

Dear RN Refresher Student,

Welcome to the CCAHEC RN Refresher Program. Upon completion of this course, you will be ready to re-launch your nursing career! Please know we are here to help and provide support throughout the course. The interactive modules, online resources and case reviews, self-assessment quizzes, and the Final Exam have all been designed with your success in mind. Once you have completed Modules 1-4, you will be ready to take the Final Exam.

To have your license reinstated, the State Board of Nursing (SBON) requires demonstration of a specific level of competency, which requires knowledge of a large volume of information. The final exam is an **open book test, with a three-hour time limit**. There are 100 multiple-choice questions and our hope is that this method of testing will reduce anxiety. As you go through the course, keep in mind that test questions come primarily from the textbook and case scenarios. Although there are advantages of “open-book” tests, such as not having to memorize a large volume of information, this method has its disadvantages as well. Research shows that students have less anxiety about open book tests but may study less and commit less to memory. A few tips to prepare for an open book test:

- First answer all the questions for which you know the answers; leave blank those questions for which you are unsure.
- Look up answers in the book for the questions you left blank.
- While preparing for the test, tab the pages of the textbook for topics you anticipate will be on the test (e.g. cardiac, pulmonary, kidney, test results etc.).
- The best approach to passing the final exam is to study the material thoroughly as you move through the course, practice all quizzes and case scenarios related to each module, and review all supplemental materials.
- You may find it helpful to take notes throughout the course and review the notes while preparing for the final exam.
- \*Attempting to look up ***all*** or even ***most*** of the answers will likely take too much time and may affect your ability to complete the test within the time limit and obtain a passing score. **Because this test is open book, there will be one chance to pass. If you do not pass, the only option for retaking the exam is to retake the course and pay half tuition.**
- If you take the paper exam with a proctor: during the exam, take frequent breaks. Turn in the paper exam to your proctor and take a brisk walk, use the

- restroom, eat a snack. Take care of your needs so that you have the best chance of passing the exam.
- If you take the online version of the exam: you will take the exam in three, one-hour parts, with a total time limit of 4 hours, allotting time for breaks in between each part. Take a brisk walk, use the restroom, eat a snack. Take care of your needs so that you have the best chance of passing the exam.

We want you to do well. Our goal for this refresher course is to provide you the best and most up to date information so that you can provide the ***safest, high quality*** nursing care possible. Your commitment to studying the material is of utmost importance for your future patients. Nursing is a dynamic profession and returning to the bedside after many years can be difficult, but not impossible. We hope that by making the final exam open book, you will be better able to demonstrate the critical thinking required for the clinical area—a solid foundation enhanced by good information resources.

Please contact us with any questions.

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