

Reminder: System Update Required before July 1, 2020 for All NBME Web-based Testing

To align with industry best practices, NBME's web-based testing vendor, ITS, will upgrade its Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol from version 1.1 to version 1.2 (or higher) on July 1, 2020. Some older web browsers and operating systems (OS) are incompatible with TLS version 1.2. To ensure you, your staff, and your students can continue to access and administer NBME web-based exams, complete the following **Action Items before July 1, 2020**.

Action Items:

- In the table below, review the **Minimum Requirements** for web-based testing with TLS version 1.2 or higher.
- Next, confirm your system's compatibility with TLS version 1.2 or higher, and make any necessary OS and/or web browser upgrades to meet the **Minimum Requirements**.
- To confirm compatibility with TLS 1.2 or higher, please access <https://tls.testsys.com>. If you are testing on a Windows PC, please be sure to access the website using Internet Explorer. If the ITS website is displayed, that computer is using a supported TLS version. If an error message is received, the browser's TLS settings need to be updated.
- Lastly, communicate this announcement and any necessary upgrades to your technical staff and students.

Windows OS and Web Browser Minimum Requirements for Web-based Testing			Mac OS and Web Browser Minimum Requirements for Web-based Testing	
	Operating System	Web Browsers	Operating System	Web Browsers
Secure Browser Proctored Testing	Windows 7	Internet Explorer 11	Mac OS X v 10.11	Safari 9
NBME® Self- Assessments		Chrome ¹		Chrome ¹
GEMS		Firefox ¹		Firefox ¹
		TLS 1.2 or higher		TLS 1.2 or higher
¹ Chrome and Firefox support is limited to the current version plus one previous version due to forced automatic updates.				

Important Note:

- OS and web browser incompatibility with TLS version 1.2 or higher will prevent your school (when using computer labs or institutional laptops), or your students (when using personal laptops) from connecting to our vendor's secure servers for web-based testing; therefore, it is critical to complete the above **Action Items before July 1, 2020**.

To learn about the full system requirements, click [here](#).

If you have questions or concerns, please contact nbmewebtest@nbme.org.