Questions and Answers about the ABNM In-Training Exam

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 in the future for sending information.

Dates and Fees
What are the dates of the IT Exam for 2022?
The IT Exam for US and Canadian Programs was given the week of Monday, January 10 – Friday, January 14, 2022. International Nuclear Medicine Programs please contact/email the ABNM (abnm@abnm.org).

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
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.

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 Canadian Programs ONLY.

Prior To Exam Day
When will I receive exam information?
The Proctor will receive a welcome email and help guide in December. 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.

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 the following browsers:

- Windows: Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Mozilla Firefox
- Mac: Safari 10.1+, 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.
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. 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.

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.

Technical Support
Minimum system requirements for online testing
The following system specifications which must be met are with an asterisk (*). All other specifications are recommendations.

WINDOWS COMPUTERS
Supported Browser: *Microsoft Edge The latest version of Edge for Windows can be downloaded from https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download
Operating System: *Windows 8 and higher
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
Supported Browser: *Apple Safari 10.1 or higher. The latest version of Safari for Mac OS X can be downloaded from the Mac Support site.
Operating System: *Mac OS X 10.11 and higher
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
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.

I cannot find an answer to my problem. How do I contact you?
If you cannot find an answer, please contact support@testsys.com and we will be happy to assist you.

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.

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.