



# American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

## Instructions for the Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Continuing Certification Examination

### Examination Format

The computer-delivered Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Continuing Certification Examination is comprised of three segments. At the beginning of the examination, there is a nondisclosure agreement (NDA) that examinees must respond to, followed by on-screen instructions. After the tutorial/instructions, the examination delivers 150 test questions in three sections. At the conclusion of the examination, there is a five-minute end-of-examination survey.

The total testing time is 180 minutes (3 hours). It includes five minutes for the NDA and on-screen tutorial/instructions, 170 minutes (2 hours and 50 minutes) for the 150 test questions, and five minutes for the end-of-examination survey.

During the examination, there are optional breaks between each section. The optional breaks will be offered after one section is completed and before the next section starts. The time used for optional breaks is a part of the total testing time. Examination time continues to run during optional breaks, so examinees must manage their own time. The Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Continuing Certification Examination Format table below demonstrates the examination delivery structure.

**Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Continuing Certification Examination Format**

	Section	No. of Questions	Format
<b>5 min</b>	Nondisclosure Agreement		
	On-Screen Instructions		
<b>170 Minutes (2 hours, 50 minutes)</b>	1	50	Stand-alone
	Optional Break*		
	2	50	Stand-alone
	Optional Break*		
	3	50	Stand-alone
<b>5 min</b>	End-of-Examination Survey		

\*A proctor must log examinees in after breaks. Examinees must be signed in and out each time they enter and leave the testing room.

### Question Type and Review

The Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Continuing Certification Examination is comprised entirely of one-best-answer multiple-choice questions that can be skipped or flagged for review, but after leaving a section an examinee cannot review questions in that section again.

## **Scoring**

Examinees will receive a percent correct score for the total test in addition to the percent correct scores for the subtests. The percent correct score is the percentage of items answered correctly, rounded to the nearest one-tenth percent. An acceptable level of performance must be achieved on the total score to pass the examination. The passing standards are not norm-referenced; there is no predefined passing rate for any group of examinees.

Questions that may be included in the examination solely for research or pretesting purposes will not be included in the examinees' scores.

No examinee is expected to obtain a perfect score. However, in the opinion of the ABPN, each examinee should have some degree of familiarity with the subject matter of each question. Even though the examinee may be in doubt about the correct answer to a particular question, she or he should answer every question. This will increase the likelihood that the examinee's examination score will reflect the breadth of her or his knowledge of the field. There is no penalty for guessing.

## **Examination Functions**

To familiarize examinees with the examination functions, several examination screenshots with explanations are provided [here](#). In addition to the general functions, such as Time Remaining and Number of Questions, please pay special attention to the functions for Comment, Scratch Pad, Highlight, Strikethrough, Flag for Review, Section Map/Drug List/Tutorial, Navigator, and other functions related to examination questions.