

Jurisdictional Examination - Requirements

Purpose

The purpose of the written exam is to ensure that the candidate is proficient in the following core competencies: evaluation of evidence, measurement and surveying science, understanding of pertinent Acts and Regulations, the Standards of Practice, and the ANSLs Code of Ethics. The candidate's answer to each question must be supported by quoting the applicable Act or legislation with section, subsection and all or a portion of the text to support the reference.

Process

The jurisdictional written examination, which is a 3-hour open-book exam, will be held in one or more approved locations in the province of Nova Scotia. Candidates may apply to write the examination on one of two dates published annually. The exams and answer keys are developed by a sub-group of the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners. Once a draft of the exam and answer key is finalized, it is submitted to the entire Board for approval.

Each candidate is assigned a number by the ANSLs examination administrator. No members of the Board sub-group are aware of which number corresponds to which candidate. Each exam question is sent to two markers from the Board sub-group who independently mark the exams using the provided answer key. Once the question is marked, the results are provided to a lead marker who is responsible for compiling the marks into a spreadsheet. The final mark of the exam will be determined as follows:

- If both markers grade the exam less than 70%, the final mark is the average from the two markers.
- If both markers grade the exam at 70% or greater, the final mark is the average from the two markers.
- If one marker passes the exam and one fails the exam, the lead marker will independently mark the exam. The exam passes if two out of three markers pass the exam and the average mark of the three markers is 70% or greater.

Objectivity

Registration Appeals Committee members receive training in how to mark exams. Each exam question and answer key are developed and reviewed by the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners. Consistent decisions are made by using an answer key regardless of who is marking the exam.