



NCBTMB Advanced Certification Exam: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Many of the questions we've received cannot be answered at this time. That's because NCBTMB's Advanced Certification Examination will be developed based on future input from educators, practitioners and professionals from the massage therapy and bodywork field.

Q: Who is overseeing the development of this exam?

A: The development of the exam is being overseen and directed by a steering group comprised of test development specialists, psychometricians and NCBTMB representatives. In addition, volunteers from across the country were asked to submit letters of interest to serve on a task force. From those who applied, more than 20 individuals were selected to serve as the core body of industry experts. These volunteers were selected based on experience and expertise, with the intent of creating a diverse group of professionals representing various regions of the country, ethnicities, genders and cultures. A few nationally recognized individuals were asked to fill areas where specific expertise was needed.

Q: When will I get to provide input?

A: The task force will seek your participation in a number of ways. We want to make sure your voice is heard as part of this process. You will be able to reach us through:

- NCBTMB's website and blog at www.ncbtmb.org.
- The multiple surveys we will be sending out – we'll need to determine what skills, knowledge and abilities should be verified through this "advanced" certification, how you define "advanced", how long you think the test should be, what additional education or experience requirements you would like to see, if additional continuing education should be mandatory for renewal, and more. These will be sent electronically to everyone whose email address we have and will also be posted on the website. *(To make sure we have your information, email advanced@ncbtmb.org)*
- NCBTMB's Advanced Certification Test Specifications Report, which also will call for input.

Q: Do I have to get this new certification or will it be optional? Will this affect my existing NCTM or NCTMB certification?

A: Advanced certification, whatever its form, will be entirely optional. Advanced certification is separate from national certification, and will not affect your current credential in any way.

Q: Where and how will the exam be administered?

A: The exam will be administered via computer at Pearson VUE testing centers. These are the same testing centers that currently administer the National Certification Exams.

Q: Do I have to be nationally certified in order to take the Advanced Certification Exam?

A: Eligibility requirements will be determined in the future, after the profession has had the opportunity to provide their input via surveys and the task force has studied the results.

Q: Where can I find more information or ask questions?

A: Visit www.ncbtmb.org regularly for updates. A dedicated section for advanced certification will provide information. If you have a question, please email advanced@ncbtmb.org or share it on the advanced certification blog, which will be accessible via the website.