

SCALED SCORES FAQs

Test scores provide information about how you performed on a test. Scores are usually reported as either a **raw score** or a **scaled score**.



A **raw score** is the total number of items on an exam that you have answered correctly.

A **scaled score** takes the total number of items that you have answered correctly and converts it onto the same measuring stick for all test takers, no matter what form of the examination was taken.



Tell me more about scaled scores.

PTC generally uses a scale from 200-800. This has nothing to do with the number of test questions. Some testing programs we work with may have 100 questions, while others may have 150 or 250 questions. It does not matter how many questions are on the test to report scores from 200-800.

Why are scaled scores used?

Exam forms may be different. A scaled score makes sure that scores are consistent, no matter what exam form was taken. This will also help you compare how you did if you took the exam more than once. You can compare your score reports to see if you did better or worse the second time you took the test.

What do I need to pass the test?

With scores from 200-800, the passing score will be 500.

If my examination had 175 questions, why do I have to have 500 to pass? What does this mean? Where does the 500 come from?

Scaled scores are calculated by using statistical procedures to translate raw scores onto the 200-800 scale with 500 as the passing score. You cannot calculate the number of questions you got right or wrong from the scaled scores.

Does the scaled score mean the exam was curved?

No. Your exam is scored against the test only. It is not based on the performance of the other people taking the test.

How many questions do I need to answer correctly to pass the test? How will I need to know what I need to study?

Each exam program may require a different level of performance. It is suggested that you review the Handbook for Candidates for your program. It has an outline of information that will be covered on the examination (Content Outline) and a list of potential reference materials.

