn the faucet controls both on and off.
46. When moving a resident up in bed who is able to move with assistance, the nurse aide should
- (A) position self with knees straight and bent at waist.
 - (B) use a gait or transfer belt to assist with the repositioning.
 - (C) pull the resident up holding onto one side of the drawsheet at a time.
 - (D) bend the resident's knees and ask the resident to push with his/her feet.
47. The resident's weight is obtained routinely as a way to check the resident's
- (A) growth and development.
 - (B) adjustment to the facility.
 - (C) nutrition and health.
 - (D) activity level.
48. Which of the following is a right that is included in the Resident's Bill of Rights?
- (A) To have staff available that speak different languages on each shift
 - (B) To have payment plan options that are based on financial need
 - (C) To have religious services offered at the facility daily
 - (D) To make decisions and participate in own care
49. Which of the following, if observed as a sudden change in the resident, is considered a possible warning sign of a stroke?
- (A) Dementia
 - (B) Contractures
 - (C) Slurred speech
 - (D) Irregular heartbeat
50. Considering the resident's activity, which of the following sets of vital signs should be reported to the charge nurse immediately?
- (A) Resting: 98.6°-98-32
 - (B) After eating: 97.0°-64-24
 - (C) After walking exercise: 98.2°-98-28
 - (D) While watching television: 98.8°-72-14

Answer Key			
1 – C	14 – B	27 – B	39 – B
2 – D	15 – D	28 – B	40 – C
3 – A	16 – C	29 – B	41 – B
4 – A	17 – B	30 – D	42 – C
5 – D	18 – C	31 – A	43 – D
6 – B	19 – B	32 – C	44 – B
7 – C	20 – D	33 – C	45 – B
8 – B	21 – A	34 – B	46 – D
9 – C	22 – C	35 – C	47 – C
10 – A	23 – A	36 – D	48 – D
11 – D	24 – B	37 – C	49 – C
12 – A	25 – B	38 – A	50 – A
13 – B	26 – C		