

 Council on Licensure,  
Enforcement and Regulation

**NASHVILLE**  
Tennessee

2010 Annual Educational Conference - September 23-25

**ASK THE EXPERTS**

Presenters:

- Sandra Greenberg, PhD**  
Professional Examination Service
- Joseph McClintock, PhD**  
Measurement Incorporated
- Nancy Orr, PhD**  
National Board of Medical Examiners
- Cynthia D. Woodley, EdD**  
Professional Testing Inc.

*Promoting Regulatory Excellence*

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**Third Party Accreditation**

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

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**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

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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

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Sources of Information about a Profession - Documents



```
graph TD; A[Supervisory rating forms] --> C((Printed Material)); B[Course descriptions; syllabi] --> C; D[Practice acts] --> C; E[Job descriptions] --> C; F[Journals; accreditation guidelines] --> C;
```

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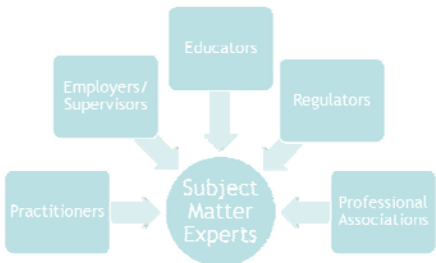
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Sources of Information about a Profession - People



```
graph TD; A[Employers/Supervisors] --> C((Subject Matter Experts)); B[Educators] --> C; D[Regulators] --> C; E[Practitioners] --> C; F[Professional Associations] --> C;
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### Feedback for Stakeholders

- Examinees
- Licensing and Certifying Boards
- Programs and Schools

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### Components: Score Reports and Feedback

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

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### Examination Security

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

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### Examination Security

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

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### Examination Security

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

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### 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

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<h3>American's with Disability Act</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What about test anxiety?</li></ul>		

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<h3>Starting up a New Credentialing Program</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How do I get started?</li><li>• What should it cost?</li><li>• How long will take to set up?</li><li>• Who can help?</li></ul>		

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<h3>Renewal and Continuing Competency</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purpose of the recertification requirement</li><li>• Ways of promoting competency</li><li>• Additional recertification requirements (related to such issues as ethics, attestations, involvement in practice, etc.)</li><li>• Length of certification cycle</li><li>• Fees for participants &amp; cost for organization</li><li>• Relationship to the value proposition/branding of the certification and impact on renewal rates</li><li>• Other issues</li></ul>		

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Test delivery modes

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

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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

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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

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### 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).

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### Standard Setting Studies

- 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.

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### Standard Setting Studies

- Why do you conduct a standard setting study?
  - Criterion-referenced vs. Norm-referenced

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### Standard Setting Studies

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

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### 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

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### Speaker Contact Information

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Professional Testing

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