



American Board of Addiction Medicine

Computer Exam Orientation

Examination Description:

Certification and Recertification candidates take the same examination, which is a test of cognitive knowledge and problem-solving ability relevant to Addiction Medicine. Questions include, but are not limited to, diagnosis, management, and prevention of Addiction. Candidates must satisfactorily meet the requirements of application, including appropriate training, medical licensure, and continuing medical education, before being approved to take the cognitive examination.

Computer Examination

Extensive familiarity with computers is not required, but the use of a computer keyboard and computer mouse should be within the experience of all candidates who plan to take an ABAM computerized exam. The examination is administered and proctored by staff from the Prometric Company in approximately 477 locations around the U.S.

An online tutorial (exam orientation) is available on our website. Candidates are encouraged to gain familiarity with the computer-based testing system by logging on to Exam Tutorial.

You can also access the tutorial from the ABAM home page by clicking on "Certification/Recertification," and then, "ABAM Exam Tutorial." On exam day there will be a brief orientation/tutorial prior to starting the exam allowing candidates to re-familiarize themselves with the exam process.

The exam is divided into five separate sections. Computer-based testing options include the ability to navigate forward and backward through each exam section, mark items for further review, review answered, unanswered and marked items. Items must be reviewed or changed prior to expiration of time for that section. Once an exam section is ended by the candidate or the exam has timed out, you cannot return to questions in that section. The computer-based examination contains a clock showing the time remaining in the top right of the exam screen. Completed questions, incomplete questions, and marked items are located by clicking the "Review" button at the bottom of the exam screen.

Examination Schedule

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Candidates must satisfactorily meet the requirements of application, including appropriate training, medical licensure, and continuing medical education, before being approved to take the cognitive examination.

The full day computer-based examination consists of five (5) sections, with 15 minutes of break time allotted for the optional tutorial, and 15 minutes of break time allotted for the entire examination (15 minutes total). Once any section of the exam has been ended or timed out, you are not permitted to return to that section. Each Exam Section will consist of 50 Multiple Choice Questions (60 minutes), followed by an optional break should you choose to take it. Examinees may take all, part or none of the scheduled optional breaks. The break time listed is the minimum of allocated for the entire test day. If the examinee completes a testing block early, the remaining testing time for that block is converted into break time and added to their available break time balance. As the tutorial/practice exam and may be reviewed before exam day, some examinees skip the tutorial on exam-day. The allotted time for the optional tutorial on exam day is 15-minutes, and unused tutorial time also gets added to the break time pool for that examinee

- Optional Tutorial 15 minutes
- Block 1: 50 Items 60 Minutes
- Block 2: 50 Items 60 Minutes
- Block 3: 50 Items 60 Minutes
- Block 4: 50 Items 60 Minutes
- Block 5: 50 Items 60 Minutes
- Optional Break Time 15 Minutes
- Optional Survey 0 Minutes
- Total: 5.5 Hours
- Possible Break Time Up to 30 minutes

Prior to the Exam

- Schedule your examination at a prometric test center
- Practice by taking the Tutorial on the ABAM Web Site
- Confirm your testing appointment 7 days prior to the exam, December 4th.

- Exam Date is December 11th, Saturday
- Appointment times vary

On Exam Day

- Get to the Test Center 30 minutes early, do not be late
- Keep your identification and your Orange Permit with you at all times

What to bring with you on Exam Day

- Orange Permit
- Bring a copy of your Orange Permit
- Acceptance Letter
- Government Issued Identification
- Test Center Confirmation
- Test Center Address and phone number
- Snacks

Things to Know about your Prometric Test Center:

- Prometric Testing Center Regulations
- Schedule, reschedule, cancel and confirmation
- Special Accommodations
- Test site experience
- After the test

Practice Taking the Examination

ABAM orientation materials, including software with practice test items, are available to download below

- [Instructions for downloading the Orientation and Practice Exam](#)
- Windows XP: [Download the Practice Exam](#)
- Windows Vista: [Download the Practice Exam](#)