ASK THE EXPERTS

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Promoting Regulatory Excellence

Third Party Accreditation

• What is accreditation?
• Why should I consider it?
• What are the main accrediting bodies?
• What are the differences between them?

Practice Analysis

• AKA job analysis, role delineation study
• Structured description of profession
• Basis for test specifications
• Foundation for content valid examinations
• Process repeated every ~5 years

Nashville, Tennessee
PES approach to practice analysis

- Driven by needs of client and profession (tempered by PES wisdom)
- Conform to industry best practices
- Processes and documentation meet accreditation standards

Sources of Information about a Profession - Documents

- Course descriptions, syllabi
- Practice acts
- Printed Material
- Journals, accreditation guidelines

Sources of Information about a Profession - People

- Employers/Supervisors
- Educators
- Regulators
- Subject Matter Experts
- Professional Associations
- Practitioners
Feedback for Stakeholders
- Examinees
- Licensing and Certifying Boards
- Programs and Schools

Components: Score Reports and Feedback
- Pass/Fail Notification
- Scores/Subscores
- Score Interpretation Material
- Performance Profiles
- Normative Data
- Other Diagnostic Feedback

Examination Security
- Protecting our Program
  - Internal vs. External Threats.
  - External threats more common.
  - Internal threats more harmful.
Examination Security

• Reacting to a situation
  - Dealing with the incident.
  - Dealing with the process that allowed the incident.

Examination Security

• Trends in misconduct
  - Technological Snooping
  - Sharing of materials
    • “Brain Dump”
    • Websites
    • Chat Rooms
    • Review Courses

Examination Security

• Tips for dealing with security issues (from CAVEON)
  - Be vigilant and use detection tools and tip lines
  - Get organized
  - Be prepared for when the breach occurs
  - A proper and thorough investigation can strengthen your case
  - Action against Rogue Review Courses will target the supply of test items, while action against candidates may be necessary to affect demand
American’s with Disability Act

- What about test anxiety?

Starting up a New Credentialing Program

- How do I get started?
- What should it cost?
- How long will take to set up?
- Who can help?

Renewal and Continuing Competency

- Purpose of the recertification requirement
- Ways of promoting competency
- Additional recertification requirements (related to such issues as ethics, attestations, involvement in practice, etc.)
- Length of certification cycle
- Fees for participants & cost for organization
- Relationship to the value proposition/branding of the certification and impact on renewal rates
- Other issues
Test delivery modes

- Paper & pencil test delivery
- Web-based or Internet-based delivery
- Computer-based delivery

Factors influencing selection of test delivery mode:

- Purpose of exam / What’s at stake?
- Security requirements
- Number of candidates
- Capacity of test sites / Available seats
- Depth of item bank / Number of test forms
- Length of test window
- Financial constraints

Other considerations for test delivery:

- Use of images in exam
- Unique item formats, including multi-media
- Tutorial & practice test for CBT / WBT
- Availability of technical support
- Test accommodations
- Options for posttest survey
Standard Setting Studies

• What is a standard setting study?
  - A defensible method of determining the passing criterion
  - The most common method: Content experts provide judgments as to how the “minimally competent” will perform on the examination (or the individual questions).

• When do you conduct a standard setting study?
  - At the establishment of a new program (normally after some examination data has been gathered).
  - Most commonly: Every five years. Some rapidly changing professions may require studies more often.

• Why do you conduct a standard setting study?
  - Criterion-referenced vs. Norm-referenced
Standard Setting Studies

- Common methods of conducting a standard setting study.
  - Angoff
  - Bookmark
  - Hofstee

Standard Setting Studies

- Typical Procedure for a Standard Setting Study.
  - Participants take the exam
  - Discuss the “minimally competent” candidate
  - Rate a few items and discuss as a group
  - Rate the rest of the items
  - Review stats on the items
  - Modify original item ratings

Speaker Contact Information

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