



Common Questions about NBME[®] CCSSA Score Report Changes

For Educators

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COMPREHENSIVE CLINICAL SCIENCE SELF-ASSESSMENT (CCSSA)

COMMON QUESTIONS

What is changing on the CCSSA score reports?

For each content area, the Examinee Performance Report will include an equated percent correct (EPC) score, the average EPC score for a USMLE® Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) comparison group, and boxes indicating whether performance was lower, the same, or higher in relation to the comparison group. The boxes indicating whether content area performance was lower, the same, or higher than one's overall performance are going away.

In addition, the report will show the student's estimated probability of passing the Step 2 CK exam if they take it within one week (i.e., with a similar level of knowledge as when they took CCSSA). This estimated probability will be calculated based on a large group of students who tested within one week of taking Step 2 CK for the first time. Of course, many factors may impact performance on Step 2 CK and the estimated probability is not a guarantee of future Step 2 CK performance.

A new longitudinal report will show a visual summary of results on up to six CCSSAs.

The new EPC scores that will be reported for each content area can help provide more detail about areas of strength and weakness, and the boxes that will continue being reported are designed to help students interpret their results as accurately as possible.

What's not changing?

- Overall performance will still be reported as a 3-digit score. This score represents estimated performance on Step 2 CK if a student had taken it under the same conditions and with the same level of knowledge as when taking CCSSA. Please remember that estimated performance based on taking CCSSA is not a guarantee of future performance on Step 2 CK. Many factors may result in a Step 2 CK score that is higher or lower.
- There will still be a histogram depicting overall performance. It will show the distribution of Step 2 CK scores for a national comparison group, with lines indicating the student's specific score and the low-pass range for Step 2 CK, which corresponds to performance that is above but near the minimum passing score. The average Step 2 CK score for the comparison group will still be indicated.
- All content areas are staying the same. The percentage of the test comprised by each content area will continue being reported.
- The boxes indicating whether performance was lower, the same (average), or higher in relation to a Step 2 CK comparison group will still be provided.

When will the new CCSSA score reports be released?

The new score reports will be released on December 5, 2022.

Will CCSSAs still report a 3-digit score?

Yes, the 3-digit score corresponding to the USMLE Step 2 CK score scale will be reported because Step 2 CK numeric scores are still reported

What does equated mean?

Equating is a statistical procedure that adjusts scores for slight variations in exam form difficulty so all scores are comparable regardless of which exam form is taken. Both the 3-digit score and EPC scores on CCSSA reports are equated.

What are the benefits of an equated percent correct score?

Equated percent correct scores tell you how much of the content your students mastered. The 3-digit scale scores did not provide this type of criterion-referenced information. Equated percent correct scores tell you how much of the content they mastered using the familiar 0-100 scale so you can easily understand their performance, including areas of strength and weakness.

How does equated percent correct differ from classic percent correct?

Equated percent correct scores are statistically adjusted to account for slight variations in exam form difficulty, so they can support more accurate comparisons than unadjusted percent correct scores.

Will the new CCSSA score reports provide longitudinal feedback?

A longitudinal report will be available when the new CCSSA score reports are released in December.

Will CCSSA takes prior to the release of longitudinal feedback be included on the report?

No, the longitudinal feedback will only be included in CCSSA reports for exams completed after the new reports are released in December.