



State of Iowa

Barbering and Cosmetology Arts & Sciences

Candidate Information Bulletin

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Beginning July 1, 2024, the combined Barber and Cosmetologist scope of practice will only require candidates to complete the NIC Cosmetology Theory exam for licensure.

Beginning July 1, 2024, Iowa will no longer require any practical exams for initial licensure for Barbers or Barber Instructors.

While it is not a requirement for initial licensure after July 1, 2024, Iowa candidates for licensure and existing licensees may choose to take the NIC Barber practical exam to meet Iowa's shaving certificate requirements. If you need to schedule a practical exam, please send an email to CosmoSupport@ProvExam.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **HOW DO I REGISTER TO TEST?** To register and schedule for testing, go to:
<https://www.provexam.com/register>.
2. **WHERE CAN I TEST?** All exams will be taken remotely from home.

The remote system works on a MAC, PC, or Chromebook (Please verify your Chromebook will work with our system in advance of test day.) If you are **not** prepared to test with proper equipment using the remote proctoring system you will be required to reschedule and repay the exam fee. More information about remote testing is provided on page 2.

Please refer to the section titled "Test Day Rules and procedures" for an outline of the testing environment requirements.

3. **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?** The written examinations cost **\$83** each and the Barber 1 practical examinations for the Shaving Certificate cost **\$108** each.
4. **WHEN DO I GET MY TEST RESULTS?** Unofficial exam results are available at the testing center once you complete your exam. Official exam results will be sent to the Board within one (1) week after your test date.
5. **WHAT IS ON THE TEST?** Exam information is provided on page 3 of this bulletin.

MORE QUESTIONS

Please read through this bulletin completely for answers to your questions. If you still have unanswered questions, you may contact us at the following:

For Licensing Questions-
**Barbering and Cosmetology
Arts & Sciences**
6200 Park Avenue,
Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa
50321-1270
<https://dial.iowa.gov/I-need/licenses/barbering-cosmetology/licensure>

Hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm

For Testing Questions -
Prov, Inc.
150 W Civic Center Blvd,
Suite 601
Sandy, Utah 84070
Call or Text: (801) 733-4455
(Messaging rates may apply)
Toll Free: (877) 228-3926
www.provexam.com
support@provexam.com

7:00 am to 11:00 pm CT
Monday - Friday

GENERAL TESTING INFORMATION

The Iowa Board of Barbering and Cosmetology Arts & Sciences (Board) has contracted with Prov, Inc. to administer the following NIC examinations:

- Barber and Cosmetologist
(NIC Cosmetology theory exam)
- Electrologist
(NIC Electrology theory exam)
- Esthetician
(NIC Esthetics theory exam)
- Nail Technologist
(NIC Nail Technology theory exam)
- Instructor
(NIC Instructor theory exam)
- Shaving Certificate
(NIC Barber 1 practical exam)

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide you with information about taking your licensing examination with the State of Iowa.

Prov is not authorized to make the determination of which examination candidates must take. If a candidate is unsure which exam is needed for the license being sought, resolve this question before scheduling. If candidates have questions regarding which exam to take, please check with your school, or contact the Board at **(515) 281-0254**.

EXAMINATION CATEGORIES & COST

Candidates seeking to be licensed in the State of Iowa must successfully complete the written examination. Iowa candidates for licensure and existing licensees may choose to take the NIC Barber practical exam to meet Iowa's shaving certificate requirements.

Each written exam costs **\$83**, and the Barber 1 practical examinations for the Shaving Certificate cost **\$108** each. The fee is the same whether you are testing for the first time or if you are retaking the examination.

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TESTING WITH PROV

Your written exam will be taken remotely from home. More information about remote testing is provided in the section titled "Remote Testing".

The following link will take you to a short video that demonstrates Prov's testing system:

<https://youtu.be/h3T9svnldLY>.

WHERE TO TAKE YOUR EXAM IN IOWA

The state has contracted with Prov to offer these exams remotely. This means examinations can be at home (or any other quiet site with adequate internet speed and free from distractions) This space must be private and is not available to anyone other than the testing candidate during testing. You will use the [Examroom.ai](https://provexam.com/) remote proctoring tool.

More information about remote testing is provided throughout this bulletin and in the Remote Practical Exam Instructions included with this bulletin.

REMOTE TESTING

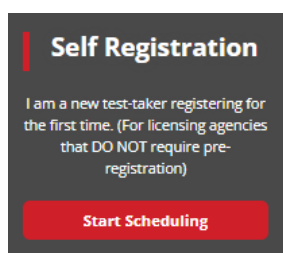
Prov is authorized to offer these exams remotely. This means exams can be at home (or any other quiet site with adequate internet speed and free from distractions) This space must be private and is not available to anyone other than the testing candidate during testing.

You will use the [Examroom.ai](https://provexam.com/) remote proctoring tool.

More information about remote testing is provided throughout this bulletin.

HOW TO REGISTER ONLINE

1. To register for your exam, go to: <https://provexam.com/> or call the Prov Call Center to complete the registration process if preferred.
2. Click "Schedule a Test"
3. Click "Start Scheduling" under "Self Registration"



4. Use the Dropdown menu under "Select Certifying Body", and select:

IA Barbering and Cosmetology Arts & Sciences

Then press

NEXT

5. Under "Select a License/certificate", choose the license (and language) you are seeking (**choose one of the following**):

- Barber and Cosmetologist
- Electrologist
- Esthetician
- Nail Technologist
- Instructor

Then press

NEXT

Then press

NEXT

6. Experience Requirement: Select "Yes" if you are qualified for this test.
7. Select the school you attended. Once selected, scroll to the bottom of the page & click "Submit".
8. Enter your information **exactly** as it appears on your government issued ID.
 - Name (First, Middle and Last)
 - Street address
 - City, State, Postal CodeAdditionally, please provide the following:
 - Social Security number
 - Email Address
 - Telephone Number
 - Birthdate

Then select the button labeled:

SAVE CHANGES

HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR EXAM ONLINE

1. Select a Date & Time for your exam by selecting the link labeled.

 [Find suitable time and venue](#)

2. Select a convenient test site by scrolling down to see all available test sites.
3. Select a test **date** and **time** from the calendar.

Confirm your selected date and time and select:
Add to Cart.

4. Proceed to payment. Please enter your form of electronic payment (e.g. MasterCard, Visa, AMEX) or coupon code if provided by your school.

The invoice for your exam payment will be automatically emailed to you. This invoice will include information regarding your scheduled date/time.

If you have any problems with online scheduling, you may call or text Prov at (801) 733-4455.

SCHEDULING BY PHONE

To schedule an examination by phone, you may call or text Prov at (801) 733-4455 or send an email to support@provexam.com.

Prov scheduling staff is available 7:00 a.m. through 11:00 p.m. CT Monday through Friday.

Candidates should be prepared to provide the Prov scheduling staff with their name, social security number and their address. Once registered in the database, Prov staff will search for the next available testing date and time. Once candidates are scheduled, Prov staff will email them information regarding their testing schedule.

CANCEL/RESCHEDULING POLICY

If you need to change or cancel your testing appointment, you must contact Prov at least **three (3) business days** prior to your scheduled test date. Rescheduling is free if Prov is notified by the deadline.

If you fail to appear for their test or fail to cancel or reschedule your testing session by the close of business three days prior to their scheduled test date, you will forfeit your exam fees.

EMERGENCY SITUATION POLICY

If you are unable to attend your scheduled examination due to an emergency, you must provide written documentation to Prov for review.

You may call or text Prov at (801) 733-4455 or send an email to support@provexam.com.

If approved, you will be notified and provided with authorization to reschedule your examination.

PREPARING FOR YOUR EXAMS

The Barbering and Cosmetology exams utilized in Iowa are designed to test what you should know as you begin your career in the Barbering and Cosmetology industry.

A live model is required for the haircut and shave. The model must be 18 years of age or older and must present a government issued photo ID at the time of check-in.

No cell phones or watches will be allowed in the testing area other than those in use for administration of your examination.

No aerosols or disinfectant sprays are allowed unless it is specifically marked as non-aerosol. If any aerosol products are detected in the testing area, your score may be voided.

EXAM INFORMATION

The National Examinations are provided by the National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC). To learn more about your specific exam, please select the following hyperlinks to access the NIC Candidate Information Bulletins (CIBs).

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While it is not a requirement for initial licensure after July 1, 2024, Iowa candidates for licensure and existing licensees may choose to take the NIC Barber practical exam to meet Iowa's shaving certificate requirements. If you need to schedule a practical exam, please send an email to CosmoSupport@ProvExam.com.

**Shaving Certificate
Optional Practical Exam****Barber Shaving Certificate**

While it is not a requirement for initial licensure after July 1, 2024, Iowa candidates for licensure and existing licensees may choose to take the NIC Barber practical exam to meet Iowa's shaving certificate requirements. If you need to schedule a practical exam, please send an email to:

CosmoSupport@ProvExam.com

PRACTICAL EXAM (Shaving Certificate):

✓ [Barber 1 Practical CIB](#)

IMPORTANT: For important information on how to prepare and set up your workspace **BEFORE** testing, [see here](#).

Barber and Cosmetologist

Beginning July 1, 2024, the combined Barber and Cosmetologist scope of practice will only require candidates to complete the NIC Cosmetology Theory exam for licensure.

WRITTEN EXAM:

✓ [Cosmetology Theory \(Written\) CIB](#)

Electrologist**WRITTEN EXAM:**

✓ [Electrology Theory \(Written\) CIB](#)

Esthetician**WRITTEN EXAM:**

✓ [Esthetics Theory \(Written\) CIB](#)

Instructor**WRITTEN EXAM:**

✓ [Instructor Written CIB](#)

Nail Technologist**WRITTEN EXAM:**

✓ [Nail Technology Theory \(Written\) CIB](#)

Foreign Language CIBs

If you wish to access an NIC CIB in one of the available foreign languages, please click this link and select from the drop-down box:

✓ [NIC CIB Dropdown Selections](#)

NIC References

For information about exam references, please click the following hyperlink:

✓ [NIC References](#)

TEST DAY RULES AND PROCEDURES**What is Examroom?**

Examroom is a remote test monitoring service that allows you to take your test on your own computer at your home. On test day, you log into the Examroom website and request to start your exam. A test proctor will greet you over your computer, will verify your identity, take your picture, and observe you throughout the testing process.

Remote Testing Information

Remote testing is offered as a convenience to you to help you take your test without having to travel. However, by choosing to test remotely, you are agreeing to abide by the following conditions:

1. You will need to be in a quiet, distraction free environment.
2. You need to be sitting at a table, desk, or counter.
3. Your table or desk needs to be completely clear of anything you are not permitted to use during testing; no papers, notes, non-testing books, practice exams, drinks, food, etc. You may have a bottle of drinking water with a cap.
4. All non-testing electronic equipment needs to be removed from the room; calculators, additional cell phones, etc. If there is a TV or second monitor in the room that cannot be removed, you will be asked to show the proctor that it is unplugged.
5. Your area under your table, desk, or chair needs to be clear of everything; blankets, pillows, papers, backpacks, boxes, etc.
6. Your work area needs to be obstruction free so that we can see you, your arms and hands, throughout the entire testing process.
7. You are not permitted to have anyone in the room with you, nor can you receive any aid from anyone during the test.
8. You are not permitted to access any other website during testing unless directed by the system to do so.

9. If requested to download a special extension on your computer, you will not tamper with the extension or try to disable it while testing.

If you are unable to have a testing environment that meets these conditions, we may deny you the ability to test remotely, and we will reschedule you at one of our in-person testing center.

Not every computer system is capable of taking a test on Examroom. The following are the **MINIMUM** requirements that your computer system would need to meet to qualify to take your test using the Examroom service:

- The operating system on computer needs to be recent (less than 3-4 years old)
- The remote system works on a MAC, PC, or Chromebook (Please verify your Chromebook will work with our system in advance of test day.) If you are **not** prepared to test with proper equipment using the remote proctoring system you will be required to reschedule and repay the exam fee.
- Need either a Chrome or Firefox browser (Chrome works best)
- Need a functioning computer web-camera and microphone
- Need a good consistent Internet connection capable of uploading files in excess of 3 Mbps

Please use the following links to do a system check before you schedule your exam to make sure your computer system will allow you to take a test using this system.

<https://examroom.ai/systemtest/>

When prompted "Permission to access camera and microphone", you must click "Allow."

If you do not have access to equipment that meets the minimum requirements, Prov has laptops available for use during your exam. To request access to a Prov laptop you may call (866) 720-7768 and ask a call center representative for assistance. You will be responsible for the cost of shipping and handling. Please call for more information.

Exam Day Procedures

On the day of your exam:

1. Head to <https://provexam.com>
2. Click "Start My Test" from the home page menu
3. Review the instructions on the page and click "Start My Test" to be directed <https://examroom.ai/login/>
4. Enter the email address you used to register for your test
5. Enter your candidate ID as your password
6. You will be greeted by an onboarding agent to help you check-in and start your test

For technical support, or if you have difficulty logging into your exam, please use the chat box on the bottom right corner of <https://examroom.ai>.

The following link will take you to a short video that demonstrates Prov's testing system:
<https://youtu.be/h3T9svnldLY>.

Proof of Identity

You will be required to show government-issued, photo-bearing identification that includes your signature. Your first and last name on your ID MUST match the name on your admission documents. The photo-bearing ID must be current and valid. Forms of valid photo-bearing ID are a driver's license, passport, or military ID. Temporary IDs and expired IDs will NOT be accepted. Please contact Prov in advance of your test date if you have any questions regarding your photo ID. You will also be required to sign a test center log and will be photographed by the test center staff. If you cannot produce a valid government-issued photo ID, refuse to participate in signing as instructed or refuse to be photographed, you will be dismissed from the testing center and forfeit all testing fees for that testing session.

Prohibited Items

No cameras, recorders, cell phones, computers, (other than those in use for administration of your examination), pagers, tablet computers, music players, smart watches, radios, electronic games, or any other electronic devices are allowed in the testing room. Talking and smoking are not allowed in the testing room.

Additionally, other personal items such as purses, notebooks, references or study materials, briefcases, backpacks, wallets, pens, pencils, other writing devices, food or any other items are not permitted in the testing room.

For exam security you may also be **asked to remove** articles of clothing that may pose a security risk such as the following:

- Bulky clothing, scarves, hoodies, shawls, vests, jackets, coats, and so forth.
- Hats or headgear not associated with religious reasons.
- Any other clothing or device that may be interpreted as having the potential to compromise the testing process.

If you are caught using unauthorized materials during testing, these materials will be confiscated, your testing will be terminated with fees forfeited, and the Board will be notified of your dismissal from the exam.

Visitor Policy

No one other than the candidate will be allowed in the testing room.

Unethical Conduct Policy

Any individual caught giving or receiving assistance during or after the examination or caught using unauthorized materials during the examination will be reported directly to the Iowa Board of Barbering and Cosmetology Arts & Sciences. Those caught in the act of cheating will be dismissed from the examination and their testing results will be frozen. Furthermore, the candidate will forfeit the examination fees paid. Finally, anyone caught with test questions in their possession, either during or following the examination will be prosecuted by Prov for theft of copyrighted testing materials.

Candidate Civility Expectations

We understand that taking a test can be stressful. Sometimes this stress may cause someone to visibly show their frustration during or after the testing event. While we understand the sources of stress, we find any action that threatens our proctors or examiners to be unacceptable. If a candidate verbally or physically threatens or assaults any of our proctors or examiners, that candidate may be banned from testing for a time. The candidate's actions will be reported to the licensing board or agency. If any physical harm occurs, civil action may also be taken against the candidate.

SCORE INFORMATION

Candidates must achieve an overall passing scaled score of 70.00 on the exams.

RESULTS REPORTING

Unofficial written exam results are available at the testing center once you complete your exam. Official exam results will be emailed to you within 1 day after your test.

Official exam results will be sent to the Board within one (1) week after your test date.

RETESTING POLICY

Failed examinations can be retaken as often as is necessary. There's is no waiting period and candidates can schedule a new testing session for the first available testing date. Candidates cannot retake an exam once they have passed that exam unless required by the State of Iowa.

PROV'S NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Prov provides equal access to its exams and testing programs for all eligible persons. Although individual jurisdictions that Prov represents are wholly responsible for determining eligibility of candidates, it is the policy of Prov to maintain an environment free of discrimination and to prohibit discrimination and harassment against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and veteran, marital or family status.

Harassment of Prov program participants, proctors, staff or candidates will not be tolerated. If candidates wish to express concerns about discrimination, they should contact Prov at (801) 733-4455 or write to:

Prov, Inc., 150 W Civic Center Drive, Suite 601, Sandy, UT 84092.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ACCOMMODATIONS

Prov complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in providing accommodations. To request accommodations during testing, candidates should complete and submit these ADA forms: [ADA Forms](#)

Prov will require written documentation from a licensed physician or psychologist documenting the disability and the recommended accommodations to be provided. Prov will then work directly with the candidates to arrange the approved accommodations.

Note: Accommodations will not be provided based solely on a candidate's inability to read and comprehend English. This is due to the possible impact on the security and integrity of the examinations, any accommodation provided shall be made in accordance with test administration guidelines and applicable law.

WRITTEN TEST SITE INSTRUCTIONS

Written test site instructions are attached to this bulletin that outline testing rules and computer testing navigation information that is very important. Please thoroughly review prior to your scheduled test date.

REMOTE PRACTICAL EXAM INSTRUCTIONS

Remote practical instructions are attached to this document to assist candidates when preparing to take the Barber 1 practical exam remotely for the Iowa Shaving Certificate.

Prov✓ Theory Test Site Instructions

Please take a moment to read the following information. If you have any questions please let your proctor know. Failure to follow these testing rules can have serious consequences.

Be advised, the testing center and testing room may be under video surveillance.

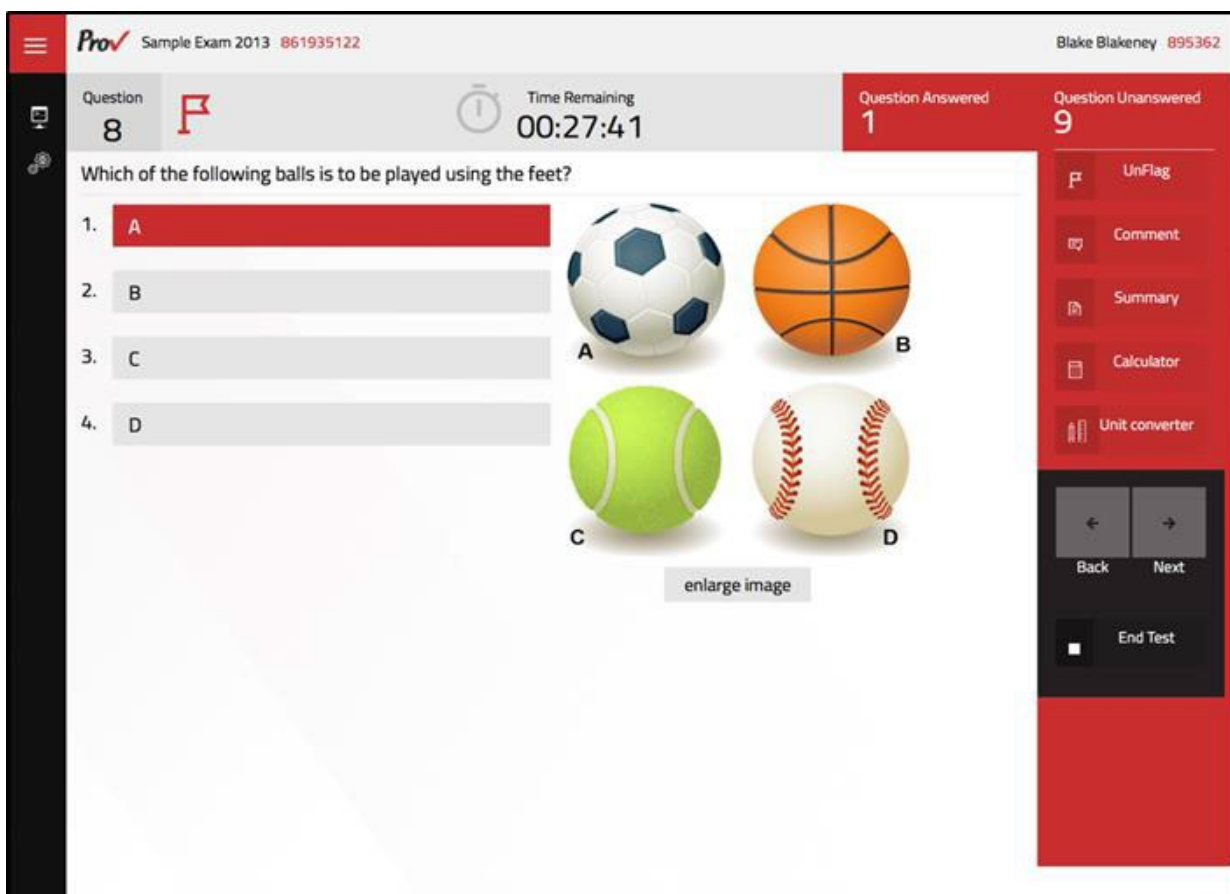
Testing Rules

- Be courteous and do not disturb others.
- After you are seated, follow all the instructions given and verify the information presented to you. This information will include your name, candidate ID, exam name, and occasionally additional testing Materials such as graphics.
- If you leave the testing room during the test, you must notify your proctor and turn in all your testing materials.
- If you take a restroom break the test time will continue to countdown and the lost time cannot be recovered.
- If your computer freezes, shuts down, or will not move to the next question notify your proctor immediately and they will be able to restart your exam without loss of available testing time.
- At the end of your test, remain seated, raise your hand and wait for the proctor to start the check-out process with you. Once all testing materials have been accounted for by your proctor, you may collect your belongings and leave the testing center.
- Result letter information is provided in the Prov Candidate Information Bulletin. Please visit provexam.com and select "Learn about my test"



In the next few days, Prov will email you a link to our candidate experience survey, please let us know how we did!

Computer Testing Navigation



Total number of questions	Indicated in the upper right-hand corner of the screen.
Available time	Posted in hours and minutes. The test will end automatically when Time Remaining reaches 0:00.
Selecting your answer	Use your mouse to select a number (1 , 2 , 3 , or 4). The answer is highlighted (or checked) when selected. You may change your selected answer for any question until the test is over. If you do not know the answer to a question, it is to your advantage to guess, since there is no penalty for a wrong answer.
Tracking difficult questions	Press the Flag Button to help you keep track of questions you wish to return to at a later time. Flagging questions has no impact in scoring. Press the button again to Unflag the question. You may see which questions have been flagged by clicking Summary .
Question comments	During the assessment, you may find that you have a question or concern about a particular test question. The proctor cannot answer questions about test content at any time; however, you can send a comment to Prov's Test Development Department by clicking the Comment button. Please leave a specific description. Staff will process your comments/questions within two weeks. You can refer to your candidate information bulletin for more information on how comments are processed.
Moving to a different question	Use your mouse to select the Next or Back buttons. Press Next to move forward. Press Back to move backward. You may also use your arrow keys (← →) to move forward and backward through the test.
Reviewing your progress	Press the Summary button to see a table indicating which questions are unanswered or which you have flagged.
Ending the test early	Press End Test button when you are ready to leave the test. It is recommended that you review your exam and verify there are no unanswered questions prior to ending the test.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The information found in this document is to help you be most successful during your practical examination. Please read the information carefully and prepare for your exam in advance of your exam date to avoid unnecessary delays or cancellations in your exam process. Note: if the examiner cannot see your work, you may fail the exam.

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WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING

Please make sure you bring all the necessary items for your test to avoid any delays.

- A valid, government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's license, passport, or military ID). All candidates are required to show their ID during check-in. Please note that paper, temporary, copies, or electronic versions of ID are NOT considered acceptable forms of ID. Those who do not provide a valid form of ID will not be able to test and will forfeit their exam fees.
 - Please check your state specific Candidate Information Bulletin for all information pertaining to ID requirements.
- Materials listed in the NIC suggested supply list.
- Fully charged phone and laptop. It is recommended that these devices be plugged into a power source throughout the duration of your examination.
- A well-lit workspace, please avoid having any bright lights or windows behind you.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR WORKSPACE?

Properly setting up your workspace before your exam will help to avoid any unnecessary delays to your testing experience. Please follow the instructions outlined below to the best of your ability.

First, ensure you have a large enough space to accommodate all your supplies. Supplies must be visible to examiners, including, but not limited to, trash receptacles. We recommend using a large table and workspace clear of any other non-exam-related items.

Two views of your workspace are required to test: a front view, and a side view.

Front View

- The front view should allow the examiner to see your workspace, supplies, and mannequin head.
- Avoid any bright lights or windows in the background.
- Set your laptop at an 80-degree angle toward you, not straight up and down and 35 inches away from the workspace.
- Viewing the working area is more important than seeing your face.



Side View

- The side view will require a smart phone to stream video footage during the length of the exam. Phones should be plugged into power to avoid depleting the battery during the examination.
- Place your cell phone about 45 inches behind and to the left or right of the work area. Enough space away that you can see the bags labeled Items to be Disinfected, Trash, and Soiled Linens. Keep all 3 bags on the same side facing your cell phone.



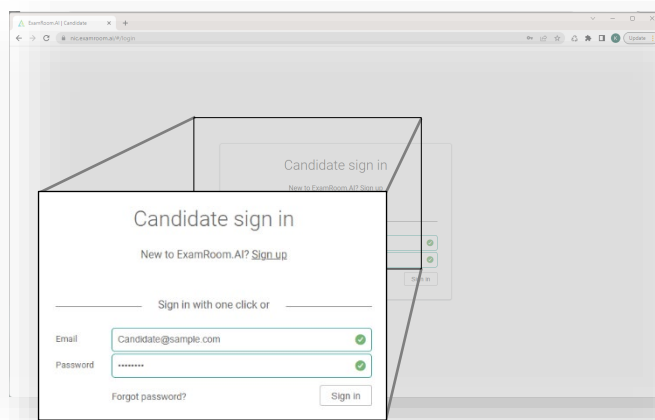
- The phone should look toward the ground and be directed to the bags under your work area.
- The Bags should be labeled on all four sides.
- Please position yourself so that there are no windows situated behind you during testing. Any other windows in the testing area should be covered.
- Make sure there is good lighting so the Examiners can see what you are working on.
- Once your equipment and workstation has been set up appropriately, you are ready to begin your exam.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON TEST DAY

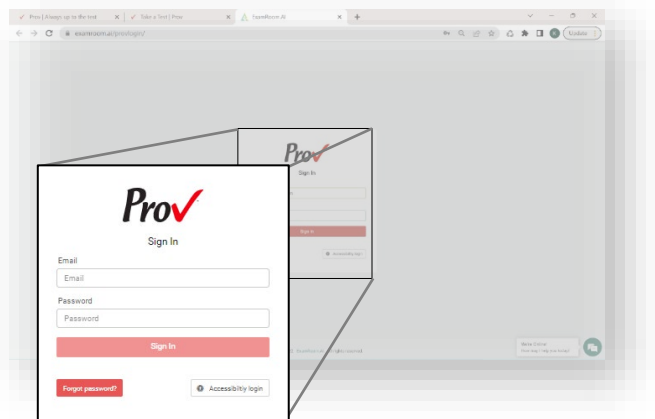
Your practical exam will be proctored remotely via computer using our trusted partner: [Examroom.ai](https://nic.examroom.ai/).

On the day of your exam:

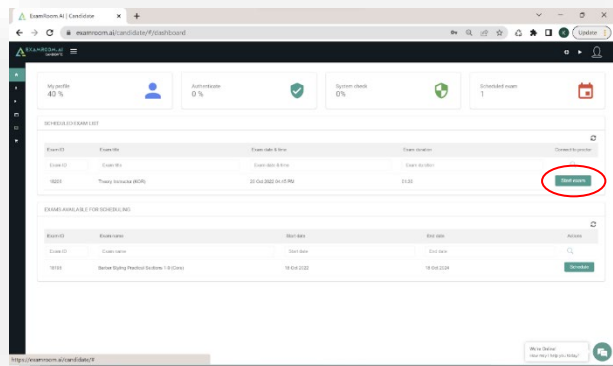
- Head to: <https://nic.examroom.ai/>



- Enter the email address you used to register for your test. Enter your candidate ID as your password (your candidate ID can be found in your confirmation email received at the time of scheduling).



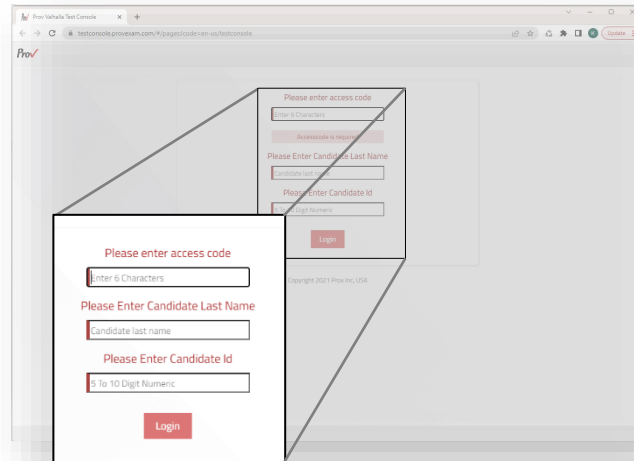
- Once logged in, you will arrive at the Examroom.ai Dashboard. Click on "Start my Exam."



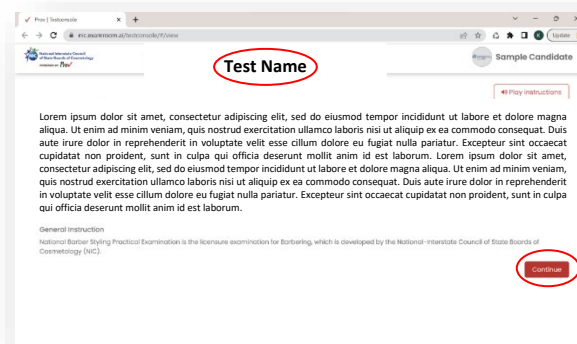
- You will be greeted by an onboarding agent to help you check-in and start your test. This check-in process includes ID verification and a room scan.



- After completing the onboarding process, you will be sent to a proctor who will provide you with an access code and admit you into the examination.

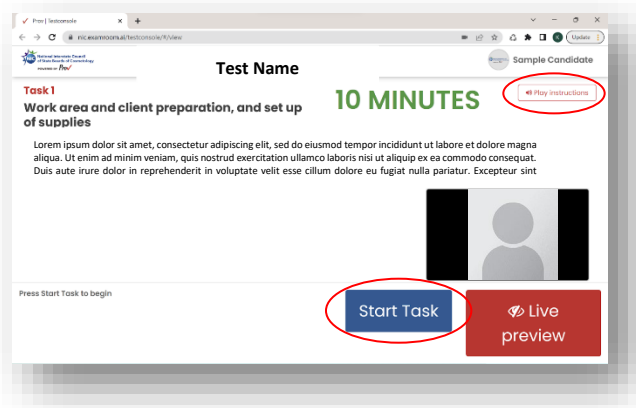


- On screen, you should see the name of your exam in the top center of the page and your name in the top right corner.

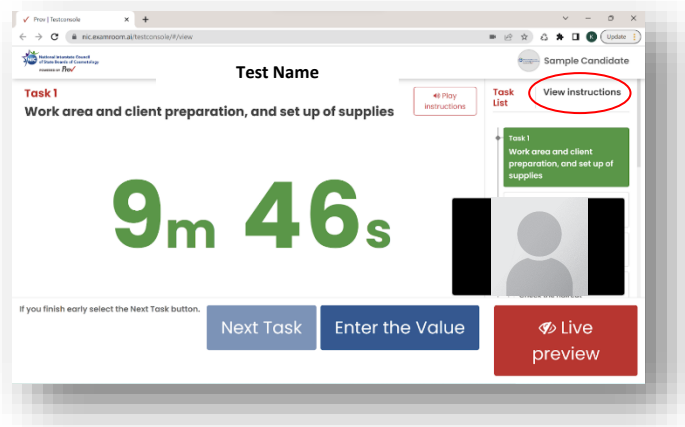


- Read the instructions carefully and navigate forward by clicking "Continue" in the bottom right corner of the page. It will ask you to Agree and Confirm the instructions to proceed.
- The examination will be administered in sections. Before each section begins, you will be provided with instructions, as well as the allotted time for each section. If needed, the instructions can be read aloud using the "Play Instructions" button in the top right corner.
- Use the "Live Preview" button to see a preview of what the camera is seeing before you begin. Make sure the camera is focused on the area you are working on.

- When you're ready to begin, click "Start Task."



- Once you click 'Start Task' the timer will begin. If you need to view the instructions again you may click 'View Instructions' in the top right.
- Make sure the camera can see the tasks at all times.
- Make sure you show the camera all products and supplies as they come out of your kit.
- Once you complete the current section, click "Next Task" to continue.



Upon completion of your examination, the Examiner will help you submit the exam and log out. Please refer to your state candidate bulletin for any other questions.

Best of luck and thanks for testing with us!