

Aptitude for Practical Nursing Examination

PSB's Aptitude for Practical Nursing Examination is the result of requirements and needs expressed by education professionals responsible for preparing qualified, competent practical and vocational nurses. The examination addresses the required pre-requisite and acquired educational achievements commensurate with the objectives of the career preparation program for practical or vocational nursing and can predict an individual's readiness and capability for successful completion of the educational program designed to prepare the qualified practical or vocational nurse. It comprises five separate tests that measure abilities, skills, knowledge and attitudes important for success in the program and career choice.

Part I - Academic Aptitude

Academic aptitude as measured by the total (combined subtests), might be thought of as a type of ability to learn. The test content is specifically adapted for appraising the combination of innate and acquired abilities that are needed for work of an academic nature. The academic aptitude total emphasizes familiar experiences and concepts while requiring careful reasoning and the capacity to comprehend and draw conclusions.

Verbal: The verbal aspect consists of vocabulary-related test questions. Empirical evidence has shown this type of test item to be highly related to academic success.

Arithmetic: The numerical aspect consists of items drawing largely from arithmetic. To some degree, it involves skill with arithmetical concepts along with computational speed. The content of the numerical items is that to which practically all eighth grade students have been exposed.

Nonverbal: The nonverbal aspect consists of test items calling for a comprehension of form relationships. Measurement is in terms of the ability to manipulate "things" mentally, to reason out differences in pictured objects, and to deal with concrete materials through visualization. Recognition of relationships and of differences has been shown by research to be basic to learning aptitude.

Part II - Spelling

The spelling test measures skill with a tool essential to written expression or communication. It also reflects educational achievement in basic tools of learning.

Part III - Information In The Natural Sciences

Measurement with this test concerns accumulation of information in the natural sciences, i.e., biology, chemistry, health, safety, etc., at a fundamental level. The relationship of knowledge in the area of the natural sciences to the course of study of the nursing or allied health educational program is an obvious one.

Part IV - Judgment And Comprehension In Practical Nursing Situations

This test is concerned with the measurement of the exercise of judgment in the working relationships experienced by the nurse as a student and as a practitioner.

Part V - Vocational Adjustment Index

The person's characteristic life style is reflected in his or her distinctive educational and occupational adjustment. Feelings, attitudes, opinions, and other personality characteristics and behavioral traits, which may be quite acceptable in many situations, may not be those desirable for the prospective nurse either as a student or as a practitioner.

Psychological Services Bureau

- PSB tests are designed exclusively for healthcare education programs. All examination content is carefully tested and proven to be effective.
 - PSB tests give healthcare programs detailed, unbiased, and culturally minimized information about prospective students. Our tests measure prospective students' specific developed abilities, knowledge, and skills, not an oblique measure of abstract psychological traits.
 - PSB tests provide straightforward, flexible testing of individuals or groups, via electronic or paper media, and at the time of your choice.
 - PSB tests are comprehensively analytically standardized by using a reliable representative sample of applicants for admission to the given health profession program.
 - PSB tests measure the abilities, skills, knowledge, and attitudes vital to successful performance in the health education program for which the examination was designed.
 - PSB tests have carefully established criterion related (predictive) validity and reliability which has been continuously demonstrated through actual use of the tests.
 - PSB tests are a reliable aid in successful student selection.
 - PSB tests provide instructive supplemental materials, available free from our web site, designed to help the examinee prepare for the examination and provide information regarding interpretation of the test results.
 - PSB tests prepare individual reports providing examination users with an easily understood, graphic portrayal of applicants' measured readiness or suitability for instruction in the health professions education program for which the examination was designed. Interpretation of the scores is simple and easy to understand.
 - PSB tests prepare group reports providing examination users with an easily usable comparison listing of applicant test results.
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