

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES FOR LICENSED OPERATOR REQUALIFICATION EXAMINATIONS

1. Requalification examinations are systematically developed and include written and operational (job performance measures and simulator) sections.
2. There is a sufficient number of written test items (30 – 40) to support test reliability, reduce sampling error, and evaluate operator knowledge of the selected content. No test items shall be “direct look-ups” as explained in section ES-602 of NUREG 1021, *Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors*.
3. Written examinations may have flexible formats (multiple choice, short answer) but 50-60 percent of the test items should evaluate at higher cognitive levels (understanding and application). Short answer items are scored objectively.
4. Duplication of exam items (written, job performance measures and scenarios) between and among crews in the same training cycle does not exceed 50 percent.
5. A substantial portion (≥ 40 percent) of the job performance measures administered as part of an annual operating examination include alternate paths (“faulted JPMS”).
6. Scenario sets vary 50 percent between and among crews. However, multiple crews examined on the same day may be evaluated with the same scenario set so long as exam security practices are followed.
7. Test banks include existing, revised, and new test items (in keeping with items 4, 5, and 6 above).
8. Operating tests are objectively graded with clearly defined pass and fail criteria. Assignment of remediation with respect to management performance standards is at the discretion of facility management; however, this practice does not interfere with a clear statement of whether the regulatory requirements have been met.
9. The exam validation processes are proceduralized, implemented, and documented.
10. All items adhere to the psychometric attributes described in NUREG 1021, *Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors*. Psychometric error should be as low as possible but not exceed 10% of the overall exam.
11. Re-examinations are administered in a timely manner, and do not repeat any of the specific test items that were originally failed.
12. All operator requalification training programs include signed security agreements for instructors and students.