STATE OF VIRGINIA COSMETOLOGY
COSMETOLOGY WRITTEN EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology (the "Board") is responsible for licensing and regulating the profession of cosmetology in the State of Virginia. The Board has contracted with Professional Credential Services ("PCS") to provide administrative examination services. The Board, through PCS, will exclusively use the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology ("NIC") examinations. The Board first requires the submission of a Cosmetology Examination & License Application ("Application"). This is required to determine your eligibility for testing. Any questions regarding your Application or eligibility should be directed to PCS:

(U.S. Postal Service)	(Courier Delivery)	Toll-free: 888-822-3272
Professional Credential Services	Professional Credential Services	Fax: (615) 846-0153
Virginia Cosmetology	Virginia Cosmetology	Email: vacos@pcshq.com
P.O. Box 198689	150 Fourth Avenue North Suite 800	Web site: www.pcshq.com
Nashville, TN 37219-8689	Nashville, Tennessee 37219	

How to Schedule For and Take the Theory Examination: Once you have been approved to take the theory examination, PCS will issue you an *Authorization to Test* (*ATT*). Upon receipt of this document, you may request to take the theory examination by contacting PSI.   Do not contact PSI until you have received your Authorization to Test letter from Professional Credential Services (PCS).

INTERNET SCHEDULING

For the fastest and most convenient test scheduling process, PSI recommends that candidates register for their exams using the Internet. Candidates register online by accessing PSI's registration website at www.psiexams.com.   Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.   In order to register by Internet, complete the steps below:
1. Log onto PSI's website and create an account. Please enter your email address and first and last name. This information must match exactly with the information PCS has on file. Be sure to **check the box next to** "*Check here to attempt to locate existing records for you in the system*"

2. You will be asked to select the examination and enter the ID# that PCS provided to you. Your record will be found and you will now be ready to schedule for the exam. Enter your zip code and a list of the testing sites closest to you will appear. Once you select the desired test site, available dates will appear. If you have problems contact PSI at (800) 733-9267 for help.

TELEPHONE SCHEDULING

The second fastest method of scheduling is via the telephone with PSI's Interactive Voice Response system (IVR) during non-business hours, or through live registrars during business hours.

Call (800) 733-9267, 24 hours a day and register using the Automated Registration System. Otherwise, PSI registrars are available Monday through Saturday. The times of operation for live operators are as follows:

	Monday thru Friday	Saturday
Eastern Time	7:30am - 8:00pm	11:00am - 5:00pm
Central Time	6:30am – 7:00pm	10:00am - 4:00pm
Pacific Time	4:30am – 5:00pm	8:00am - 2:00pm

CANCELING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your *cancellation notice is received 3 days before the scheduled examination date*. You may call PSI at (800) 733-9267 or fax a note to (702) 932-2666.   Please note that you may also use the automated system, using a touch-tone phone, 24 hours a day in order to cancel and reschedule your appointment.

Note: A voice mail message is not an acceptable form of cancellation.   Please use the internet, automated telephone system, or call PSI and speak to a Customer Service Representative.

MISSED APPOINTMENT OR LATE CANCELLATION

Your registration will be invalid, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, and you will forfeit your examination fee, if you:
▪ Do not cancel your appointment 3 days before the schedule examination date;
▪ Do not appear for your examination appointment;
▪ Arrive after examination start time;
▪ Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

EXAMINATION SITE CLOSING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. PSI

personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. However, you may check the status of your examination schedule by calling (800) 733-9267. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible.

COMPUTER EXAMINATION CENTER LOCATIONS

Virginia candidates will only be allowed to schedule and take the written examination at the testing centers located within the state of Virginia and a location in Johnson City, TN.

FALLS CHURCH LEESBURG PIKE
Mcilvaine Building
6201 Leesburg Pike, Suite 404
Falls Church, VA 22044
From I-495, take new exit 47 (old exit 10) (Leesburg Pike) and proceed east past Little Falls. Leesburg becomes Broad St. Proceed on Broad St thru Falls Church. Broad St turns back into Leesburg Pike (Rte 7 East). Follow Rte 7-East signs through the Seven Corners Intersection. Building is on the corner of Leesburg Pike and Patrick Henry Drive. Turn right onto Patrick Henry Dr and right into the building parking lot, then left on the up ramp to the main parking lot. Parking and entrance to the back of the building.

TYSONS CORNER
1651 Old Meadow Rd, Suite B01
Mclean, VA 22102
From the Beltway take the Mclean Exit (Route 123 North). Turn right on Old Meadow Road (the first traffic light). The site is the first building on the left. Visitor parking for Tysons Corner is in the front of the building (closest to Old

RICHMOND
Moorefield VI Building
620 Moorefield Park Drive
Suite 205
Richmond, VA 23236
From I-64E, take the Parham Rd exit and turn right. N Parham Rd/VA-73 S becomes VA-150 S/Chippenham Pkwy. Merge onto VA-76 S/Powhite Pkwy. Merge onto Midlothian Turnpike West. Turn left on Moorefield Park Dr.

VIRGINIA BEACH
Pembroke IV Building
291 Independence Blvd, Suite 140
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
From I-264 merge onto Independence Blvd/VA-225 via Exit 17B. Proceed across Va Beach Blvd and make a left turn onto Broad Street (across from Sears). The site is located within the Pembroke Four office building.

ROANOKE
Fralin and Waldron Office Park
2847 Penn Forest Blvd
Building D, Suite 200
Roanoke, Virginia 24018

From 81 – take 220 Exit (Downtown Roanoke). From 220 take the Franklin Road Exit (not the Franklin Bus Exit). At the stop light make a right. Franklin Road will turn into Electric Road. Keep going straight until you come to Chaparral Dr and go left. You will see the Fralin & Waldron Bldg to your left. At the next stop light go left.
If you are traveling from 220 take the first exit, Franklin Road. Follow directions above.

CHARLOTTESVILLE
2114 Angus Road, Suite #105-B
Charlottesville, VA 22901
If going West on US-250, turn right onto US-29N/N Emmet St. Continue on Emmet Street and turn left on Angus Rd.
If going East on US-250, turn left onto US-29N/N Emmet St. Continue on Emmet Street and turn left on Angus Rd.

JOHNSON CITY
904 Sunset Drive, Ste 7A
Johnson City, TN 37604
Take I-26 to Exit 19 (Old number 36). Go South on Highway 381 (North State of Franklin Road) approximately 2.2 miles. At the 4th light turn left (this is Sunset Drive), go approximately .7 tenths of a mile. There is a large building on the left hand side of the road. This is 904 Sunset Drive. Suite 7A is in the row of office spaces behind this building.

REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION CENTER

On the day of the examination, you should arrive at least 30 minutes before your appointment. This extra time is for identification and familiarizing yourself with the examination process. **If you arrive late, you may not be admitted to the examination center and you will forfeit your registration fee.**

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION

Candidates need to provide two (2) forms of identification.

Candidates must register for the exam with their LEGAL first and last name as it appears on their government issued identification. All required identification below must match the first and last name under which the candidate is registered. Candidates are required to bring two (2) forms of valid (non-expired) signature bearing identification to the test site.

PRIMARY IDENTIFCATION – Choose One
- State issued driver's license
- State issued identification card
- US Government Issued Passport
- US Government Issued Military Identification Card
- US Government Issues Alien Registration Card

SECONDARY IDENTIFICATION – Choose One
- Credit Card (must be signed)
- Social Security Card
- US issued Birth Certificate with Raised Seal

*NOTE: Student ID and employment ID are **NOT** acceptable forms of identification.

Candidates must register with the full legal name as it appears on their government issued identification. The name on the identification must be the same as the name used to register for the examination. If the candidate fails to bring proper identification or the candidate names do not match, the candidates will not be allowed to test and their examination fee will not be refunded.

SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following items are **not** permitted in the examination room:

- All personal electronic devices except those that are a medical necessity.
- Children, guests, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), recording devices, cameras, pagers, purses, notebooks, notebook computers, reference or reading material, music players, radios, electronic games, calculators, or briefcases.
- Personal items including watches, backpacks, pens, pencils, or other writing devices, food, drinks (unless prior approval is obtained by your regulatory entity) and good-luck items.
- Hats, baseball caps, or visors (with the exception of religious apparel), coats, shawls, hooded clothing, heavy jackets or overcoats.

The following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- NO conversing or any other form of communication among candidates is permitted once you enter the examination area.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking will be allowed at the examination site.
- You may not exit the building during the examination.

TAKING THE EXAMINATION BY COMPUTER

TAKING THE EXAMINATION BY COMPUTER

Taking the PSI examination by computer is simple. You do not need any computer experience or typing skill. You will use fewer keys than you use on a touch-tone telephone. All response keys are colored and have prominent characters. An illustration of the special keyboard is shown as follows. You may also use the mouse.
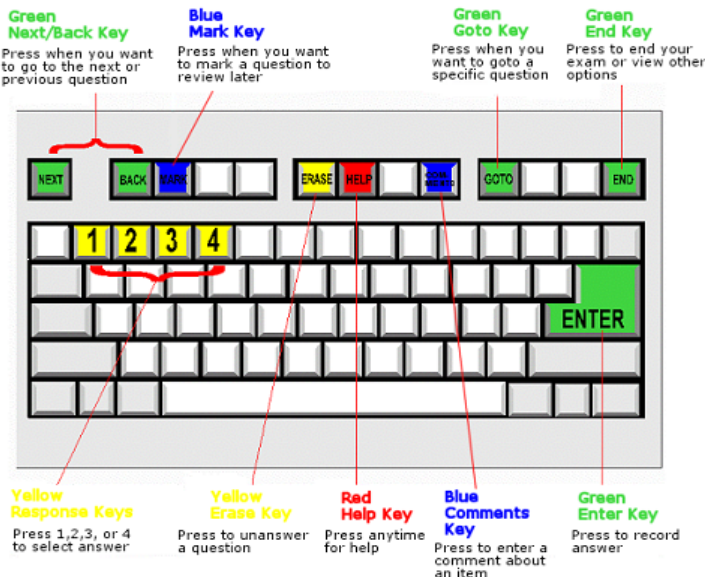
IDENTIFICATION SCREEN

You will be directed to a semiprivate testing station to take the examination. When you are seated at the testing station, you will be prompted to confirm your name, identification number, and the examination for which you are registered.

TUTORIAL

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial to the computer and keyboard is provided on screen. The time you spend on this tutorial (up to 15 minutes) does NOT count as part of your examination time. Sample questions are included as part of the tutorial so that you may practice using the keys, answering questions, and reviewing your answers.

One question appears on the screen at a time. During the examination, minutes remaining will be displayed at the top of the screen and updated as you record your answers.

EXAMINATION QUESTION EXAMPLE

A sample question display follows. During the examination, you would press 1, 2, 3, or 4 to select your answer or press "MARK" to mark it for later review. You would then press ENTER to record your answer and move on to the next question. You can change your answer as often as you like before pressing ENTER.
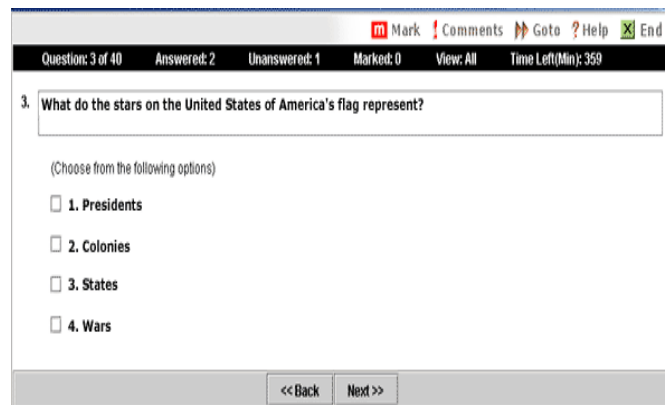
IMPORTANT: After you have entered your responses, you will later be able to return to any question(s) and change your response, provided the examination time has not run out.

EXPERIMENTAL ITEMS

In addition to the number of examination items specified in the "Examination Content Outlines", a small number (5 to 10) of "experimental" questions may be administered to candidates during the examinations. These questions will not be scored and the time taken to answer them will not count against examination time. The administration of such unscored, experimental questions is an essential step in developing future licensing examinations.

EXAMINATION REVIEW

The Board is utilizing the NIC examinations. NIC conducts ongoing analysis and review of their examinations to ensure the examinations accurately measure minimal competency in the required knowledge area.

SCORE REPORTING

Your score will be given to you immediately following completion of the examination. This is an unofficial score report that will be printed at the examination site.

NATIONAL COSMETOLOGY WRITTEN EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE AND REFERENCE MATERIAL

The National Cosmetology examination is the national licensure examination for Cosmetology, which is developed and administered by the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC). For more information on the examination content outlines and references go to www.nictesting.org.