



PEDIATRIC NURSING
CERTIFICATION BOARD

Standard Setting Policy

Rationale

PNCB certification exams are criterion-referenced exams and therefore a passing criterion must be established. The candidate's ability to pass the exam depends on the knowledge the candidate displays, not on the performance of other candidates.

Methodology

A Standard Setting Study is conducted to establish an exam's passing standard. The standard setting is completed after a role delineation study or practice analysis, or when otherwise recommended by the testing vendor's psychometrician.

PNCB works with the testing vendor to ensure psychometric best practices that meet accreditation standards in conducting the standard setting study and throughout the facilitation of the meeting. The methods used for standard setting are most often Angoff and Beuk Relative-Absolute Compromise.

Subject-matter expert (SME) panelists

PNCB selects qualified SMEs who possess the respective credential, are diverse on many factors as outlined in the Volunteer Policy. Volunteers for this activity have ideally earned the respective credential in the last three years or less.

Results, Panel Recommendations and Final Approval of Passing Point

After the Standard Setting meeting and process has concluded produces a finalized cut score recommendation and estimated results. Appropriate members of the PNCB Senior Team and the Board of Directors liaison(s) to the exam discuss the implication of the recommendation. The Board of Directors has representation throughout the process and approves the final cut score. Reference the BOD Policy Manual and section on shared governance.

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