

# Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses



NATIONAL CERTIFYING BOARD FOR  
OPHTHALMIC REGISTERED NURSES

## Candidate Handbook 2022

Application Deadline*	Testing Window
February 16, 2022	March 19 – April 2, 2022
August 3, 2022	September 3 – September 17, 2022

**\*Applications will not be accepted after this deadline**

Administered by:



1350 Broadway, Suite 800 | New York, NY 10018  
[www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact)

## COVID-19 Precautions

Please note that due to guidelines regarding COVID19, all candidates will be required to bring and wear a face mask or face covering while they are in a Prometric test center at all times, or your exam will be terminated. Both medical masks or cloth face coverings are acceptable. Masks with exhale/one-way valves are prohibited to use at the testing center, due to the lack of viral particle filtration provided by these masks. Masks with wearable technology are also prohibited. Any test taker that comes to the test center without a mask will not be allowed to test, marked as a "no show", and will not be eligible for a free reschedule. **All policies are subject to change.**

For more information, please be sure to check Prometric's website or [reach out to PTC](#).

- [Prometric COVID-19 Updates page](#)
- [Prometric Test Center Policies page](#)
- [What to Expect at the Testing Center page](#)
- [Prometric FAQ Portal](#)

**Be advised: candidates must comply with all federal, state, and local mandates and guidelines.**

Note: if you fall into any of the following categories, you will not be permitted to test until you no longer fit the criteria:

- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14-days;
- Have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14-days;
- Are experiencing flu or cold-like symptoms; OR
- Have returned from travel to a highly infected area in the past 14-days.

Please contact PTC ([www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact)) if you fall into any of the above categories.

**Effective September 1, 2021, if you are exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19 or have any other health or medical condition, injury or illness such that you cannot test during your testing window, you will need to follow the transfer policies and fees as stated in the Handbook.**

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	1
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	2
ATTENTION CANDIDATES.....	2
PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION .....	3
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS .....	3
THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS.....	4
COMPLETION OF APPLICATION .....	5
EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION AND SCHEDULING.....	5
EXAMINATION FEES .....	8
TEST ACCOMMODATIONS .....	9
PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION .....	9
WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE TESTING CENTER .....	10
RULES FOR THE EXAMINATION.....	11
TESTING CONDITIONS OR EXAMINATION FEEDBACK .....	12
REPORT OF RESULTS .....	12
REQUESTING A HANDSCORE.....	12
CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXAMINATION SCORES .....	12
REEXAMINATION .....	13
ATTAINMENT OF CERTIFICATION & RECERTIFICATION.....	13
REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION .....	13
CONTENT OF THE EXAMINATION .....	14
SAMPLE EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.....	18
PRACTICE TEST .....	19
STUDY GUIDE .....	19
REFERENCES.....	20

---

*This Handbook contains necessary information about the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses. Please retain it for future reference. Candidates are responsible for reading these instructions carefully. This Handbook is subject to change.*

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Professional Testing Corporation (PTC)</b>  <a href="http://www.ptcny.com">www.ptcny.com</a>          (212) 356-0660</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply for examination</li> <li>• Obtain general application policy and procedure information</li> <li>• Obtain information about testing policies and procedures</li> <li>• Transfer to a new testing period</li> <li>• Request Special Accommodations</li> <li>• Request Hand Score</li> <li>• Question about score reports</li> <li>• Recertification</li> <li>• Miscellaneous inquiries</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prometric</b>  <a href="http://www.prometric.com/NCBORN">http://www.prometric.com/NCBORN</a>          (800) 741-0934</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule test appointment</li> <li>• Reschedule test appointment (within the same testing period)</li> <li>• Cancel test appointment</li> <li>• Find directions to test site</li> <li>• Questions regarding testing sites and appointments</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>National Certifying Board for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses (NCBORN)</b>  <a href="https://asorn.org/certification/">https://asorn.org/certification/</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General information regarding certification program</li> <li>• Study Guide</li> </ul>

---

## ATTENTION CANDIDATES

This handbook contains necessary information about the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses. It is required reading for those applying for and taking the Examination. All individuals applying for the examination must comply with the policies, procedures, and deadlines in this Handbook and attest to this by signing the Candidate Attestation found on the application. Please retain this handbook for future reference. This handbook is subject to change. See [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com) for handbook updates.

---

## PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION

The National Certifying Board for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses (NCBORN) endorses the concept of voluntary, periodic certification by examination for all ophthalmic registered nurses. Certification is one part of a process called credentialing. It focuses specifically on the individual and is an indication of current competence in a specialized area of practice. Board certification in ophthalmic registered nursing is highly valued and provides formal recognition of basic ophthalmic registered nursing knowledge.

The purpose of certification is to promote delivery of safe and effective care in ophthalmic registered nursing practice by:

1. Recognizing formally those individuals who meet the eligibility requirements of the National Certifying Board for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses and pass the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses.
2. Encouraging continued personal and professional growth in the practice of ophthalmic registered nursing.
3. Establishing and measuring the level of knowledge required for certification in ophthalmic registered nursing.
4. Providing a standard of knowledge requisite for certification, thereby assisting the employer, public, and members of the health professions in the assessment of ophthalmic registered nurses.

---

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Currently licensed as a Registered Nurse in the United States or the equivalent in another country.
2. At least two years of full time or the equivalent (4,000 hours) experience in ophthalmic registered nursing practice<sup>1</sup>.
3. Completion and filing of an Application for the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses.
4. Payment of required fee.

---

<sup>1</sup> Two years of ophthalmic nursing experience does not guarantee that one is ready to take the exam without preparation. The average nurse spends three or more months preparing for the exam. Please use this handbook to guide you through the Course Outline and References. NCBORN offers a study guide and online practice test to help you identify key areas to focus your learning.

---

## THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS



---

## COMPLETION OF APPLICATION

### ***Step 1 – Complete Application***

Go to <http://www.ptcny.com/test-sponsors/NCBORN> to view examination testing periods, application deadlines, and link to the online application. You must complete the examination application in full, using your name exactly as it appears on your current government issued photo ID such as a driver's license or a passport. Applications are not considered complete until all information and payment has been provided. The completed application can be submitted and paid for online. Retain the link to the application and your login information.

Please note, for new applications you will be asked to create a PIN number. This PIN will be used when going into your existing application.

### ***Step 2 – Submit Examination Fee and Application for Review***

Receive email from PTC stating that your payment and application has been received and under review.

### ***Step 3 – Receive Approval of Application***

Receive email from PTC stating that your application has been approved.

### ***Step 4 – Receive Scheduling Authorization and Schedule Testing Appointment***

Within eleven (11) weeks prior to the start of the testing period, candidates will receive a Scheduling Authorization from PTC via email from [notices@ptcny.com](mailto:notices@ptcny.com). The Scheduling Authorization includes an PTC Candidate ID Number and information on how to set up your examination location, date, and time through Prometric. Retain this document.

You must present your current driver's license, passport, or U.S. Military ID at the testing center at the time of your examination appointment or you will be refused admission. The name on the ID must exactly match the name on the Scheduling Authorization.

**Applicants who are not approved to sit for the examination or whose applications are incomplete 21 days prior to the first day of the testing window will receive a refund of their application fee minus the \$75 administrative fee. Refunds will be processed approximately 30 days after the end of the testing period.**

---

## EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION AND SCHEDULING

The Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses is administered during an established two-week testing window daily, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by Prometric.

### **Scheduling Authorization**

PTC will send approved candidates an email called the Scheduling Authorization. These emails are sent out about 11 weeks before the first day of the testing window. The emails come from [notices@ptcny.com](mailto:notices@ptcny.com). Candidates cannot make an appointment until they receive a scheduling authorization. If you don't receive your email 3 weeks before the start of your testing window contact PTC.

## Scheduling Examination Appointments

The Scheduling Authorization will indicate how to schedule your examination appointment with Prometric as well as the dates during which testing is available. Appointment times are first-come, first-served, so schedule your appointment as soon as you receive your Scheduling Authorization in order to maximize your chance of testing at your preferred location and on your preferred date. **Candidates who wait until the last minute run the risk of missing out on their preferred date, time, and testing center. Candidates unable to schedule an appointment will forfeit their fees.**



After you make your test appointment, Prometric will send you a confirmation email with the date, time, and location of your exam. Please check this confirmation carefully for the correct date, time, and location. Contact Prometric at (800) 741-0934 if you do not receive this email confirmation or if there is a mistake with your appointment.

**Note: International candidates may also schedule, reschedule, or cancel an appointment online at <http://www.prometric.com/NCBORN>.**

### **IMPORTANT!**

You **MUST** present your current driver's license, passport, or U.S. military ID at the test center. Expired, temporary, or paper driver's licenses will **NOT** be accepted. The first and last name on your Scheduling Authorization **MUST** exactly match the first and last name on your photo ID.

**Fees will not be refunded for exams missed because of invalid ID.**

## Rescheduling Examination Appointments within a Testing Period

Candidates are able to reschedule their examination appointments within the same testing period as long as the request is submitted within the timeframe described below. Reschedule within the permitted time frame by calling or going to the Prometric website: <http://www.prometric.com/NCBORN>.

Time Frame	Reschedule Permitted?	Stipulations
Requests submitted 30 days or more before the original appointment	Yes	None
Requests submitted 29 to 5 days before the original appointment	Yes	Candidate must pay Prometric a rescheduling fee of \$50.
Requests submitted less than 5 days before the original appointment	No	Candidates who do not arrive to test for their appointment will be considered a no-show and all their examinations fees will be forfeited. Candidates will need to reapply and pay full examination fees for a future testing period.



## Transferring to a New Testing Period

Candidates unable to take the examination during their scheduled testing period may request a **ONE-TIME** transfer to a future testing period. **There is a transfer fee of \$172.00.** After you have transferred once by paying the \$172.00 fee, you will need to pay the full examination fee in order to transfer a second time; so, ***please plan carefully.***

**Please note:** requests to transfer to a new testing period must be received within 30 days of your originally scheduled testing period.

Candidates wishing to transfer to a new testing period need to follow the steps below.

1. Go to <http://secure.ptcny.com/apply>.
2. Click “Start New Application.”
3. Choose NCBORN in the first drop-down menu; then choose the new examination period in the second drop down menu and fill out the rest of the information on the page.
4. Fill out the application making sure you answer yes to the question asking if you are transferring.
5. When you have finished the application, click “Submit Transfer Request.”
6. PTC Support will send you an email letting you know your transfer application was approved and that you can log back into your application and pay the one-time \$172.00 transfer fee.

Call 212-356-0660 if you have any questions regarding the transfer process.

If candidates are unable to attend the examination on the date for which they registered and elect not to transfer to another testing period the application will be closed and all fees will be forfeited. There will be no refund of fees.

The transfer fee is based on costs and is not punitive in nature. The transfer fee must be paid at the time the request is approved. The candidate is responsible for contacting Prometric and canceling the original examination appointment, if one was made.

**Exams may only be transferred to a new testing period once; please plan carefully.**

Please note: Transferring your Examination only refers to instances when a candidate is unable to take their exam during a testing period for which they have already applied. Candidates who did not pass their examination and are retaking the examination need to pay the full Examination Fee.

### Failing to Report for an Examination



If you fail to report for an examination, you will forfeit all fees paid to take the examination. A completed application form and examination fee are required to reapply for the examination.

## EXAMINATION FEES

Fee Type	Amount	Details
<b>Application Fee: ASORN Members</b>	US \$350.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-refundable<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Non-transferable</li> <li>• Includes testing center fees</li> <li>• Includes non-refundable \$75 administrative fee</li> </ul>
<b>Application Fee: Non-Members</b>	US \$450.00	
<b>Rescheduling Fee</b> (29-5 days prior to scheduled appointment; see page 6)	US \$50.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Applies to candidates who need to move their appointment within their current testing period</b></li> <li>• Payable directly to Prometric</li> <li>• Reschedule with Prometric online or over the phone</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer Fee</b> (Moving to a new testing window; see page 7)	US \$172.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Applies to candidates who need to move to a new testing period</b></li> <li>• Must submit new application &amp; fee to PTC</li> </ul>
<b>Retesting Fee: ASORN Members</b>	US 250.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only valid if retesting within two years of the previous examination</li> </ul>
<b>Retesting Fee: Non Members</b>	US 350.00	

**Attention NOVA members:** Active members of the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA) may sit for the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses at a rate that is \$50 less than the non-member rate. Active NOVA members who are also ASORN members may not combine discounts.



- **There will be no refund of fees unless applicants are ineligible for the examination.**
- **Ineligible candidates will be refunded their fees minus an administrative fee.**
- **No refunds will be issued for applying for the incorrect examination or testing period, for failing to make an examination appointment, or for failing to appear at your scheduled appointment.**

**Please be advised: Prometric does not have the authority to grant transfers to another testing period or refunds.**

<sup>1</sup> Applicants who are ineligible to take the examination or whose applications are incomplete by the application deadline will have their examination fees returned minus an administrative fee.

---

## TEST ACCOMMODATIONS

NCBORN and PTC support the intent of and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). PTC will take steps reasonably necessary to make certification accessible to persons with disabilities covered under the ADA. According to the ADA, an individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity (such as seeing, hearing, learning, reading, concentrating, walking) or a major bodily function (such as neurological, endocrine, or digestive system). The information you provide and any documentation regarding your disability and test accommodations will be held in strict confidence.

All approved testing accommodations must maintain the psychometric nature and security of the examination. Accommodations that fundamentally alter the nature or security of the exam will not be granted.

Test arrangements may be made upon receipt of the Application, examination fee, and a completed and signed Request for Test Accommodations Form, available from [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com) or by calling PTC at (212) 356-0660.

This Form must be uploaded with the online application no later than 8 weeks prior to the start of your chosen testing period. Candidates who do not submit their Test Accommodations Form with their application may not be able to test during their chosen testing period and therefore be subject to rescheduling or transfer fees.

**Only those requests made and received on the official Request for Test Accommodations Form will be reviewed. Letters from doctors and other healthcare professionals must be accompanied by the official Form and will not be accepted without the Form. All requests must be made at the time of application. Accommodations cannot be added to an existing exam appointment.**

---

## PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

- Check your government issued photo ID (driver's license, passport or U.S. Military ID) when you make your examination appointment. Is it expired? Does the first and last name on your ID match the first and last name on your Scheduling Authorization email? Proctors at the Prometric testing center will refuse admission to candidates with expired IDs, IDs with names that do not match their records, and temporary paper IDs. Candidates will be marked as no-shows and will forfeit their exam fees.
- Check your PTC Scheduling Authorization email and Appointment Confirmation email from Prometric to make sure everything is accurate (i.e. your name, exam name, appointment date, time and location).
- Make yourself familiar with the location of your chosen testing site and any requirements they may have for parking and check the weather and traffic conditions before you leave for the testing center. Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to arrive as late arrival may prevent you from testing.

- In the event of inclement weather, check the Prometric website for site closures: <https://www.prometric.com/closures>.
- Prometric’s website provides information on what you can expect on your test day, including a walkthrough of check in and security procedures: <https://www.prometric.com/test-center-security>.
- This Handbook provides the Content Outline for the Examination (see appendix). Use these to help you start studying for the examination.
- Review the Rules for the Examination on the next page before your appointment.

---

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE TESTING CENTER

PTC has partnered with Prometric Testing Centers to deliver examinations to candidates. Here is what you can expect when you arrive at your Prometric Testing Center.

- Candidate Check-In
  - Candidates will be asked to present their IDs
  - Candidates will be asked to empty and turn out their pockets
  - Candidates will be “wanded” or asked to walk through a metal detector
  - Inspection of eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories will be conducted. Jewelry other than wedding and engagement rings is prohibited.
  - Religious headwear may be worn into the testing room; however, it may be subject to inspection by a testing center administrator before entry into the testing room is permitted.
  - Prometric provides lockers for candidates to store their purses, mobile phones, jackets, food, drinks and medical supplies.
- During the Exam
  - No breaks are scheduled during the exam. Candidates who must leave the testing room to take a break will not be given extra time on the exam
  - Candidates who take an unscheduled break are subject to additional security screenings before being permitted to reenter the testing room
  - Accessing mobile phones or study materials during the examination is prohibited
  - Smoking is prohibited at the testing center
  - All examinations are monitored and may be recorded in both audio and video format

Please keep in mind: other exams will be administered at the same time as your examination. Therefore, examinees may hear ambient noises such as typing, coughing, or people entering and exiting the testing room that cannot be avoided. Prometric is unable to provide a completely noise-free environment. However, headphones may be requested to minimize impact.

Please see [Prometric’s website](#) for more information about what to expect on testing day.

---

## RULES FOR THE EXAMINATION

Please read the information below carefully. You are responsible for adhering to the examination rules while at the testing center.

- ⇒ You must present your current driver's license, passport, or US Military ID at the testing center. Candidates without valid ID will NOT be permitted to test. Temporary or paper copies of your ID will not be accepted.
- ⇒ No Electronic devices that can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content, including but not limited to, cell phones, laptop computers, tablets, Bluetooth devices; wearable technology (e.g., fitness/smart watches), media players, pagers, cameras, and voice recorders are permitted to be used and cannot be taken in the examination room. Prometric provides lockers for your personal items
- ⇒ No papers, books, or reference materials may be taken into or removed from the testing room.
- ⇒ No questions concerning content of the examination may be asked during the examination session. The candidate should read carefully the directions that are provided on screen at the beginning of the examination session.
- ⇒ Candidates are prohibited from leaving the testing room while their examination is in session, with the sole exception of going to the restroom.
- ⇒ Bulky clothing, such as sweatshirts (hoodies), jackets, coats, and hats (except hats worn for religious reasons), and most types of jewelry may not be worn while taking the examination. Proctors will ask you to remove such items and place them in your locker. Please see [Prometric's statement on Test Center Security](#) for more information.
- ⇒ All watches, including fitness/smart watches and similar devices, cannot be worn during the examination.
- ⇒ Food/beverages are not permitted inside the testing room. Leave these items in your assigned locker.



Contact PTC at (212) 356-0660 or [www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact) with any questions about the Examination Rules.

**Violation of any of the rules listed above may lead to forfeiture of fees, dismissal from the testing room, and cancellation of your test scores.**

---

## TESTING CONDITIONS OR EXAMINATION FEEDBACK

Any candidate who feels that the examination effort was negatively impacted by the test center conditions should notify the proctor immediately. The situation should also be reported to PTC at [www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact) within 3 business days of the test appointment. Any comments about the test itself should also be reported to PTC at [www.ptcny.com/contact](http://www.ptcny.com/contact) within 3 business days of the test appointment.

---

## REPORT OF RESULTS

All candidates will be notified in writing by PTC, of their official scores (scores on the major areas of the examination and on the total examination will be reported) within approximately four weeks of the close of the testing period. Please note that this time is necessary to allow for the psychometric review and administration time required to ensure accurate and reliable scores.

Please note that official scores will not be released at the testing center but will be sent via mail within four weeks following the close of the testing period.

Please notify PTC as soon as possible regarding any address changes to ensure that you will receive your official test scores.

---

## REQUESTING A HANDSCORE

Candidates who fail the examination may request a hand scoring of their data file. Hand scoring is a manual check of the data file by the testing service to determine if there have been any errors in scoring. Although the probability of such an error is extremely remote, this service is available. Requests for hand scoring must be received by PTC no later than 90 days after the date of the examination by completing and returning the Request of Handscore form on [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com) with payment of \$25. Candidates who fail the examination will not be permitted to see the examination questions. For reasons of test security, no candidate is allowed to review the examination or any of its items.

To ensure correct reporting of results, PTC automatically performs handscores of examinations of candidates who score within 3 points of passing as a quality control measure. Thus, it is extremely doubtful that any examination results will change from “fail” to “pass” through handscoreing.

---

## CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXAMINATION SCORES

NCBORN will release the individual examination scores in writing ONLY to the individual candidate. Any questions concerning test results should be referred to the Professional Testing Corporation, at 212-356-0660.

---

## REEXAMINATION

The Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses may be taken as often as desired, upon filing of a new Application and fee. There is no limit to the number of times the examination may be repeated; however, candidates may not retest during the same testing period.

---

## ATTAINMENT OF CERTIFICATION & RECERTIFICATION

Eligible candidates who pass the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses are eligible to use the registered designation CRNO after their names and will receive certificates from the NCBORN or complete an application for recertification and meet the recertification requirements. A registry of Certified Ophthalmic Registered Nurses will be maintained by the NCBORN and may be reported in its publications.

Ophthalmic registered nurse certification is recognized for a period of five years at which time the candidate must retake and pass the current Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses or complete an application for recertification by continuing education and meet the recertification requirements. For further information on Recertification by Continuing Education, please visit the ASORN website at [www.asorn.org/certification](http://www.asorn.org/certification).

---

## REVOCAION OF CERTIFICATION

Certification will be revoked for any of the following reasons:

1. Falsification of an Application.
2. Revocation of current Registered Nurse license.
3. Misrepresentation of certification status.

The Appeals Committee of the NCBORN provides the appeal mechanism for challenging revocation of Board Certification. It is the responsibility of the individual to initiate this process.

---

## CONTENT OF THE EXAMINATION

The Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses is a computer-based examination composed of a maximum of 250 multiple-choice, objective questions with a total testing time of four (4) hours. The content for the examination is described in the Content Outline on the next page.

The questions for the examination are obtained from individuals with expertise in clinical Ophthalmology and are reviewed for construction, accuracy, and appropriateness by NCBORN.

NCBORN, with the advice and assistance of the Professional Testing Corporation, prepares the examination.

The Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses will be weighted in approximately the following manner:

I.	Ocular Conditions	15%
II.	Pharmacology	20%
III.	Nursing Assessment of the Ophthalmic Patient	20%
IV.	Clinical and Perioperative Procedures	35%
V.	Professional Issues	10%



## **I. OCULAR CONDITIONS**

- A. Developmental
  - 1. Age-related
  - 2. Presbyopia
  - 3. Myopia
  - 4. Astigmatism
  - 5. Hyperopia
  - 6. Normal Anatomy
- B. Congenital and Hereditary
  - 1. Strabismus and Amblyopia
  - 2. Glaucoma
  - 3. Cataracts
  - 4. Retinoblastoma
  - 5. Retinopathy of Prematurity
  - 6. Marfan's Disease
  - 7. Retinitis Pigmentosa
  - 8. Other
- C. Systemic
  - 1. Endocrine
    - a. Diabetes
    - b. Graves' Disease
    - c. Thyroid Conditions
    - d. Pituitary Tumors
  - 2. Hypertension
  - 3. Multiple Sclerosis
  - 4. Myasthenia Gravis
  - 5. Rheumatologic Disorders
    - a. Lupus Erythematosus
    - b. Sjogren's Syndrome
    - c. Temporal Arteritis
    - d. Rheumatoid Arthritis
    - e. Other
  - 6. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
  - 7. Other
- D. Acquired
  - 1. Lid Disorders
  - 2. Conjunctival Disorders
  - 3. Corneal Disorders
  - 4. Glaucoma
    - a. Narrow Angle
    - b. Open Angle
    - c. Low Tension
    - d. Ocular Hypertension

- e. Neovascular
- f. Secondary
- g. Angle Closure
- 5. Cataracts
- 6. Retinal Disorders
- 7. Macular Dysfunctions
- 8. Neurological
- 9. Inflammations and Infections
- 10. Nutritional Deficiencies
- 11. Lacrimal Disorders
- 12. Pupillary Disorders
- 13. Other
- E. Trauma
- F. Malignancies/Tumors

## **II. PHARMACOLOGY**

- A. Administration Routes and Techniques
  - 1. Topical
    - a. Drops
    - b. Ointments
    - c. Other
  - 2. Injections
    - a. Intraocular
    - b. Retrobulbar
    - c. Intravenous
    - d. Subconjunctival
    - e. Other
  - 3. Oral
    - a. Hyperosmotics/Osmotics
    - b. Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors
    - c. Other
- B. Types and Effects of Drugs
  - 1. Mydriatics
  - 2. Antibiotics
  - 3. Miotics
  - 4. Cycloplegics
  - 5. Corticosteroids
  - 6. Anesthetics
  - 7. Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory
  - 8. Hyperosmotics/Osmotics
  - 9. Beta Blockers

10. Systemic
11. Antivirals
12. Lubricants
13. Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors
14. Diagnostics
15. Antimetabolites
16. Viscoelastics
17. Antivascular Endothelial Growth Factor
18. Prostaglandins
19. Other

### III. NURSING ASSESSMENT OF THE OPHTHALMIC PATIENT

- A. Health History
  1. Patient Interviewing
    - a. Medical/Ocular History
    - b. Medication History
    - c. Problems and Findings
    - d. Family History
    - e. Allergies
  2. Laboratory Results
  3. Vital Signs
- B. Basic Diagnostic Tests and Techniques
  1. Visual Acuity
    - a. Snellen
    - b. Jaeger Near
    - c. Other Charts
    - d. Pinhole
    - e. Hand/Fingers
    - f. Other
  2. Color
    - a. Ishihara
    - b. Other
  3. Macular Function
    - a. Amsler Grid
    - b. Other
  4. Stereopsis
  5. Visual Field
  6. Muscle Function

7. Keratometry
8. Pachymetry
9. Pupils
10. Other

- C. Special Diagnostic Tests
  1. Patient Preparation
  2. Types of Procedures
    - a. Angiography
    - b. Tonometry
    - c. Direct and Indirect Ophthalmoscopy
    - d. Ophthalmic Photography
    - e. Ultrasound
    - f. Tear Function
    - g. Slit Lamp Examination
      - 1) Gonioscopy
      - 2) Fundus
      - 3) Other
    - h. Specular Microscopy
    - i. Exophthalmometry
    - j. Corneal Topography
    - k. Ocular Imaging
    - l. Other
  3. Complications
- D. Triage

### IV. CLINICAL AND PERIOPERATIVE PROCEDURES

- A. Operative Procedures
  1. Laser
    - a. YAG
    - b. Argon/Green
    - c. Excimer
    - d. Diode
    - e. Other
  2. Intraocular
    - a. Cataract Extractions
    - b. Glaucoma
    - c. Keratoplasties
    - d. Retinal-Vitreous Procedures
    - e. Foreign Body Removal

- f. Evisceration
  - 3. Extraocular
    - a. Pterygium Excision
    - b. Chalazion Incision
    - c. Lesion Excision
    - d. Enucleation
    - e. Muscle Procedures
    - f. Lacrimal Procedures
    - g. Oculoplastics
    - h. Lids
    - i. Trauma
    - j. Cornea
    - k. Retinal Procedures
  - 4. Refractive
- B. Perioperative Procedures and Care
  - 1. Supplies and Instrumentation
  - 2. Aseptic Technique
  - 3. Physiological Monitoring
  - 4. Emotional Support
  - 5. Other
- C. Discharge Planning
  - 1. Patient and Family Teaching
    - a. Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Self-Care
    - b. Medications
    - c. Psychological Aspects
    - d. Other
  - 2. Ocular Dressings
  - 3. Wound Care
  - 4. Emergencies
- D. Complications
  - 1. Hemorrhage
  - 2. Corneal Abrasion
  - 3. Vasovagal Response
  - 4. Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest
  - 5. Retinal/Vitreous
  - 6. Intraocular Pressure
  - 7. Toxic Anterior Segment Syndrome

- 8. Other
- E. Visual Impairment and Blindness
  - 1. Activities of Daily Living (ADL)
  - 2. Low Vision
  - 3. Community and National Resources
  - 4. Counseling
- F. Trauma
- V. PROFESSIONAL ISSUES**
- A. Ethics
- B. Legal Aspects
  - 1. Professional Practice
  - 2. Confidentiality
  - 3. Patient Rights and Informed Consent
  - 4. Release of Documentation
  - 5. Documentation
- C. Management and Supervision
  - 1. Staff
  - 2. Patient and Family
  - 3. Professional
  - 4. Materials and Equipment
- D. Patient and Staff Education
  - 1. Ocular Hygiene and Preventive Care
  - 2. Safety and Prevention
    - a. Ocular Trauma
    - b. Infection Control
    - c. Environmental Hazards
    - d. National Patient Safety Goals
- E. Patient Teaching
  - 1. Principles and Methods
  - 2. Disease Process

---

## SAMPLE EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

The following are samples of the types of questions that may appear on the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses. These sample questions are intended for candidates to view how test questions are structured. Please note these are samples and these specific questions will not appear on the examination.

---

1. The patient with keratoconus is typically

1. female.
  2. under 35.
  3. over 55.
  4. arthritic.
- 

2. Epinephrine eyedrops may cause

1. diplopia.
  2. corneal edema.
  3. retinal detachment.
  4. an attack of acute glaucoma.
- 

3. Which of the following is the most common reason for patients to seek ophthalmic medical attention?

1. Painful eyes
  2. A change in vision
  3. Red and itching eyes
  4. A discharge from the eyes
- 

4. What is the best method for a nurse to assist a blind patient to ambulate?

1. Walk next to the patient with the nurse's arm around the patient's waist
  2. Walk slightly behind the patient gently holding the patient's elbow
  3. Hold both of the patient's hands and guide gently towards the nurse
  4. Walk slightly ahead of the patient allowing the patient to hold the nurse's elbow
- 

5. Patient phone calls regarding complaints and concerns should be

1. kept in a log near the phone.
  2. documented on the patient record.
  3. discussed at staff meetings for follow up.
  4. documented only when the physician must be consulted.
- 

ANSWER KEY	
Q	A
1	2
2	4
3	2
4	4
5	2

---

## PRACTICE TEST

A practice test consisting of 75 questions with a testing time of 2 hours is available online in order to assist candidates in preparing for the Certification Examination.

The online practice test is an optional tool candidates may use as they prepare for the certification examination. While the practice test may help candidates identify areas of strengths and weakness, it should not be used as the only means to determine candidate preparedness or readiness to test. Since the practice test is NOT intended to be a study guide nor the sole source of preparation for the actual certification examination, candidates are NOT provided with the answer key, rationales for each question, nor notification of which specific items were answered correctly or incorrectly.

Though the specific questions that are on the practice test will not appear on the actual certification examination, it allows candidates to become familiar with the style of questions that may be asked. The instant score report received after practice test submission shows overall test performance as well as performance in each of the content areas. Candidates may find this information useful in determining future study needs. Once the practice test is scored, candidates cannot return to the test to review the questions. Performance on the practice test does not guarantee similar performance on the actual certification examination.

The PTC Online Testing System does not demonstrate the testing software used during the certification examinations. Those who purchase the online practice test should be aware that they will use a different testing platform when they take certification examinations at designated proctored testing centers.

The practice test is not a requirement for certification eligibility nor does it contribute in any way to success on the certification examination. There are many ways candidates should prepare for the certification examination. Candidates should use a variety of resources and consider their own education and experiences. Review the content outline and reference materials listed in the handbook for additional exam-related information.

The practice test can be found at the PTC website at: [www.ptcny.com/test-sponsors/NCBORN](http://www.ptcny.com/test-sponsors/NCBORN).

---

## STUDY GUIDE

A Study Guide is available for purchase on the ASORN website, [www.asorn.org/publications](http://www.asorn.org/publications). The Study guide contains three practice exams of 250 questions each weighted similar to the CRNO exam, supplemental questions in each of the exam content areas, and question answers, with location, in ASORN publications.

---

## REFERENCES

The National Certifying Board of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses has prepared a suggested reference list to assist in preparing for the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses. These references contain books, journals and textbooks, which include information of significance to ophthalmic nursing practice. Inclusion of certain textbooks on this list may not constitute an endorsement by the NCBORN of specific professional literature which, if used, would guarantee candidates successful passing of the certification examination.

**Essentials of Ophthalmic Nursing Book 1** - Ocular Anatomy and Physiology, Embryology, Nursing Assessment, Visual Impairment, Nutritional Disorders, Systemic Disorders with Ocular Manifestations, and Professional Issues. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, 2014.

**Essentials of Ophthalmic Nursing Book 2**- Conjunctival Disorders, Corneal Disorders, Lacrimal System Disorders, Lens Disorders, Muscle Disorders, Neoplastics Disorders. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, 2016.

**Essentials of Ophthalmic Nursing Book 3** - Neuro-Ophthalmic Disorders, Retinal and Vitreal Disorders, Scleral Disorders, Traumatic Disorders, Uveal Disorders. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, 2016.

**Essentials of Ophthalmic Nursing Book 4** – Pharmacology. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses, ASORN: San Francisco, 2015.

**Care and Handling of Ophthalmic Microsurgical Instruments.** current edition. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses, ASORN: San Francisco, 2016.

**Ophthalmic Procedures in the Office and Clinic,** current edition, The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, ASORN, San Francisco, 2016

**Ophthalmic Procedures in the Operating Room and Ambulatory Surgery Center,** current edition The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, 2016.

**Scope and Standards of Ophthalmic Clinical Nursing Practice,** current edition The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses, ASORN: San Francisco, 2014.

**CRNO Examination Study Guide,** current edition. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco, 2017.

**Ophthalmic Medical Assisting: An Independent Study Course** current edition, (American Academy of Ophthalmology AAO), San Francisco, Available at <https://store.aao.org/>

**Insight, The Journal of ASORN,** published quarterly, available online in 2018. The American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses: San Francisco.

**American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPN),** 2017-2018 Perianesthesia nursing standards, practice recommendations and interpretive statements, please visit <https://www.aspan.org> to order ASPAN publications.

PTC19081