

CNS Exam Scoring Method

The method used by the BCNS to determine the passing score for the examination is known as the Angoff technique, which is in accordance with the standards set by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), a fully accredited certifying program. The Angoff technique requires the Examination Development Council's analysis on an item-by-item basis. If an item is considered by the council to be more difficult, the expectation of candidate performance is lower than if an item is considered by the council to be less difficult. These council judgments of item difficulty are expressed as numeric performance indices. The pass-fail cut score reflects these item performance indices, and is expressed as a percentage equivalent.

For each examination, the pass-fail cut score will vary somewhat based on that exam's difficulty level, but the cut scores are equated such that an equivalence of difficulty is maintained. Historically, cut scores have ranged between 60 and 69%. This historic range represents outcomes to date, but should not be considered policy; it is possible for a future cut score to fall outside of this range.

<https://www.theana.org/bcns-forms-resources-overview/>