

A Parent's Guide For Interpreting Scores

About NOCTI Credentials

Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs provide an exceptional learning environment for students to acquire both knowledge and skills. Measuring these skills is an essential part of preparing students for their chosen career field and/or higher education upon completion of their CTE program of study.

Based on national and industry standards, NOCTI credentials measure not only what a student knows, but also how their knowledge and skills are applied. Assessment Blueprints are available for all NOCTI credentials and provide important details such as a competency list, percentage breakdowns, sample questions and performance jobs, and administration specifics. As the industry changes, NOCTI's credentials reflect those changes.



Written Assessments

NOCTI written assessments consist of items related to a specific program of study, delivered in either an online or hard copy format. Students typically take a post-test near the end of their program. Schools may choose to administer the written test in the fall as a pre-test to help diagnose a student's beginning knowledge. Depending on the school or state assessment program, your student may be required to complete only the written portion of the assessment.

Performance Assessments

Performance assessments consist of jobs that allow students to demonstrate their skills by completing an actual segment of work using tools, materials and equipment found in the occupation. During performance assessments, student work is graded by an independent evaluator using a standardized evaluation process. Evaluators may include local business and industry representatives, program advisory committee members and active or retired military personnel. Performance tests are not graded by the student's instructor.

About the Scores

NOCTI scores all assessments and provides an Individual Score Report with a summary of the written and/or performance results. The report contains an overall test score along with scores for each standard covered on the assessment. For students who have taken a written pre-test, the score report will include both the pre- and post-test scores, as well as the percent of change between the scores. Additional information provided on the Individual Score Report includes averages for the nation, state, and school (site).

School administrators can use score data to recognize student achievement, promote continuous program and instructional improvement, and meet state and federal requirements.

Care should be taken in interpreting the results of the assessment. Your student's scores reflect performance on a single day under standardized administration processes. The overall score is the most stable score on the report. The standard scores vary more because there are fewer items within each of the standards. If you have questions, you are encouraged to discuss these results with your student's instructor. The instructor is in the best position to provide further guidance in identifying the most appropriate instruction for your student. Please note that the assessment results do not independently measure future success on the job.

Individual Scores

Participant Name: Sample Name
Site: Sample Site
Test Date: XX/XX/XXXX

Participant ID: XXXXXXXX
Level: Secondary
Type: Post-Test

Test Title and Test Code								
Written - Cognitive								
Standard #	Standard Description	Pre-Test	Post-Test	% Change	Group	Site (Cumulative)	State	Nation
1	Standard 1	60.0	80.0	20.0	76.0	61.7	63.4	70.2
2	Standard 2	28.1	84.4	56.3	67.2	57.3	61.1	68.3
3	Standard 3	16.7	83.3	66.6	77.1	67.5	71.9	70.3
4	Standard 4	40.0	75.0	35.0	69.5	60.9	63.0	65.0
5	Standard 5	40.0	64.0	24.0	51.2	47.7	54.5	53.0
6	Standard 6	42.9	85.7	42.8	72.1	65.6	72.5	71.3
7	Standard 7	23.1	76.9	53.8	53.1	52.0	56.0	57.0
Total		35.1	78.4	43.3	66.8	58.7	62.9	69.7

For a list of the standards (areas covered) for a specific program, refer to the Assessment Blueprint at www.nocti.org.

Performance - Psychomotor							
Job #	Job Title		Post-Test		Group	Site (Cumulative)	Nation
1	Job 1		88.6		79.4	82.0	92.2
2	Job 2		96.0		83.6	82.2	91.7
3	Job 3		100.0		90.5	77.7	91.8
4	Job 4		100.0		90.4	86.5	94.7
5	Job 5		100.0		92.0	85.3	95.6
6	Job 6		100.0		92.0	85.1	93.7
7	Job 7		100.0		92.0	84.8	94.9
8	Job 8		100.0		92.0	86.4	93.3
Total		-	98.1	-	88.8	83.6	93.3

For a list of the jobs to be evaluated during performance testing, refer to the Assessment Blueprint for the specific program.

Interpreting the Score Report

Pre-test/Post-test – A total post-test score is reported for each student as well as for each standard and/or performance job. Pre-test scores are reported, when applicable, and the percentage change from pre-test to post-test administration is included at the duty level and for the total score.

% of Change – Compares the pre-test score to the post-test score. This is the percentage of gain or loss for the student. If a pre-test was not administered, the pre-test and percent of change columns will be blank.

Group – Average of the testing group (class) for the test code and test date.

Site Cumulative – Average of all students who have taken an assessment at the school since the assessment was released for use. This average includes the current testing group.

State – Average score for all students in the state who have taken this assessment since it was released for use.

Nation – Average score for all students who took this assessment anywhere in the nation.