



NATIONAL BODY PIERCING
WRITTEN EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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The National Body Piercing examination is the national licensure examination for Body Piercing, which is developed and administered by the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC). This Candidate Information Bulletin includes the content outline covered by the NIC National Body Piercing examination, sample questions and answers. The time allowed for the Body Piercing written examination is 90 minutes.

**SCIENTIFIC
CONCEPTS
60 Questions**

**Anatomy & Physiology of
Skin**

- ◇ Identify & define the structures of the skin
 - Epithelial tissue
 - Connective tissue
 - Epidermis layer
 - Dermis layer
- ◇ Knowledge & ability to avoid damage to underlying blood vessels & nerves

**Recognize Disorders,
Anomalies, & Diseases of
the Skin**

- ◇ Burns, scars, or grafted skin
- ◇ Lesions
- ◇ Moles & freckles

**Knowledge of Infection
Control**

- ◇ Pathology
 - Microbiology
- ◇ Disease transmission & cross contamination prevention
 - Sanitation & cleaning
 - Disinfection
 - Sterilization
 - Personal immunization
 - Single-use supplies
 - Waste disposal
 - Universal precautions

**Knowledge of Equipment
& Supply Storage**

- ◇ OSHA
 - Training & operation
 - Maintenance
- ◇ MSDS
- ◇ Manufacturer's instructions
- ◇ Supply & equipment storage
- ◇ Job equipment & supplies setup
 - Antiseptic
 - Gloves
 - Single-use marking device
 - Corks
 - Forceps
 - Needles
 - Absorbent material
 - Opening & closing pliers
 - Taper pins
 - Calipers
 - Gauge wheels
 - Lubricant
 - Sharps container
 - Contaminated tool container
 - Rubberbands
 - Needle receiving tube
 - Piercing gun

**PIERCING
PROCEDURES
40 Questions**

**Knowledge of Conducting
Client Consultations**

- ◇ Age verification
- ◇ Client record form
- ◇ Release form or waiver
 - Limited medical history
 - Allergies
 - Mental status
- ◇ Address client contraindications
- ◇ Inform client about procedure & expectations
- ◇ Address client concerns & answer questions
- ◇ Jewelry & location consultation
- ◇ Placement verification
- ◇ Aftercare
 - Verbal instructions
 - Written instructions
- ◇ Professional ethics

**Knowledge of Use of
Materials, Implements, &
Supplies**

- ◇ Identify & know function of equipment & implements
 - Antiseptic
 - Gloves
 - Single-use marking device
 - Corks
 - Forceps
 - Needles
 - Absorbent material
 - Opening & closing pliers
 - Taper pins
 - Calipers
 - Gauge wheels
 - Lubricant
 - Sharps container
 - Contaminated tool container

- Rubberbands
- Needle receiving tube
- First aid kit

- ◇ Identify jewelry types, styles, sizes, & materials
 - Gauge, diameter, and length
 - Types and styles
 - Material

**Knowledge of Use of
Antiseptic for Skin
Preparation**

Knowledge of Basic First Aid

**Knowledge of Piercing
Placement**

- ◇ Head
 - Ear
 - Oral
 - Nose
 - Eyebrow
- ◇ Upper body
 - Navel
 - Nipple
- ◇ Genitalia
 - Female
 - Male

**Knowledge of Piercing
Process**

- ◇ Executing quick & precise piercing
 - Avoiding damage to underlying blood vessels
 - Avoiding damage to underlying nerves
- ◇ Inserting jewelry

**Knowledge of Stretching
Process**

- ◇ Inspect piercing site
- ◇ Determine appropriate increase
- ◇ Determine appropriate jewelry
- ◇ Use appropriate insertion technique

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The following sample questions are similar to those on the NIC Body Piercing Written Examination. Each question is followed by four answer choices. Only one choice is correct. Correct answers are listed following the sample questions.

1. Which of the following is used to secure the skin when piercing?
 - a. Tapers
 - b. Rubber bands
 - c. Closing pliers
 - d. Forceps

2. Single-use marking devices are used for
 - a. indicating placement of the piercing site.
 - b. completing the release form.
 - c. outlining the after care procedure.
 - d. recording the customer appointment.

3. Which of the following should be disposed of in a biohazard receptacle?
 - a. Jewelry that has been dropped on the floor
 - b. Wet gloves that were used while disinfecting countertops
 - c. Gauze that will produce blood if compressed
 - d. Forceps used to hold the skin during a piercing

4. Which of the following client information should be verified prior to a piercing?
 - a. Height
 - b. Age
 - c. Weight
 - d. Eye color

5. A sharps container is used to
 - a. store clean needles.
 - b. store marking devices.
 - c. dispose of used absorbent materials.
 - d. dispose of used needles.

6. Typically, when piercing both nipples, it is important to
 - a. numb the entire chest area.
 - b. match the placement of the piercings.
 - c. perform the piercings simultaneously.
 - d. massage the tissue vigorously.

7. Which of the following gauges is **MOST** appropriate for an eyebrow piercing?
 - a. 2 gauge
 - b. 8 gauge
 - c. 16 gauge
 - d. 22 gauge

8. Hard surfaces are cleaned with an appropriate Environmental Protection Agency registered
 - a. witch hazel.
 - b. antibacterial soap.
 - c. isopropyl alcohol.
 - d. disinfecting solution.

9. A piercer should **NOT** pierce through a mole because it can
 - a. heal too quickly.
 - b. multiply in number.
 - c. become cancerous.
 - d. go away.

10. Which of the following signs and symptoms is associated with the normal healing process?
 - a. Itching
 - b. Redness
 - c. Pus
 - d. Swelling

Answers

- | | |
|-------|--------|
| 1. d. | 6. b. |
| 2. a. | 7. c. |
| 3. c. | 8. d. |
| 4. b. | 9. c. |
| 5. d. | 10. a. |

RECOMMENDED REFERENCES

- www.cdc.gov
- www.osha.gov
- www.infectioncontroltoday
- www.nictesting.org