

Written Exam Requirements

2010 Exam Writers Workshop

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Meeting the Standard

- **120 Days – 120 day letter**
- **90 Days – References to the NRC if we are writing the exam.**
- **75 Days – Outline Submittal**

Meeting the Standard

- **What we need with the Outline Submittal**
- **In Region II the NRC gives the licensee the written exam sample plan/outline**

Meeting the Standard

- Written outline provided by the NRC
- Plant Specific Priorities - K/As can be suppressed
- Chief Examiner should do a scrub of K/As
 - To ensure K/A are applicable
 - Are any over emphasized
 - Can an SRO question be written on the subject

Meeting the Standard

- **Examination Outline Quality Checklist 201-2**
- **Examination Security Agreement ES-201-3**
- **Record of Rejected K/As ES-401-4**
- **Written Examination Quality Checklist ES 401-6**

Meeting the Standard

- **Questions and answers are technically accurate and applicable to the facility.**
 - a. NRC K/As are referenced for all questions.**
 - b. Facility learning objectives are referenced as available.**

Meeting the Standard

- **SRO questions are appropriate in accordance with Section D.2.d of ES-401**
- **If more than four RO and two SRO questions are repeated from the last two NRC licensing exams, the facility licensee's sampling process was random and systematic.**

Meeting the Standard

- **If the bank contains more than one question that fits a specific K/A statement, randomly select from among the available questions unless there is an appropriate basis for selecting a specific question (e.g., higher cognitive level, better discrimination validity, more operationally oriented, or site-specific priority). (ES-401.D.2.f)**

Meeting the Standard

- **Question duplication from the license screening/audit exam was controlled as indicated below (check the item that applies) and appears appropriate:**
- **___ the audit exam was systematically and randomly developed**
- **___ the audit exam was completed before the license exam was started**

Meeting the Standard

- ___ the examinations were developed independently
- ___ the licensee certifies that there is no duplication
- ___ other (explain)

Meeting the Standard

RO Written Examination:

- **75 Questions**
- **50 – 60% of questions at the Higher comprehension/analysis level**
- **75% of questions can come from the bank (randomly selected)**

Meeting the Standard

- **Write at least 10 new questions (i.e., 8 for the RO examination and 2 for the SRO-only) at the comprehension/analysis level, as described in Appendix B.**

Meeting the Standard

- **Select the remaining questions for the examination (nominally 11 for the RO and 4 for the SRO-only) from the facility licensee's or *any other bank*, but significantly modify each question by changing at least one pertinent condition in the stem and at least one distractor.**

Meeting the Standard

- **SRO Exam**

- **25 Questions (all at SRO level)**

The 25 SRO-level questions shall evaluate the additional knowledge and abilities required for the higher license level in accordance with 10 CFR 55.43(b) or the facility licensee's learning objectives. (ES-401 D.2.d)

- **No limit of questions at the Higher comprehension/analysis level
(typically 75% to 80%)**

Meeting the Standard

- **To facilitate the review process, examination authors should consider providing a brief explanation of why the answer is correct, and each of the distractors is plausible but incorrect.**

Meeting the Standard

- This *optional practice increases the efficiency* of the examination review process and promotes the detection and correction of problem questions before the examinations are administered.

Meeting the Standard

- References/handouts provided do not give away answers/or aid in the elimination of distractors. (SRO and RO)
- Question content conforms with specific K/A statements in the previously approved examination outline and is appropriate for the tier to which they are assigned; deviations are justified.

Meeting the Standard

- Question psychometric quality and format meet the guidelines in ES Appendix B.
- NRC usually reviews this with a ES 401-9

Meeting the Standard

- **45 Day Submittal:**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the examination outline(s) and the proposed examination(s) before they are submitted to the NRC regional office for review and approval. The outline(s) and examination(s) should be forwarded to the NRC regional office with a cover letter signed by the facility representative. The materials must be complete and ready-to-use.

(ES-201 C.1.g)

Questions?

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