

Demystification of the Clinical Skills Exam: Webinar Questions & Answers

Testing Day

Q: Does Prometric accept a SSN card as a valid ID?

No. Please see below Prometric's ID Policy.

- Government-issued Photo Identification with Signature (such as a driver's license, passport, or Texas ID card). This identification must be current (non-expired) and must have both a photograph and a signature.
- A second form of Identification with Signature (such as a school ID card, facility ID, or library card).

Q: Will prometric send a translator for skills testing day, if requested ahead of time?

A: The Texas Nurse Aide Competency Exam is offered in English. Translators are not permitted and translation dictionaries may not be used during the exam administration.

Q: Can a candidate hold onto the Skills Card during testing?

A: Yes, please see <https://www.prometric.com/sites/default/files/ClinicalSkillsInstructions.pdf> or more information.

Q: Do the skills cards come in Spanish?

A: No, only English.

Resources

Q: Some of the skills you are wanting them to do are different than what we are used to doing. Where can I find a list of skill procedures so I make sure that they are doing everything you are wanting them to do for that particular skill.

A: Yes, please visit www.prometric.com/nurseaide/tx and select Candidate Resources- Prepare for Exam and see the listed material.

Q: Is there a handbook for the skills and the steps?

A: Please visit www.prometric.com/nurseaide/tx and select Candidate Resources- Prepare for Exam and see the listed material.

Q: Where can I find the Clinical Skills Test General Instructions, Clinical Skills Checklist, Clinical Skills Timing Information, Indirect Care Behaviors and Measurement Forms listed in the webinar?

A: All resources can be found at www.prometric.com/nurseaide/tx select Candidate Resources- Prepare for Exam and listed are each resource.

Q: Does Prometric endorse any YouTube channels demonstrating skills?

A: No, Prometric does not endorse any YouTube channels. All official Prometric resources are found at www.prometric.com/nurseaide/tx

Q: I could not attend the webinar on those dates. Do you have any other available dates or can you share saved webinar?

A: Not at this time. A recorded version of the Webinar is listed as a resource at www.prometric.com/nurseaide/tx under Training Program Resources.

Clinical Skills

Q: Are Indirect Care Behaviors tested through out skills exam?

A: Indirect Care is evaluated during the performance of every skill (except handwashing) during the Clinical Skills Test.

Please visit <https://www.prometric.com/sites/default/files/IndirectCareBehaviors.pdf> for more information.

Q: If a candidate needs to re-start pulse can they do so?

A: Yes, the candidate needs to inform the Nurse Aide Evaluator before ending the skill they would like to begin again.

Q: If a candidate misses a step or needs to correct something before they say the task is complete, can this be done and how

A: Yes, before a candidate says completed a candidate can notify NAE they made a mistake and would like to complete the skill again.

Q: In the webinar it says for every skill a top sheet, bottom sheet and pillow case only, does this same apply to changing bed linen? They will just be only changing bottom sheet, flat sheet and pillow case?

A: The bed will always be set up with a top sheet, bottom sheet and a pillow/pillow case. We don't use a blanket or spread for the purpose of testing.

Q: I know that candidates are required to actually wash their hands at the beginning of the first testable skill (let's say pulse, for example). The NAE evaluates the candidate on handwashing AND measuring and recording pulse. The second skill is perineal care. Does the candidate actually wash his/her hands again at the beginning of perineal care (where appropriate) or can s/he simply say, "I'm washing my hands"?

A: Candidates should wash their hands until the Evaluator tells them they can verbalize handwashing. As long as the candidate verbalizes handwashing, the NAE will let the candidate know they must actually perform the skill if their hands need to be washed.

Q: For handwashing- Are the candidates being tested on keeping the fingertips in the downward position during washing except for washing the wrist and fingertips/cuticles?

A: Candidates are rated according to the checkpoints and nothing more.

Q: If the student goes over 20 seconds on handwashing is there a penalty?

A: No

Q: For dressing the client with the affected right arm, we have the X-large long sleeve shirt that it states but the mannequin does not bend very well to get the unaffected arm in, can I go one size bigger on the shirt? I do not want my mannequins' hand to break off due to trying to force the arm in.

A: Sites should have mannequins that have joints that are movable and shirts large enough to allow for the arm to be dressed easily.

Q: After the first thorough handwashing, is it permissible to use hand sanitization gel before and after other skills are performed?

A: Hand sanitizer does not count for stating hands are washed. Candidates may use it but also must state hands are washed.

Q: When doing the measurement skill Pulse or Respiration, does the candidate say START so that NAE and candidate start at the same time with counting?

A: Yes, the candidate needs to communicate with Nurse Aide Evaluator when measuring Pulse and Respirations.

Q: Are In Direct Skills counted in points? Does the candidate need a certain amount of points to pass Indirect Care Skills or must they hit every Indirect Care Skill associated with each skill?

A: Indirect Care is evaluated during the performance of every skill (except handwashing) during the Clinical Skills Test. Please visit <https://www.prometric.com/sites/default/files/IndirectCareBehaviors.pdf> for more information. Candidates do not need to perform perfectly in order to pass.

Q: Would you explain mouth care part of denture skill. Use swab? or actually brush teeth?

Please visit <https://www.prometric.com/sites/default/files/NAClinicalSkillsChecklist.pdf> under "Provide mouth care to a resident who has a denture" for checkpoints.

Q: What food item needs to be available for the feeding skill?

The site provides the food item, typically apple sauce or pudding.

Q: Does the actor actually eat food?

A: Yes

Q: Is there a minimum number of bites that the candidate has to give the client?

A: No specific minimum but enough food to demonstrate offering fluids to drink throughout feeding; at least every 2-3 bites of food.

Q: Perineal Care: We have to change the pad at the beginning, right? Do we leave the same underpad at the end of the skill or do you change the pad again at the end of the skill?

A: The checkpoint states replace the pad before care and leave on dry underpad. The Nurse is evaluating if the pad is dry at the end.

Q: Dressing question: does dressing in the correct order only apply to the shirt or is it the shirt AND pants?

A: The candidate is asked to put a long-sleeved button-front shirt, pants, and socks on a resident who is lying in bed. The resident is not able to help with the dressing and has a weak arm. Please see more information at <https://www.prometric.com/sites/default/files/NAClinicalSkillsChecklist.pdf>

Q: Is it acceptable to tell students to not utilize the height of the bed for testing purposes and to just leave the bed in the low position?

A: No, as some skills mention body mechanics.

Q: Can you go and get another pad at the end of peri-care if the pad got wet?

A: Yes

Q: How much time do they have for skills?

A: Each skill set is different. They range from 30-40 minutes.

Q: Does the clock stop or keep running when there is a pause?

A: The timer continues to run. The nurse will pause briefly, state the corrections and once the corrections have been made the candidate continues testing.

Q: Are students allowed to lean on their knees doing the foot care skill /sit while doing the skill on the floors due to poor balance on their feet ? Are towels allowed to be placed on the floor ?

A: We are only evaluating the checkpoints within the skill. If the checkpoint does not mention a specific barrier, it is their choice. Refer to the Indirect Care checkpoints for Infection Control.

Q: How do the students test the water, with their bare hands or elbow?

A: They can use either.

Q: Position on the Side. Please explain the 4 pillows. We have received feedback from our students at the testing site that they should use 4 instead of 3.

A: The number of pillows is not the in question. It is if they are placing the pillows in the appropriate places according to the checkpoints. The requirement can be met with 3.

Q: Can a candidate state "I will raise the bed" instead of actually raising the bed?

A: No. The nurse is observing the actions and not listening unless the checkpoint is referencing the candidate saying something.

Q: Where do candidates place soiled linens?

A: Refer to the Equipment and Supply List as listed on the website.

Q: On the urinary drainage measurement, do we need to have yellow food coloring to simulate urine?

A: Yes, sites are required to have yellow food coloring.

Q: Will the side rails need to be raised during any skill in which client is in bed or before client is turned on side?

A: Side rails are not rated and will not be evaluated during the care.