



Candidate Performance Report

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What is the Candidate Performance Report (CPR)?

The NCLEX Candidate Performance Report (CPR) is an individualized, two-page document sent to candidates who fail the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN examinations. If the examinee did not answer at least the minimum number of questions (75 for NCLEX-RN, 85 for NCLEX-PN), then he or she receives an **abbreviated** CPR, which tells the examinee how many questions were answered and how many are required to be evaluated, but **no further diagnostic information is provided**.

[Sample NCLEX-RN CPR](#) (PDF 96k)

[Sample NCLEX-PN CPR](#) (PDF 96.5k)

What can the CPR tell me about my exam?

On the front side of the CPR, the candidate is given a brief explanation of how Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) works, how many items were answered, and some suggestions on how to use the information on the second side of the page. The number of questions a candidate answered is an indication of how close a candidate was to the passing standard. Only those candidates whose performance was **close to the passing standard** had to answer the maximum number of questions (265 for NCLEX-RN; 205 for NCLEX-PN). For candidates whose performance was **further away from the passing standard**, fewer items were required before a confident pass or fail decision could be made.

The second page (backside) of the CPR provides information regarding the candidate's performance on the 10 NCLEX Test Plan content areas of the examination. The content areas are grouped by the quality of the candidate's performance (ability): "Below the Passing Standard," "Near the Passing Standard" or "Above the Passing Standard." Next to each content area (called "Client Subneed") is a description of the content area, its percentage of the test, and a list of topics related to the content area.

These descriptions can be used to determine in which areas of the Test Plan the candidate has shown the greatest weakness and as a guide to prepare them to retake the examination. This report is only intended to provide indications of the candidate's strengths and weaknesses. The NCLEX is not graded in sections - only overall performance on the entire examination determines a candidate's pass/fail status.

Candidates may use the Test Plan performance assessments as a study guide in retaking the examination. Candidates should concentrate first in those areas listed under "Below the Passing Standard" and work up to those areas listed in "Near the Passing Standard." Furthermore, even though a candidate's ability for a given content area may indicate that it is above the passing standard, these areas should be studied as well in order to maintain proficiency.

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