Preparation Guide
for the CAMRT Certification Exam

Magnetic Resonance Imaging
Nuclear Medicine Technology
Radiation Therapy
Radiological Technology
Purpose and scope of prep guide

This preparation guide was developed by the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) to assist candidates who intend to write the national entry-to-practice certification exam.

The guide provides information on certification exam development, scoring and delivery. The guide also describes the certification exam process: exam eligibility, how to apply and register for an exam, resources for exam preparation, release of results, and the appeal process.

This guide is designed for use by all exam candidates: graduates of Canadian accredited programs and internationally educated medical radiation technologists (IEMRTs).

About CAMRT in the context of the Canadian healthcare system

Founded in 1942 by a coalition of provincial associations, the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) is Canada’s national professional association and certifying body for medical radiation technologists and therapists across the country.

As a certifying body, the CAMRT develops and administers national certification exams for the disciplines of magnetic resonance imaging, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy and radiological technology. The exams test against a pre-determined standard that is reflective of the competency required to practice in the current Canadian healthcare environment.
About the exam

The CAMRT exams are developed by discipline subject matter experts who are recruited by the CAMRT to develop exam questions, validate the exam and set the passing score. The CAMRT exams are delivered online by Yardstick Testing and Training, a leading computer-based testing company with many test centres throughout Canada.

The competency-based model

The CAMRT develops and validates with all stakeholders national competency profiles for entry to practice in the MRT disciplines. The competency profile is a document that describes the outcomes or competencies that must be achieved by a student in an education program for entry-level practice that is safe and effective.

Competencies are the behavioural outcomes that integrate knowledge, skills, abilities and judgement. A competency-based approach to exam development is one that tests these behaviours, as opposed to testing direct recall of an individual’s knowledge from textbook information.

The profiles are used by the education programs to develop curriculum that will provide the students with the knowledge and clinical skills required to achieve the competencies listed in the profiles.

The competency profiles are formatted into modules that group competencies into categories. Each competency must be achieved in an education program. It is important that you read the profiles carefully, with attention to content and required competency levels. This will help you focus your preparation for writing the certification exam.

Exam candidates who completed their education in a system where the knowledge-based approach is used for development of exam questions may have difficulty with a competency-based, multiple choice exam. The competency-based model focuses on the application of knowledge in a clinical environment. Questions are asked from the point of view of how you use your knowledge to practice as opposed to the direct recall of that knowledge: “think how you work/practice”.

The CAMRT has developed a module on How to Write a Competency-Based Exam, which provides information on competency-based education and testing, along with strategies and tips on writing a multiple-choice exam.
The exam

The national certification exam is built from an exam blueprint that is developed from the competency profiles. The exam blueprint provides an outline of the certification exam. A blueprint for each discipline-specific certification exam can be found on the CAMRT website. The blueprint is a valuable tool in your exam preparation. It will help you focus your studies and identify the level of importance of competency areas.

The exam is offered three (3) times a year; see the website for dates, fees and registration instructions. The exam has 185 multiple choice questions. Images and graphs will be used with some questions. This exam is written in one 4-hour session.

The radiological technology exam and the magnetic resonance exam are available in English and French. Candidates can toggle between the French and English versions of each question as needed.

Exam accommodations are considered for writing a CAMRT certification exam. Please read the accommodations policy carefully and follow all instructions.

Exam preparation resources

CAMRT provides a number of resources to help candidates prepare for the exam.

A practice exam for each discipline is included in the exam fee. A link to the practice exam will be provided with the e-mail confirming exam registration. The practice exam has 100 sample questions, with rationales for the correct answer and incorrect answers, and with textbook references. Other resources include:

- Glossary and abbreviations for each discipline
- Textbooks used to reference the exam questions
- How to Write a Competency-Based Exam interactive online module
- Canadian Practice in Medical Radiation Technology interactive online module

Exam scoring

The passing score for the CAMRT certification exam is set by the Exam Validation Committee (EVC). There is an EVC for each discipline; the EVC is composed of 8-10 members, with representation from across the country. They must be CAMRT members and be experts in their discipline. The EVC members review the exam questions, approve the exam and establish the passing score.

The method used to set the passing score for these exams is a modified Angoff method. With this method, each exam question is rated based on the expected success rate of a minimally competent technologist for safe and effective practice. For each exam question, the experts answer the question “What percentage of minimally competent, entry level technologists would be expected to answer this item correctly?”
Exam eligibility

Graduates of accredited Canadian programs

To be eligible for certification, candidates must complete an accredited medical radiation technology (MRT) program in one of the four exam disciplines. Accredited programs are posted on the CAMRT website. The CAMRT verifies completion of the program for all registered candidates. Candidates who registered for an exam but will not complete their program before the exam date must notify CAMRT.

Internationally educated medical radiation technologists (IEMRTs)

Candidates who completed a medical radiation technology program outside Canada are assessed for eligibility to write the exam by the CAMRT or by a provincial regulatory body. IEMRTs must first determine in which province they wish to practice, then submit their application to the appropriate organization, following the assessment requirements. Internationally educated candidates who complete the assessment process successfully are eligible to apply to write the exam.

Number of exam attempts and eligibility timeframe

Eligible candidates are permitted a maximum of four (4) attempts to successfully complete the certification examination - one initial write and three (3) rewrites - within a five-year time period. See the CAMRT exam rewrite policy.
Exam administration

Exam registration

The CAMRT exam is delivered as a computer-based exam at approved Yardstick test centres across Canada.

Registration for an exam is a 2-step process:

1) exam application and payment on the CAMRT website, followed by
2) seat reservation and payment on the Yardstick website.

Step 1 - Exam application and payment on the CAMRT website

Information regarding exam schedules and fees is available on the CAMRT website. The CAMRT certification exam application is accessed through the secure area of the website. Please bookmark and check this page regularly for exam registration updates.

Candidates who require exam accommodations for writing the exam must submit the supporting documentation at the time of the application.

Once payment is processed, all registered candidates receive a confirmation e-mail from certification@camrt.ca with a link to the practice exam and information and instructions for reserving a location for a seat for writing the exam in the location of their choice.

Step 2 - Reservation of a location for a seat and payment on the Yardstick website

Once registered for an exam on the CAMRT website, candidates are directed to the Yardstick website, where they create a profile and pay the fee for reserving a seat in the location of their choice.

Each sitting of the exam is delivered over two days, to ensure seat availability for all candidates. Candidates cannot pick a specific exam date, time or test centre at the time of exam application and reserving a location for a seat. When all location bookings are made, Yardstick will inform each candidate on which date, at what time and at what specific testing centre in their chosen location they must appear for their 4-hour exam session. This information will be e-mailed no later than 4 weeks before the exam date.

Please read carefully the following information about your Yardstick registration:

1) Make sure that the name you use to sign up on the Yardstick platform matches your CAMRT profile name and the name on the government-issued photo ID that you will present on exam day. CAMRT verifies all registrations by name and discipline. Names must be an exact match for the exam results to be uploaded to your CAMRT profile.

2) Make sure to pick a location at the time when you request a reservation; if no location is picked, you will not be approved for writing the exam. Please pick carefully, you cannot change your selection online.
3) No later than 4 (four) weeks before the exam date, Yardstick will e-mail a registration confirmation to inform each candidate on which date and at what time they must appear for their 4-hour exam. The booking confirmation email will include all the details of your exam: username for exam login, exam date and time, exact location, instructions on when to arrive at the test centre and what items you can bring with you. Print your confirmation email, note down your password on it and bring it with you on exam day.

4) Make sure you write down your password for logging into the Yardstick platform, as this is the password you will use to log into your designated computer on exam day. If needed, you can change the password from your profile. If you forgot the password, a password reset link will be emailed to you with the booking confirmation.

**Exam day**

Please ensure you arrive at the test centre **30** minutes before the scheduled start time to sign in. You must bring the following with you into the examination centre:

- Valid piece of **government-issued** Photo ID with valid expiration date and visible signature. (e.g. drivers license, passport, or work visa).
- Printed copy of **THIS** booking confirmation email. This will be given to the proctor on examination day.

Candidates who falsify any documentation will not be allowed to write the exam. If falsification is discovered after the exam is taken, the exam results will be null and void.

**Permissible Items:**

- Water/juice/coffee/drink in a clear spill-proof container with no label (Only if approved by the Test Centre)
- Disposable ear plugs
- Scrap Paper and Pencils (This will be provided to you at the testing centre and **MUST** be left with the proctor upon exam completion.
- A non-programmable scientific calculator

**Late Admittance/Cancellation:**

- Arrive at least **30-minutes** prior to exam start time for registration and orientation.
- Any candidate who arrives more than 30 minutes after the scheduled start time will be denied their sitting.
- Candidates who arrive between the scheduled start time and 30 minutes after the scheduled start time will be allowed to take the exam, but the exam clock will start at the scheduled start time and they will lose the amount of time they are late.
Transfers and refunds

CAMRT

Exam candidates can request a transfer to write the exam at another exam sitting. The exam registration fee paid to the CAMRT will be applied to the requested transfer sitting however a CAMRT administrative fee applies. All exam transfer requests must be made before the registration deadline for the requested sitting. Click here to complete a transfer request form and submit the completed form to certification@camrt.ca.

Exam candidates who are enrolled in an accredited Canadian program, registered to the write the exam and will not complete their program before the exam date must notify the CAMRT in writing to request a transfer.

Exam candidates who wish to withdraw from writing the CAMRT exam can request a refund of the exam fee; the exam refund fee will be deducted from the reimbursement. Refund requests must be made in writing to certification@camrt.ca.

Failure to transfer to a new exam sitting or request a refund after two (2) full years from the original exam date will forfeit the full exam fee.

Yardstick

The reservation fee paid to Yardstick to select a location for a reserved seat cannot be transferred. The seat reservation must be cancelled and rebooked for the next desired sitting of the exam. Yardstick only accepts cancellations for a full refund up to 10 business days before the exam. After this time, you forfeit the reservation fee.

Reporting of results

Exam results are released within 20 working days from the date of the exam. This period is required to analyze results and conduct psychometric assessment. This is the process used to ensure the exam is fair, valid and reliable.

Candidates are notified when the results are posted to their CAMRT online profile. Results are NOT released by telephone or e-mail.

A candidate who achieves success on the certification exam will be issued a “Pass”. There will be no numerical marks given to certification exam candidates who pass the certification exam. Certificates will be mailed to successful exam candidates within 6 (six) weeks of the exam result date. Please ensure your name and mailing address are correct by updating your contact information in your CAMRT online profile.

Unsuccessful candidates will receive an analysis of their performance on the certification exam approximately 5 days after the release of exam results. You will be notified by CAMRT when the performance profiles are posted.

The Exam Performance Profile includes a breakdown of candidate’s performance by Competency Profile module. This is provided to allow an opportunity for remedial preparation. Remedial preparation is strongly recommended to all candidates who have failed an exam attempt.
The Exam Performance Profile is uploaded to the candidate’s CAMRT online profile and is available until the next exam attempt is made.

**Appeals**

Candidates are strongly encouraged to withdraw prior to the exam or transfer to the next exam sitting if, prior to the exam, they have a personal circumstance that may affect their performance on exam day (including but not limited to: bereavement, family emergency or chronic health condition).

Exam candidates have the right to appeal. Please see the [appeal policy](#).

**CAMRT certification exam confidentiality**

The CAMRT national certification exam is a high-stakes, entry-to-practice exam for a healthcare profession where ethical behaviour, professionalism, integrity and honesty are of essential importance in the delivery of safe and effective health care services to patients, other healthcare colleagues and communities.

These attributes and behaviours must also be applied to the writing of the exam. Any form of cheating is unethical behaviour and shall result in sanctions. If cheating has been determined, the candidate will be disqualified from the exam and denied future opportunities to access the certification exam.

The exam questions are confidential and are the property of the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT). Exam candidates are prohibited from disclosing the content of the exam or sharing any information the exam contains with any individual except CAMRT. Reproduction of exam content in any format is prohibited by copyright laws.

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