

PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR EMERGENCY CARE

EXAMINATION RULES

FOR

**BASIC AMBULANCE ASSISTANT, AMBULANCE EMERGENCY
ASSISTANT AND PARAMEDIC (CCA) COURSES**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Professional Board for Emergency Care (PBEC) hereby provides clarity on the structure, prerequisites, weighting and general examination rules for Basic Ambulance Assistant, Ambulance Emergency Assistant and Paramedic (CCA) courses. There appears to be varying interpretation and application of the examination rules for these courses resulting in the PBEC being inundated with queries from students and teaching staff in this regard. This document aims to provide clarity and standardization of examination practices for training providers and students. Any comments or enquiries in this regard may be directed in writing or via e-mail to the Board Manager of the Professional Board for Emergency Care.

2. BASIC AMBULANCE ASSISTANT

Final Examination Entry Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of ninety percent (90%) class attendance 2. 100% competency in the performance of Basic Life Support CPR on infant, child and adult. 			
Final Examination Details	Components	Minimum Duration	Minimum Pass Mark	Weighting of each component towards the final mark
	Written (Combined Mark)	2 hours	50%	25%
	Viva Voce	10 minutes	50%	25%
	OSCE	A minimum of eight appropriate skill stations of at least 4 minutes per skill station	75% of the skill stations	25%
	Patient Simulation	10 minutes	50%	25%
Specific Rules	<p>The written theory component must consist of two separate papers:</p> <p>a. Paper one - multiple choice questions: 1 hour which is weighted at 40% of the final written mark</p> <p>b. Paper two – short and long questions: 1 hour which is weighted at 60% of the final written mark</p>			

3. AMBULANCE EMERGENCY ASSISTANT

Midterm Examination Entry Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of ninety percent (90%) class attendance; 2. One hundred percent (100%) competency in the performance of Intermediate Life Support CPR on infant, child and adult. 			
Final Examination Entry Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One hundred percent (100%) attendance of experiential learning; 2. One hundred percent (100%) competency in the performance of intermediate life support CPR on infant, child and adult; 3. Satisfactory completion of all of the clinical hours in the different units and core skills in the practical workbook. 			
Midterm and Final Examination Details	Components	Minimum Duration	Minimum Pass Mark	Weighting of each component towards the final mark
	Written (Combined mark)	5 Hours	50%	25%
	Viva Voce	15 minutes	50%	25%
	OSCE	A minimum of eight appropriate skill stations of at least 4 minutes per skill station	75% of the skill stations	25%
	Patient Simulation	15 minutes	50%	25%
Specific Rules	<p>The written theory component must consist of two separate papers:</p> <p>a. Paper one - multiple choice questions: two hours which is weighted at 40% of the final written mark</p> <p>b. Paper two - short and long questions: three hours which is weighted at 60% of the final written mark</p>			

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4. PARAMEDIC (CCA)

Midterm Examination Entry Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of ninety percent (90%) class attendance; 2. One hundred percent (100%) competency in the performance of advanced life support CPR on infant, child and adult. 			
Final Examination Entry Prerequisites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One hundred percent (100%) attendance of experiential learning; 2. One hundred percent (100%) competency in the performance of Advanced Life Support CPR on infant, child and adult; 3. Satisfactory completion of all of the clinical hours in the different units and core skills in the practical workbook. 			
Midterm and Final Examination Details	Components	Minimum Duration	Minimum Pass Mark	Weighting of each component towards the final mark
	Written (Combined mark)	5 Hours	50%	25%
	Viva Voce	15 minutes	50%	25%
	OSCE	A minimum of ten appropriate skill stations of at least 4 minutes per skill station	75% of the skill stations	25%
	Patient Simulation	20 minutes	50%	25%
Specific Rules	<p>The written examination must consist of two papers:</p> <p>a. Paper One - multiple choice questions: two hours which is weighted at 40% of the final written mark</p> <p>b. Paper Two - short and long questions: three hours which is weighted at 60% of the final written mark</p>			

5. General Examination Rules for BAA, AEA and PARAMEDIC (CCA)

1. If a student is successful in three of the above components and is unsuccessful in only one component; the student is entitled to a redo assessment for that specific unsuccessful component only. This assessment must take place within three days of the original assessment.
2. A student who is unsuccessful in more than one component of the main examination or is unsuccessful again in the redo examination will be entitled to a supplementary examination consisting of all four components (written, Viva Voce, OSCE and patient simulation). The student must be successful in all four components to pass the examination process. This assessment must take place within one (1) month of the original assessment.
3. No further supplementary or redo examinations are allowed.
4. Students who are unsuccessful in the supplementary examination process will be required to repeat the entire course.
5. Where applicable, the student will not be permitted to proceed to the experiential learning phase of the course and will be required to redo the entire course if the student is unsuccessful in any component of the midterm supplementary examination process.
6. The student must complete all examinations at the accredited education and training provider where the course was undertaken.
7. Examiners and moderators for examinations on a Basic Ambulance Assistant or Ambulance Emergency Assistant level must be registered as an Advanced Life Support Paramedic with the HPCSA (ECT/CCA/ N Dip EMC/ECP).
8. Examiners and moderators for examinations on a Paramedic (Critical Care Assistant) level must be registered as an Advanced Life Support Paramedic with the HPCSA (N Dip EMC/ECP).
9. A student is entitled to sit the entire supplementary examination process and should not be eliminated from subsequent components if unsuccessful in any one component.
10. All redo or supplementary examination dates must be set in advance and clearly communicated to the students and the external moderator.
11. Redo or supplementary examinations with marking memoranda must be set at the same time as the final examination per course.

NB

It should be noted that it is not permissible to include candidates who are required to complete a full assessment for restoration of their names to a register in the examinations, if the inclusion of such a person will result in exceeding the number of accredited students.

Re-writes of the examinations which must be conducted within one (1) month after failure of the examination must also be conducted on a separate date from that of the assessments of students in the current course. Should any of the re-writes be included in the assessments of the students in the current course, the number of accredited students must not be exceeded. The dates of the re-writes must be clearly reflected on Form 293

Refresher courses for restoration of names to the registers must be conducted separately from the normal accredited courses. The Principal has to ensure that the offering of such courses do not in any way or manner impact on the accredited course that is running at the time, e.g. equipment, ~~lecturer; student~~ lecturer; student ratio, number of accredited students, etc. The refresher courses must comply with the minimum requirements for refresher courses, as determined by the Board (Form 336). The Principal/Training Manager will be required to confirm that the candidate has successfully completed the refresher course as per the Board's requirements