



CAOT - ACE

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Association canadienne des ergothérapeutes

CEC Annual Bulletin July 2009

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Welcome to the third edition of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists National Certification Examination Bulletin. The CAOT National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination (NOTCE) is constantly undergoing quality assurance procedures. Therefore we are pleased to bring you news of the latest developments in our examination services and structure.

The Certification Exam Committee is composed of 10 members from across Canada, representing different areas of practice with a balance between academics and clinicians. Two members of the CEC are francophone.

CEC has completed the process for the revision of the examination blueprint which can be viewed here:

<http://www.caot.ca/pdfs/Exam/Exam%20Blueprint%20E.pdf>

Message from the CEC Chair

CEC has had a busy and productive year with completion of the process for the revision of the examination blueprint. We extend our thanks to Jan Polgar who facilitated the revision process and to ACOTUP and ACOTRO representatives who joined CEC in the process.

We thank outgoing CEC member Susan Mulholland for her hard work and dedication to the CEC and look forward to Susan Burwash's participation as a new CEC member. Debbie Rudman is the new Chair-elect of the committee.

We encourage you to send ideas for the Bulletin, especially with respect to what you would like to know about the CAOT National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination.

Please send all comments to exam@caot.ca

or call 613 523-2268 or 800 434-2268 ext 235

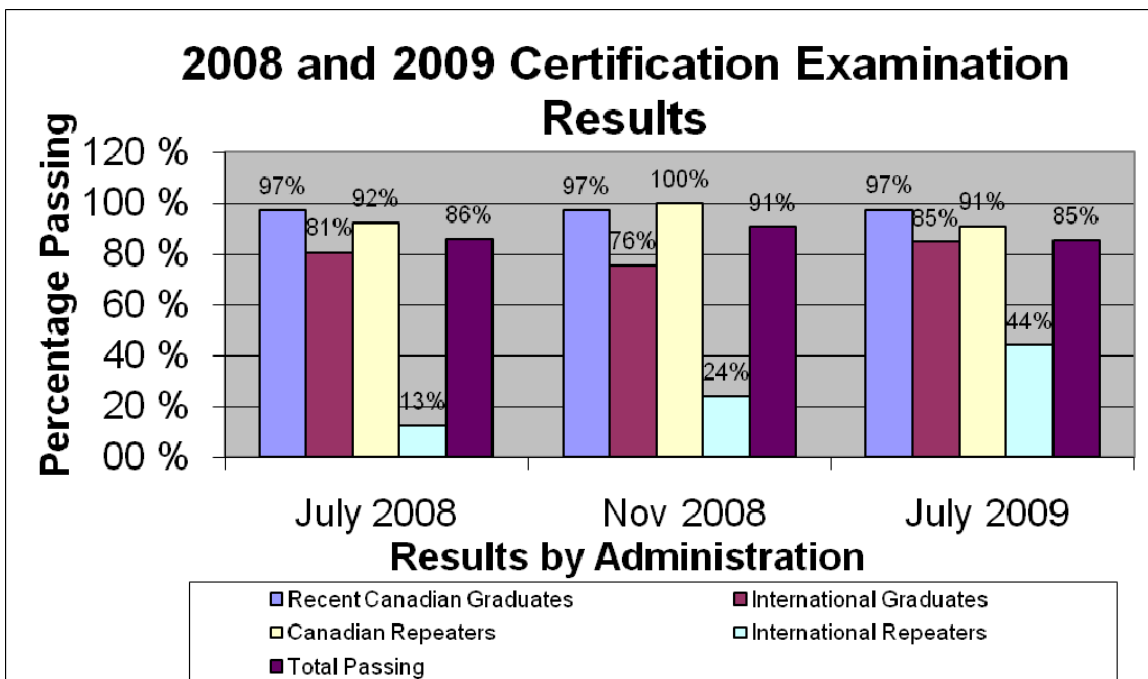
We look forward to hearing from you!

***97% of First-time
Canadian writers pass
the July and November
2008 and July 2009
examination.***

The purpose of the NOTCE is to ensure that all individuals who enter occupational therapy practice in Canada meet a minimum standard in the written application of theoretical and applied knowledge and professional behavior in a practice setting.

2009 CAOT Certification Examination Results

Each examination administration in 2008 and 2009 was developed, produced, scored and analyzed by the Division of Studies in Medical Education (DSME) at the University of Alberta. DSME have been providing high stakes examination services to the CAOT and other national and provincial bodies for over 35 years. The following chart illustrates the pass-fail rates for recent Canadian graduates and international candidates for the July and November 2008 and July 2009 sittings.



The CAOT Certification Examination Blueprint Revision was approved by the CAOT Board of Directors in June 2009.

In September 2009 the Certification Examination Committee embarked upon process of recoding all exam bank questions to reflect the categories outlined in the new exam blueprint. The revised blueprint guides the exam development by way of ensuring exam questions reflect the key element of the blueprint. The content of the exam does not change with the revised blueprint however the weighting of the key elements of the blueprint represented on the exam is changed. The goal is to ensure the balance of exam questions reflects the blueprint.

Why is the blueprint so important?

The blueprint has a very important role to play in the CAOT National Certification Examination and has three primary purposes:

1. provide a guide or map of the content of the examination and the distribution of the content for each administration of the examination;
2. guide the development of individual vignettes and individual items associated with each vignette;
3. communicate the content of the examination to various stakeholders including candidates, occupational therapy university programs and occupational therapy regulators.

Why the blueprint was Revised....

The blueprint is intended to represent current occupational therapy entry level knowledge and practice. Recent publications, the Profile of Occupational Therapy Practice in Canada (CAOT, 2007) and Enabling Occupation 11 (Townsend & Polatajko, 2007), sparked the need to revisit the existing blueprint. Other supporting components of the blueprint such as the Essential Competencies of practice for occupational therapists in Canada (2nd Ed) (ACOTRO, 2003) were also considered during the revision...

2009 CAOT Certification Examination Updates...

The next sitting of the CAOT Certification Examination will take place July 3, 2010

- Effective March 2010, the NOTCE will be developed produced scored and analyzed by ASI (Assessment Strategies Inc.) ASI has been in the business of exam services for over 30 years and CAOT welcomes the opportunity to work with the local business. CAOT extends a sincere thank you to the Division of Studies in Medical Education (DSME), University of Alberta and wishes them well with their restructured business focus.

See www.caot.ca for more information about the CAOT Certification Examination.



Locations include:

St. John's, NL Halifax, NS St John,
NB Montreal, QC Ottawa, ON
Quebec, QC Toronto, ON

Hamilton, ON London, ON
Winnipeg, MB Edmonton, AB
Vancouver, BC Saskatoon, SK



The CAOT National Certification Examination Webinar available online [Click here](#)

This Webinar uses the latest technology to bring you a multi-media presentation full of timely information for the examination candidate and all stakeholders. The Webinar is available in English and French.

Three successful item generation workshops in 2009

Under the direction of Item Generation Coordinator, Donna Collins, the CEC has administered three successful Item Generation Workshops.

The first workshop, held in Saskatoon, SK was attended by 13 individuals.

The second workshop, held in St. John's, NL was attended by 11 individuals.

The third workshop, held in London, ON was attended by 8 individuals. Many thanks to the workshop leaders: Maureen Junk and Christine Savage; Martina Hickey, Donna Power and Ashley Walsh; Andrea Dyrkacz and Angie Mandich.

If you are a member of CAOT and interested in future Item Generation Workshops please contact Diana Aarons, CAOT Examination Services Administrator at exam@caot.ca

2009 CAOT Certification Examination Standards

The CAOT certification examination utilizes industry best practices in its development, administration and evaluation. This includes the seminal document for test development "Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing" (AERA, APA, NCME; 1999 and "Principles for Fair Test Assessment Practices for Education in Canada (Joint Advisory Committee; 1993).

In 2008 CAOT and ACOTRO jointly supported an external audit of the NOTCE. Results, presented in June 2009 revealed that the NOTCE provides an objective assessment of candidates wishing to enter practice in Canada, ensures public protection and provides an effective and appropriate entry to practice requirement. To view the public report go to:

<http://www.caot.ca/pdfs/CAOT%20NOTCE%20Public%20Report.pdf>

