



# General Preparation Guide for the CAMRT Certification Exam

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**MAGNETIC RESONANCE • NUCLEAR MEDICINE • RADIATION THERAPY • RADIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY**

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## PURPOSE OF THE GENERAL EXAM PREPARATION GUIDE

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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 the certification exam development process, exam eligibility, 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

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Founded in 1942 by a coalition of provincial associations, the 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.

## EXAM ELIGIBILITY

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### 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 specialty areas (magnetic resonance, nuclear medicine, radiological technology, radiation therapy).

- [Accredited programs](#) are posted on the CAMRT website.
- Exam candidates must have graduated from the accredited program within the last 5 years.
- The CAMRT verifies successful completion of the program for all registered exam candidates.
- Exam 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)

Exam 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 in adherence with the assessment requirements.
- IEMRTs who complete the assessment process successfully are eligible to apply to write the exam.

### Number of Exam Attempts and Eligibility Timeframe

Exam 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](#).

\*Candidates who access both or either the CAMRT or Quebec (OTIMROEPMQ) certification exam have a combined total of four (4) attempts.

## ABOUT THE EXAM

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The CAMRT exams are developed by discipline-specific 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 Assessment Strategies, a leading computer-based testing company with many test centres throughout Canada and two international test centres.

### The Competency-based Model

CAMRT is responsible for the development and validation of the national competency profiles for entry-to-practice for the MRT disciplines. The [competency profile](#) is a document that describe the competencies graduates of MRT programs are expected to possess at the end of their MRT program. 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 competency profiles are used by the education programs to develop curriculum that will support students in the acquisition of 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 and are familiar with the content.** This, along with the [exam blueprint](#) (see below), 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 in practice as opposed to the direct recall of that knowledge. 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.

### Exam Format

- Built from an [exam blueprint](#) that is developed from the competency profiles.
  - The exam blueprint provides an outline of the certification exam.
- The exam is **4-hours, 185 multiple-choice questions**.
- Offered three (3) times a year; see the website for exam dates, fees and registration instructions
- **Computer-based exam** delivered by Yardstick Testing and Training.
  - Hybrid model, allowing candidates to select their preference to write at an approved Test Centre or as a virtual proctored examination. Approved Test Centres are located across Canada.
  - Please review the Preparation Guides specific to Test Centres and Remote Proctoring for further details.

- Radiological technology and magnetic resonance imaging exams are available in English and French. Candidates can toggle between the French and English versions of each question as needed.

## Exam Accommodations

A request for exam accommodations must be submitted in writing to the CAMRT. **The request must be submitted before the exam registration deadline of the sitting that the student wishes to attend.** This applies for both first write and any re-writes of the exam. All requests will be handled on a confidential and individual basis. Please read the [accommodation policy](#) carefully and follow all instructions and deadlines.

## EXAM PREPARATION RESOURCES

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

### 1. [Practice Exam](#)

In December 2020 CAMRT released a revised practice exam for each discipline. The new practice exams align with the current competency profiles and examination blueprints. The update also includes transitioning the practice exam to the Yardstick exam administration platform – the exact same platform candidates write their actual certification exam on. This will provide candidates with a more authentic practice experience and an opportunity to experience both the types of questions on the certification exam and the exam delivery platform. The practice exam **registration fee is \$75** which will give candidates access to 100 sample questions for their discipline and 3 attempts at the practice exam.

### 2. [Glossary and Abbreviation List](#)

### 3. [Recommended Textbook List](#) – a list of textbooks used to reference exam questions

### 4. [How to Write a Competency-Based Exam](#) – an interactive online module

### 5. [Canadian Practice in Medical Radiation Technology](#) – an interactive online module

## EXAM SCORING

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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?”

## TRANSFERS AND REFUNDS

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- Exam candidates can request a transfer to another exam sitting.
- The exam registration fee paid to the CAMRT will be applied to the requested sitting. The CAMRT exam transfer fee is \$75.

- [Click here to download the transfer request](#) form, complete and submit to [certification@camrt.ca](mailto:certification@camrt.ca).
- Exam transfer requests must be received before the registration deadline for the requested sitting.
- The seat reservation fee paid to Yardstick 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 seat reservation fee.**

## EXAM CANCELLATIONS

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- All cancellations will incur a \$100 exam cancellation fee, regardless of the date on which the cancellation is requested.
- Exam candidates who wish to cancel their writing of the exam can request a refund of the remaining part of the exam fee paid within 2 years from the original exam date.
- The request for refund must be made in writing to [certification@camrt.ca](mailto:certification@camrt.ca).
- The exam cancellation fee will be deducted from the re-imbusement.
- Failure to transfer to a new exam sitting or request a refund after two (2) years from the original exam date will forfeit the full exam fee.

## REPORTING OF RESULTS

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- Exam results are released within 20 business 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”, as per policy, CAMRT does not release numerical marks.
- 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 business 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 on the exam by Competency Profile module for remedial purposes. 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

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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 their exam result based on extenuating circumstances.

Please see the [appeal policy](#).

## CAMRT CERTIFICATION EXAM CONFIDENTIALITY

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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.

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 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.

See Appendix A: Candidate Statement of Understanding. Candidates must sign/acknowledge this form on exam day prior to being given access to the exam.

## CAMRT PRIVACY POLICY

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It is important for you to know how we treat personal information related to the certification exam process.

CAMRT handles personal information you provide to us through the certification exam process in accordance with our Privacy Policy, available [here](#).

CAMRT shares some of your personal information with your Provincial Association (or other Provincial Member Associations) and regulatory organizations for the purposes of verifying and maintaining national and provincial membership records. This shared information may include name, address, CAMRT registration number, dues payment history, and **certification exam results**.

Exam candidates' pass/fail results are also shared with their respective educational program in aggregate form (no personal identifiers shared).

If you have any questions about the use or sharing of personal information related to the CAMRT certification exam, please contact: [certification@camrt.ca](mailto:certification@camrt.ca).

## APPENDIX

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### A. Candidate Statement of Understanding

Please read carefully. Conduct occurring before, during or after testing that violates the principles outlined below may result in invalidation of examination results and/or other penalties and will be reported to the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT).

The CAMRT Examination is highly confidential. The examination questions are the property of CAMRT. Unauthorized disclosure of the examination questions is prohibited under copyright laws. By signing this statement of understanding, you agree to maintain the confidentiality of the CAMRT Examination questions. You must therefore:

- Keep the exam content confidential, even after the exam. This also includes not discussing the content with anyone who wrote the exam before you, with you or who has not written the exam yet.
- Not use or be in possession of any electronic device (such as cell phones, cameras, pagers, I-Pods, etc) in the exam room. Realize that any recording or memorization of exam questions is strictly forbidden whether you intend to recreate parts of the exam for financial gain or not.

Candidates are observed at all times while they are taking the CAMRT Examination. This observation will include direct observation by Proctors and recording of your exam session, including your webcam, computer screen and programs/applications running. Proctors may not necessarily inform you of their observations, but they are required to report behaviour that may violate the terms and regulations of CAMRT or other forms of irregular behaviour.

**For remote proctoring only:** You are permitted to bring in one dry erase board, no larger than 8 ½ by 11 inches, and dry erase marker/eraser. Please note – tablets or electronic writing pads are NOT permitted. You will be required to show the proctor your white board and marker/eraser prior to starting your exam. **IMPORTANT:** You MUST erase your white board and show your proctor it is erased before closing out of your exam. **This is a mandatory requirement** and if not followed, will be investigated for potential breach of the Candidate Statement of Understanding. The whiteboard must stay in the examination room for the duration of the exam.

Any cheating and/or breach of confidentiality/security or any attempt to subvert the examination process by any candidate violates the purpose and principles of the examination. Any candidate who carries out, takes part in or who witnesses such behaviour must report it to the Proctor and/or CAMRT as soon as possible.

CAMRT strives to report results that accurately reflect the skill and performance of each candidate and represent a valid measure of their knowledge or competence as sampled by the examination. Accordingly, our standards and procedures for administering examinations have two related goals: giving candidates comparable opportunities to demonstrate their abilities and preventing any of them from gaining an unfair advantage over others. To promote these objectives, CAMRT reserves the right to cancel or withhold any examination results when, in the sole opinion of CAMRT, a testing irregularity occurs; cheating has occurred; there is an apparent discrepancy in, or falsification of, a candidate's identification; a candidate engages in misconduct or plagiarism; when aberrancies in performance are detected for which there is no reasonable and satisfactory explanation; or the results are believed to be invalid for any other reason.

A candidate agrees to abide by all regulations, as well as oral and written instructions controlling the conduct of the examination. These regulations are intended to preserve the integrity of the examination process by providing standard test administration conditions that yield valid and reliable results.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the above statement.