

FAQs ABNM In-Training (IT) Exam

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to take the IT Exam?

Any resident currently enrolled in an accredited Nuclear Medicine or Nuclear Radiology Program from the United States or Canada. In addition, the ABNM offers International Nuclear Medicine Programs as well as diplomates (non-resident candidates who will be taking the MOC exam in October of the same calendar year) the opportunity to take the IT Exam.

What do I need to enroll my program?

It is important the information entered on the enrollment form is current and accurate. The e-mail addresses for the trainee(s) will be used for future correspondence.

Dates and Fees

What are the dates of the IT Exam for 2024?

The 2024 IT Exam will be given as follows:

US and Canada Programs – Sunday, January 14 – Saturday, January 27, 2024

International Programs – Sunday, April 21 – Saturday, May 4, 2024

What is the exam fee?

The exam fee is \$250 per candidate. The fees can be paid by check or with credit card. Note: Late fee(s) are assessed when enrollment deadline(s) are missed.

How long is the exam?

The examination should last no more than 3½ hours.

What supplies are needed for the exam?

No supplies are needed for the exam. Examinees will have access to the following tools/features in the secure exam browser: calculator, comments/notes, highlight and strikeout.

Proctoring

What is a proctor?

A proctor is an approved person that administers the IT Exam to trainee(s) and agrees to fulfill the proctor responsibilities required by the ABNM.

Who can proctor the exam?

The Program Director is responsible for the security of the exam, but he/she can assign someone else to proctor the exam. **Note:** An Examinee can **NOT** proctor the exam.

Why should I proctor non-resident candidates?

Proctoring non-resident candidates is a simple, easy way to contribute to the advancement of nuclear medicine. In addition, the ABNM will pay your program \$50 for proctoring non-resident candidates. Those candidates will be scheduled the same time as your residents. **US and Canada Programs ONLY.**

Prior to Exam Day

When will I receive exam information?

The Proctor will receive a welcome email and help guide 4 – 6 weeks prior to the exam period. It is the Proctor's responsibility to read through the help guide and perform the site readiness step and download the secure browser step in preparation for administration of the ABNM IT Exam. **Note:** To assist with a successful exam delivery, proctors should save the following email addresses in their contacts:

- * ABNM – abnm@abnm.org
- * Welcome Email – no-reply@programworkshop.com
- * Customer Support – support@testsys.com

Exam Day

What happens on the day of the exam?

On the day of the exam the Proctor will login to his/her workstation and access/print a final copy of the Roster Report. Upon arrival the Proctor will provide the Examinees with their login credentials and session number. The Proctor will then read the instructions from the proctor guide. The Examinees will then begin testing.

Are Examinees allowed to take notes or use a calculator on the IT Exam?

Yes, Examinees can take notes throughout the entire test, using paper provided by the Proctor. At the end of testing, all paper is collected and destroyed to ensure test security. Additionally, Examinees can use a calculator during the examination. Only non-programmable handheld calculators are allowed.

How soon will I receive the results for my residents?

Results are distributed to Program Directors only via email approximately 6 weeks after the exam.

Administering the Exam

What software is needed to administer a test?

The ABNM IT Exam will be administered through an online platform called Program Workshop (abnm-ite.programworkshop.com). Program Workshop supports (**for Window**) Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox and (**for Mac**) Safari 11, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Mozilla Firefox

What type of internet connection is required?

The administration of this test requires a broadband connection. Please make sure you discuss your testing needs with your technical support staff to ensure your connectivity supports the number of Examinees you plan to test at a time. Both wired and wireless (802.11g and 802.11n) networks are supported. Please ensure that all wireless access points and network switches can support the number of computers that will be connected at the time of testing.

Site Readiness checks should be run on each computer to be used for testing. Site Readiness provides a series of tools that will identify potential issues to be addressed prior to testing, and lets you know how many simultaneous testers your site can support. Site Readiness is accessed from abnm-ite.programworkshop.com.

What software is needed to take a test?

The ABNM Secure Browser is required for test-taking and is available for Windows and Macs. The ABNM Secure Browser is secure and prevents test takers from accessing web sites and other programs while taking the test. This software does not transfer any information from the local computer and is only used when a candidate is taking a test. The ABNM Browser may be downloaded at abnm-ite.programworkshop.com.

What hardware is needed to take a test?

In addition to having a computer that supports one of the required browsers, you will need to have a color monitor set to a resolution of 1024x768 and at least 16-bit color.



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How does an examinee start a test?

An examinee takes a test by launching the secure browser, entering the session number provided by their proctor, then entering their Trainee ID and Last Name.

What is the ABNM Secure Browser?

The ABNM Secure Browser is available for both Windows and Macs. When launched, the ABNM Secure Browser opens to a full screen and will not allow the Examinee to leave the testing system without completely closing the browser.

How do I close the ABNM Secure Browser?

You can close the ABNM Secure Browser by clicking on the screen once and holding the **Ctrl+Shift+Q** keys down simultaneously. This is available on both Windows and Mac computers.

Is this site available on a mobile device?

No, this site is not currently designed for display on a mobile web browser and may not function properly on a mobile device.

I am concerned about my privacy. Do you use cookies? How do I configure my browser to allow cookies?

The privacy of Examinees, their personal information, and the test materials are extremely important. Session cookies are used to track the current test each examinee is taking. A session cookie is a special type of cookie that is only stored in memory and is automatically deleted when the user closes the browser. Session cookies are used to track a user's current state during their visit and require that session cookies be enabled to use the site. These cookies are automatically removed when the browser is closed. We do not use or support cookies that in any way are used to track an individual's internet usage outside of our own web site.

To enable cookies, you will need to access your internet browsing privacy options. Open the list of web sites allowed to use cookies. Add ***.starttest.com** to the list of allowed sites.

Do I have to allow pop-ups? How can I configure my pop-up blocker to allow access to the testing site?

Pop-up blockers will not affect test delivery or administration, but the System Check creates a pop-up window that runs a sample test. This window may be blocked by a pop-up blocker and cause an error in the system check. By configuring pop-up blockers to only allow pop-ups from the testing site, the security of the pop-up blocker software is not compromised. Simply add **starttest.com** or **programworkshop.com** to your pop-up blocker's list of allowed sites before Examinees attempt to access the test sites.

How can I check a computer to verify it can deliver this test?

Every computer should be checked to verify it is properly configured for testing **PRIOR to the test delivery date**. Please click the **Site Readiness** link on abnm-ite.programworkshop.com. Check Readiness will verify that your computer and network are ready to administer the IT Exam. Upon completion of the checks, you will be presented with information regarding your computer and network, including a list of potential issues that should be corrected prior to the administration of the exam.

Can I test on desktops running under VMWare or other virtual machines?

No. The software will explicitly detect and block the starting of tests on virtual machines. This is done to ensure that examinees do not have the ability to switch from the virtual desktop window back into the host operating system, allowing the examinee to use email, browsers, or instant messaging. If your virtual machine environment is running on a hypervisor and can ensure that the examinee is not able to switch back to the host environment, contact support@testsys.com for information about a version of the secure browser that works on virtual machines.

Computer Requirements

Minimum system requirements for online testing – effective July 1, 2023

The following system specifications which must be met are with an asterisk (*). All other specifications are recommendations.

SUPPORTED PLATFORMS

Secure Browser/App

- * Proctored Testing
 - Windows 10
 - macOS Sierra 10.13
 - iOS 14 (on iPad 5th generation or newer, iPad Air 2 or newer, iPad Pro)²
 - Chrome OS (latest stable release).
 - Managed Chromebook required for secure testing.
 - Android 9 Pie (on tablets)

StartTest and Program Workshop

- * Examinee Portal
 - Google Chrome¹
- * Test Administration
 - Microsoft Edge¹
- * Program Tools
 - Mozilla Firefox¹
 - Safari 12.0

¹ Edge, Chrome, and Firefox support are limited to the current version plus one previous version due to forced automatic updates

² iOS 14.3 or newer is required for Bring Your Own Proctor (BYOP) testing

Local Caching Server

Windows 10 (0-50 simultaneous examinees) Windows Server 2012 R2 (50+ simultaneous examinees).

WINDOWS COMPUTERS

Operating System: Windows 10 (*retiring support for Windows 8.1*)

Processor: 233 MHz or higher Intel Pentium/Celeron family, or AMD K6/Althlon/Duron family; or compatible processor

RAM: 128 MB or higher

Display: 1024 x 768 with 16-bit color or higher

Internet Connection: Broadband connection or better

MAC COMPUTERS

Operating System: Mac OS Sierra 10.13 and Safari 12 (*retiring support for Mac OS 10.12 and Safari 11*)

Processor: PowerPC G3, G4, or G5 processor; or Intel-based Mac

RAM: 256 MB or higher

Display: 1024 x 768 with 16-bit color or higher



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Can I use a wireless network?

Testing requires a stable connection and wireless networks can introduce reliability and performance issues. The software allows test takers to easily reconnect when an error occurs, but an unreliable connection can impact testing. Wireless networks are not recommended unless evaluated using the Site Readiness tools prior to testing.

Some of the navigation buttons are not appearing or the test is locking up.

If you have anti-virus or firewall software installed on your machine, it may be interfering with the test delivery. This software may be a stand-alone application such as Norton or may be built into your system. Most of these packages allow you to configure them to allow access to sites you approve as safe. Please refer to the help component of your anti-virus or firewall software for further assistance.

- Some computers that pass the Site Readiness checks have reported issues with test performance for multiple examinees. The source of the issue is usually a site-specific network communication setting. If you are experiencing this issue, please confirm that your firewall, proxy, and/or content filters allow unrestricted communication to and from the following:
- **Domains:** programworkshop.com, starttest.com, starttest2.com
- **Ports:** http (80), https (443)
- **IP Addresses:** Contact Technical Support for the list of IP Addresses.

If this does not address the issue and you have a content filter, please temporarily disable, or bypass the content filter to see if it helps.

I see a "Page not found" message when trying to access the test.

"Page not found" errors can result from a number of different problems. Use the following checklist to try to resolve this problem:

- Try clicking the **Refresh** button on your Browser to reload the page.
- Check to see if you can access other sites over the internet to make sure that your internet connection is functioning properly.
- Check to make sure that your operating system and web browser meet the minimum system requirements listed in this document.
- Check to make sure that your anti-virus, firewall, proxy and content filter systems are configured to allow inbound and outbound traffic from the starttest.com sites (you may need assistance from your technical support group to check these settings).

If you have checked all of these possible issues, and you still receive the "Page not found" error, you will need to contact your technical support group for further assistance.

My test is slow.

If you have a fast internet connection and questions are taking more than five seconds to load, verify that you do not have performance problems connecting to other sites. If you believe it is a problem with the testing site, please contact support@testsys.com.

Trainees with Disabilities

The ABNM supports the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ABNM will make a reasonable effort to provide trainees who have documented and verified disabilities the accommodations that they need to take the test provided that these aids and services do not fundamentally alter the measurement of the knowledge and skills that the examinations are intended to test. Please notify the ABNM in writing (at abnm@abnm.org) with details concerning the trainee's disability. Documentation of the disability is required and must be submitted prior to consideration of request for accommodation for disability

Technical Support

Technical support for online test delivery is available Monday – Friday between 7am and 5pm Central Standard Time (CST).

For questions/issues regarding system functionality, email support requests to support@testsys.com

OR

US and Canada programs – call +1 800 514-8494

International programs – call +1 443 573-8399

Online test delivery support AFTER 5pm (CST) is available using the same number(s) as listed above. Your call will be routed to a third party on-call team. **Note:** If additional assistance is needed, your call will be escalated to the standard IT support team.

For general administrative support (i.e., if the designated Proctor or their email address has changed) or for questions/issues regarding policies, registration, or administration, please contact the ABNM at abnm@abnm.org or call (314)367-2225.

Key Points Summary

Here is a summarization of some key points to remember ahead of administering the IT Exam.

- **ABNM IT Exam** – administered through Program Workshop (an online platform) via abnm-ite.programworkshop.com.
- **Site Readiness** – accessed from abnm-ite.programworkshop.com. Checks each computer to be used for testing.
- **Secure Exam Browser** – downloaded at abnm-ite.programworkshop.com.
- **Color Monitor** – set to a resolution of 1792 x1344 and at least 16-bit color are required.
- **Problems with testing site** – contact support@testsys.com.
- **Information regarding the IT Exam** – contact the ABNM office at abnm@abnm.org.

