Scaled Score Reports

A scaled score report is a method of reporting examination performance on a standardized metric. It provides the unsuccessful examination candidate with information about their examination score in relation to the passing standard. Scaled score reporting is required for certification organizations to comply with accreditation standards.

What You Need To Know

For examination candidates, the scaled score report provides unsuccessful candidates with a visual comparison of their precise examination score to the passing standard.

Key Takeaways

- The scaled score report provides a graphical representation of the candidate’s examination result compared to the passing standard.
- The National Commission for Accreditation Agencies (NCCA) states that the certification program must provide each failing candidate with information about their performance in relation to the passing standard.
- The National Registry is not changing examination content, only how unsuccessful candidate results are reported.

Questions

Q - Why is the National Registry changing how it reports candidate examination performance?
A - The purpose of a certification test is to make pass/fail decisions at the total test level. For this reason, the National Registry designs all its tests for precision at the total test level in as few items as possible (for example, a CAT test is specifically designed to stop administering items at the point in which a reliable score can be determined, while still adhering to the overall test blueprint). Domain-level scores are computed on too few items to allow for reliable score reporting. As such, candidates who rely on such feedback are done a disservice, having received feedback that is unreliable for test preparation. The overall scale score provides accurate and reliable feedback on a candidate’s performance.

Q - How will State Officials and Program Directors be able to compare state and program pass/fail metrics?
A - A new Performance Report will be available that provides the ability to make comparisons of pass/fail metrics between specific programs, states, and all participating programs.

Q - Is there a change in the method of how the examinations are scored?
A - No, the examination or scoring has not changed. The only difference is that the standard passing score is now represented and the unsuccessful candidate receives a numerical value in relation to the passing standard score.

Q - Is there a change in the examination format?
A - No.

Q - Will access to historical data remain after the scaled scoring implementation?
A - Yes, this information is contained in the Performance Report.

Dates To Know

June 1, 2023
Scaled scoring will launch June 1, 2023, alongside the current domain-level feedback.

Sept. 1, 2023
Domain-level feedback will be removed on Sept. 1, 2023.