



IOWA BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY ARTS AND SCIENCES COSMETOLOGY WRITTEN EXAMINATION INFORMATION

SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

The Iowa Department of Public Health has contracted with PSI to provide examination services. The Department, through PSI, will exclusively use the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC) examinations.

Questions regarding licensure requirements should be directed to the Board at:

Iowa Department of Public Health
Lucas State Office Building - 5th Floor
321 E. 12th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
1-515-281-0254
www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure

You may schedule your appointment without prior approval from the Iowa Board of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences at the discretion of your school.

Examination Fee	\$58
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NOTE: EXAMINATION FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE. THE EXAMINATION FEE IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PAYMENT.

[ON-LINE \(HTTPS://TEST-TAKERS.PSIEXAMS.COM/IACOS\)](https://test-takers.psiexams.com/iacos)

For the fastest and most convenient examination scheduling process, PSI recommends that you register for your examinations using the Internet. You register online by accessing PSI’s registration website at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/iacos>. Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.

Log onto PSI’s website and select Sign in / Create Account. Select Create Account. You are now ready to pay and 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.

TELEPHONE (855-746-8173)

PSI registrars are available at (855) 746-8173, during business hours as follows:

	Monday-Friday	Saturday-Sunday
Eastern Time	7:30am - 10:00pm	9:00am - 5:30pm
Central Time	6:30am - 9:00pm	8:00am - 4:30pm
Mountain Time	5:30am - 8:00pm	7:00am - 3:30pm
Pacific Time	4:30am - 7:00pm	6:00am - 2:30pm

RESCHEDULING/CANCELING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your *cancellation notice is received two (2) days before the scheduled examination date*. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on the previous Saturday. You may call PSI at (855) 746-8173.

Note: A voicemail or email message is not an acceptable form of cancellation. Please use the PSI website or call PSI to speak directly to a Customer Service Representative.



RETAKING A FAILED EXAMINATION

It is not possible to make a new examination appointment on the same day you have taken an examination due to processing and reporting results. Depending upon space availability, unsuccessful candidates may be able to retest within two business days. You may access a registration form at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/iacos>. You may also call PSI at (855) 746-8173.

MISSED APPOINTMENT OR LATE CANCELLATION

If you miss your appointment, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled. You will also forfeit your examination fee, if you:

- Do not cancel your appointment two (2) days before the scheduled examination date;
- Do not appear for your examination appointment;
- Are not checked in by your scheduled start time;
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

EXAM ACCOMMODATIONS (ADA)

All PSI examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and exam accommodations will be made in meeting a candidate's needs. A candidate with a disability or a candidate who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination should request for alternative arrangements by [Clicking Here](#).

Candidates granted accommodation in accordance with the ADA, MUST schedule their examination by telephone and speak directly with a PSI registrar.

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 scheduled examination by calling (855) 746-8173. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible. You may also check our website at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/iacos>.

EXAMINATION SITE LOCATIONS

Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Area

**Erbs Business Center 4935 Bowling Street SW, #203
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404**

From I-380, take US 30 east and exit the first exit Bowling Street/Kirkwood Boulevard. Proceed north on Bowling Street approximately ¼ mile. Turn right into the Erbs business center driveway. The examination center is in the southern annex, to the right.

Coralville Sylvan

1100 5th St. #105
Coralville, IA 52241

Take I-80 W to 1st Ave/Hayden Fry Way, turning right onto 5th St. Destination will be on the left.

Council Bluffs

1705 McPherson, Suite 300 Council Bluffs, IA 51503

From I-80, exit Madison Avenue/Mall of the Bluffs and proceed north toward the Mall. Turn right on Bennett Avenue and proceed approximately 1 mile until it ends at McPherson. Turn right into the driveway.

Council Bluffs (Airport)

Advanced Air Inc. 101 McCandless Lane
Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

Site is located at the Council Bluffs Airport. To get here take Interstate 80 (I-80) and get off at Exit 8. At the bottom of the exit turn right onto Hwy 6. Take your second right onto Eastern Hills Drive. Go up the hill and turn left on McCandless Dr. Follow this all the way up to a parking lot. Site is in the building with the blue roof.

Dubuque

University of Dubuque Flight Center 2000 University Ave
Dubuque, IA 52003

US-151 S becomes US-61 S. Turn right onto Airport Rd at Dubuque Regional Airport.



Ottumwa

Indian Hills Community College 603 Indian Hills Dr-Trustee Hall Bldg 15
Ottumwa, IA 52501

Take Highway 34 into Ottumwa to the fourth set of stop lights; turn left onto Business Highway 63 north; follow Business Highway 63 to the second set of stop lights; turn right onto Woodland Avenue; follow Woodland Avenue to the stop sign; turn left onto Court Street; follow Court Street past the elementary school and golf course; the second intersection past the golf course will be Grandview Avenue; turn right onto Grandview and follow it to the Indian Hills Community College campus.

Sioux City

Western Iowa Tech Community College 4647 Stone Ave Robert H Kiser Bldg-Room 258
Sioux City, IA 51106

On I-29 South, take exit #144A Fort Dodge/Highway 20 East. Continue northeast on Highway 20 East for 3 miles. At the end of the highway, you will cloverleaf to your right. Continue west on Gordon Drive/Highway 12 for 2 miles. Western Iowa Tech Community College is located East on Stone Ave. off of Gordon dr. When you arrive on the WIT campus, you can park in parking lot A and enter building A. Please allow additional time to find parking. The testing center is located in room 258. If you are unfamiliar with the WIT campus you can stop at the registration desk to get directions to the room. There will also be signs directing you to the testing center.

West Des Moines

950 Office Park Rd, Suite 212
West Des Moines, IA 50265

REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION SITE

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

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AT EXAMINATION SITE

Candidates need to provide one (1) form of identification.

Candidates must register for the exam with their LEGAL first and last name as it appears on their government issued identification. The required identification below must match the first and last name under which the candidate is registered. Candidates are required to bring one (1) form of a valid (non-expired) signature bearing identification to the test site.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION (with photo) - Choose One

- State issued driver's license
- State issued identification card
- US Government Issued Passport
- US Government Issued Military Identification Card
- US Government Issued Alien Registration Card
- Canadian Government Issued ID

NOTE: ID must contain candidate's photo, be valid and unexpired.

SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following security procedures apply during examinations:

- All personal belongings of candidates should be placed in the secure storage provided at each site prior to entering the examination room. Personal belongings include, but are not limited to, the following items:
 - **Electronic devices of any type, including cellular / mobile phones, recording devices, electronic watches, cameras, pagers, laptop computers, tablet computers (e.g., iPads), music players (e.g., iPods), smart watches, radios, or electronic games.**
 - **Bulky or loose clothing or coats** that could be used to conceal recording devices or notes. For security purposes outerwear is not permitted in the testing room. Examples of outerwear include open sweaters, cardigans, shawls, scarves, hoodies, vests, jackets and coats. **In the event you are asked to remove the outerwear, appropriate attire, such as a shirt or blouse, should be worn underneath.**
 - **Hats or headgear not worn for religious reasons** or as religious apparel, including hats, baseball caps, or visors.
 - **Other personal items**, including purses, notebooks, reference or reading material, briefcases, backpacks, wallets, pens, pencils, other writing devices, food, drinks, and good luck items.
- Although secure storage for personal items is provided at the examination site for your convenience, PSI is not responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of any personal belongings or prohibited items brought to, stored at, or left behind at the examination site.



PSI assumes no duty of care with respect to such items and makes no representation that the secure storage provided will be effective in protecting such items. If you leave any items at the examination site after your examination and do not claim them within 30 days, they will be disposed of or donated, at PSI's sole discretion.

- Person(s) accompanying an examination candidate may not wait in the examination center, inside the building or on the building's property. This applies to all guests, including drivers, children, friends, family, colleagues or instructors.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- During the check-in process, all candidates will be asked if they possess any prohibited items. Candidates may also be asked to empty their pockets and turn them out for the proctor to ensure they are empty. The proctor may also ask candidates to lift up the ends of their sleeves and the bottoms of their pant legs to ensure that notes or recording devices are not hidden there.
- Proctors will also carefully inspect eyeglass frames, tie tacks, or any other apparel that could be used to harbor a recording device. Proctors will ask to inspect any such items in candidates' pockets.
- If prohibited items are found during check-in, candidates shall put them in the provided secure storage or return these items to their vehicle. PSI will not be responsible for the security of any personal belongings or prohibited items.
- Any candidate possessing prohibited items in the examination room shall immediately have his or her test results invalidated, and PSI shall notify the Board of the occurrence.
- Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance on an examination, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulations will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination center. All such instances will be reported to the Board .
- Once candidates have been seated and the examination begins, they may leave the examination room only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. Candidate will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

TAKING THE EXAMINATION BY COMPUTER

The examination will be administered via computer. You will be using a mouse and computer keyboard.

TUTORIAL

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial to the computer and keyboard is provided on the computer 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 following the tutorial so that you may practice using the keys, answering questions, and reviewing your answers.

TEST QUESTION SCREEN

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.

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.

PRETEST ITEMS

In addition to the number of examination items specified in the "Examination Content Outlines", a small number (5 to 10) of "pretest" 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 Iowa Board of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences 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.

