



2021 October Health & Wellness Coach Certifying Examination Performance Report¹

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Please refer to the accompanying Performance Interpretation Guidelines for a description of the information on this report.

Pass/Fail Decision	Pass
Minimum Passing Scale Score	389
Your Total Test Scale Score	488

Content Area	Equated Percentage of Correct Responses	
	Your Percentage	Reference Group Mean (SD)
Coaching Structure	82	84 (8)
Coaching Process	87	83 (8)
Health and Wellness	91	83 (9)
Ethics	85	86 (9)

¹Test development and psychometric analyses were performed by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME®).



2021 October Health & Wellness Coach Certifying Examination Performance Interpretation Guidelines

Performance Report: Your Performance Report contains your pass/fail decision, the scale score required to pass the examination, your total test scale score and percent correct score (percentage of correct responses).

The performance report also contains feedback on your performance on each content area of the examination. This information is intended only for educational purposes. No decisions are based on information presented in this portion of the report. For each content area, your percent correct score is provided along with mean and standard deviation of the reference group (see below) to facilitate comparisons.

The reference group that serves as a benchmark for comparison consists of all candidates who took the same administration of the examination as you for the first time under standard conditions.

Interpretation of Scores

Scale Scores: To assist in normative comparisons across different administrations of the test, scores on this examination were transformed to a scale established on the base reference group. This group consists of all candidates who took this examination for certification under standard conditions in September 2017. The scale score distribution for this group was designed to have a mean of 500 and a standard deviation of 100.

These scale scores are equated such that they control for differences in examination difficulty from one administration to another. Thus, candidates who take a slightly more difficult form are not penalized and those who take a slightly easier form will not gain an unfair advantage. The resulting scores are equivalent across administrations and can be directly compared. For example, a score of 625 will represent the same level of proficiency on the 2017 examination as on a subsequent one.

Equated Percent Correct Scores: The equated percent correct score is calculated as the percentage of items in the total content domain that would be answered correctly based on an examinee's proficiency level. The scores are equated across test administrations and are statistically adjusted for variations in test form difficulty. Equated percent correct scores can be compared across years starting in 2020.

Mean and Standard Deviation (SD): The mean is the arithmetic average of a set of values, or distribution; however, for skewed distributions, the mean is not necessarily the same as the middle value (median) or the most likely (mode). The SD shows how much variation or dispersion from the average exists. A low SD indicates that the data points tend to be very close to the mean; a high SD indicates that the data points are spread out over a large range of values.

Standard Error of Measurement (SEM): The SEM is an estimate of the degree of uncertainty (imprecision) in scores, or how much variability could be expected in an examinee's true proficiency level. For the 2021 examination, the SEM of scale scores is 34 (3%).

Using the SEM, it is possible to calculate a score interval that indicates how much a score may change if the examinee tested again (using a different set of items covering the same content and assuming no learning or forgetting). For example, if an examinee's true proficiency level is 500 and the SEM of the scores is 25, the scale score achieved will fall between 475 and 525 ($500 - 25$ and $500 + 25$) two times out of three.

Norm Table: The norm table enables you to compare your total test scale score on this year's examination with those of other examinees who took this examination. To use this table, locate your scale score in the first column and then find the corresponding percentile rank in the column to the right. If you cannot find your exact score, go to the next lowest score. For example, if your scale score is 546 choose a scale score of 540 and look across the columns to the percentile rank. This number indicates the percentage of examinees that scored lower than you. The mean, SD, minimum and maximum scale scores attained have been provided at the bottom of the table.

Performance Interpretation Guidelines

Percentile Ranks

Scale Score	Total Group N=1,928
710 and above	100
700	100
690	100
680	100
670	100
660	100
650	100
640	99
630	99
620	99
610	98
600	96
590	95
580	95
570	93
560	90
550	88
540	84
530	81
520	78
510	74
500	70
490	66
480	58
470	53
460	49
450	45
440	38
430	35
420	30
410	27
400	23
390	21
380	17
370	14
360	13
350	11
340	8
330	7
320	6
310	5
300	4
290	3
280 and below	3
Mean (SD)	457 (83)
Minimum - Maximum	200 - 709