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Reviewed: 9/22 9/23 9/24	 Tina Vanburen, DNP, MSN, RN, CNS Director, School of Nursing	Curriculum Committee

PURPOSE

The purpose of the ATI Content Mastery Assessment Guidelines is to enhance students' critical thinking and nursing knowledge through structured practice assessments, proctored exams, and remediation assignments. The assessments are designed to help students identify strengths and weaknesses, improve academic performance, and prepare for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. This policy provides students with clear expectations for completing ATI assessments and outlines the grading structure associated with these activities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all nursing students enrolled in courses that require ATI Content Mastery Assessments. The policy provides guidelines for completing ATI practice assessments, the proctored Content Mastery Exam, and the required remediation assignments. The purpose of this policy is to ensure a consistent approach to ATI assessments and to promote the development of individualized study plans that foster academic success.

DEFINITIONS

- **ATI Practice Assessments:** Non-proctored online assessments designed to assess a student's understanding of key nursing concepts. Students will complete two versions: Version A and Version B.
- **ATI Proctored Content Mastery Exam:** A formal, proctored exam administered during the course that assesses students' proficiency in nursing knowledge.
- **Remediation Assignment:** A handwritten assignment required after both the practice and proctored assessments, where students review their missed topics and write three critical points for each missed topic.
- **Proficiency Levels:** Defined levels (1, 2, 3) that reflect student performance on the proctored exam, with Level 3 being the highest and Below Level 1 being the lowest.

POLICY

ATI Practice Assessments Versions A and B:

These two assessments are NOT proctored. Your professor will provide you with a determined period for each practice assessment that will allow you to go to your ATI account to take both practice assessments. You **MUST** access each practice assessment during the assigned periods of time. Once the period closes there will **NOT** be an opportunity to access the practice assessments.

Remediation must be done from your first attempt of the practice exam.

Once you complete the practice assessment, ATI will provide you with customized ***ATI Topics to Review***. From the ***ATI Topics to Review***, you will be assigned to handwrite **3 Critical Points** on each topic you have missed as outlined on your customized ***ATI Topics to Review***. You will need to submit your handwritten assignment into your professor by the specified due date. ***This assignment must be handwritten, typed submissions will not be accepted.***

You will be awarded 25 points for taking practice assessment A and 25 points for taking practice assessment B and submitting your completed **3 Critical Points** handwritten assignments on time. In summary, you will have earned 50 points towards your overall 10% ATI grade by taking the 2 practice assessments and completing the **3 Critical Points** remediation assignments ***prior*** to taking the proctored exam.

Student Tips for Success: Please provide yourself ample time and space when taking a practice assessment as if you were taking a proctored exam. The best environment would be one free of distractions or barriers. Do not use resources when taking the practice assessments. The practice assessments, when used correctly, provide you the opportunity to identify your strengths and weaknesses.

Your ***ATI Topics to Review*** remediation post-practice assessment is your guide on how to strengthen your weaknesses. The goal is to identify and strengthen your weaknesses by developing your very own customized study guide for the upcoming proctored exam. You will have this opportunity two times by taking both the practice assessment A & B and completing the handwritten **3 Critical Points** remediation assignment prior to taking the proctored exam.

Be creative! Write your **3 Critical Points** in a way that allows you to retain what you learned when you reviewed the topics you scored poorly in on the practice assessments, this way, when you take the proctored exam, you will be well prepared!

Proctored Content Mastery Exam

This exam is proctored and will be assigned on the specified date as determined by your professor. Remediation on your exam must also be done with the same guidelines as the practice exams.

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Understanding the Grading Scale:

Points Awarded for Showing Evidence for Practice Assessment A Remediation Work	Points Awarded for Showing Evidence for Practice Assessment B Remediation Work	Proficiency Level Proctored ATI CMS Assessment	Points Awarded for LEVEL attained on ATI Proctored assessment	Points Awarded for Showing Evidence for post-proctored ATI CMS assessment	Total Points awarded
25	25	Proficiency <i>Level 3</i> on the Proctored Assessment	Level 3 = 45 points	5	100 (A)
25	25	Proficiency <i>Level 2</i> on the Proctored Assessment	Level 2 = 34 points	5	89 (B+)
25	25	Proficiency <i>Level 1</i> on the Proctored Assessment	Level 1 = 23 points	5	78 (C+)
25	25	Proficiency Level <i>Below a Level 1</i> on the Proctored Assessment	Below Level 1 = 12 points	5	67 (D+)

STUDENT EXAMPLE: Student Laura was assigned practice assessment A during 11/10 through 11/17 and she went into ATI on 11/15 and took practice assessment A and achieved a 78%. Using her *ATI Topics to Review*, she wrote 3 new bullet points she learned on each topic she missed. She took her time because she wanted to better understand the topics, she did not perform well in so she did her **3 Critical Points** remediation assignment over a span of a couple of days. She uploaded her **3 Critical Points** remediation assignment by the due date. *This gave her 25 points towards her ATI grade.* Her professor then opened up practice assessment B from 12/1 through 12/7 and Laura went in on 12/4 and repeated what she did before. *This gave her another 25 points towards her ATI grade.*

Laura then used her **3 Critical Points** remediation assignments from both practice assessments as her study guide for the upcoming proctored exam. When Laura took the proctored exam on 12/11, she achieved a Level 2! *This gave her 34 points towards her ATI grade.* She then completed the post

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proctored **3 Critical Points** remediation assignment *which gave her another 5 points* and earned her an 89%!

Understanding ATI Levels

Below is a chart of cut scores for levels based on specialty.

ATI RECOMMENDED CUT SCORES

RN CMS 2023 PROCTORED ASSESSMENTS	LEVEL 1 CUT SCORE	LEVEL 2 CUT SCORE	LEVEL 3 CUT SCORE
Adult Medical Surgical (90 items)	56.7% to 68.8%	68.9% to 82.1%	82.2% to 100.0%
Community Health (50 items)	58.0% to 73.9%	74.0% to 83.9%	84.0% to 100.0%
Fundamentals (60 items)	50.0% to 64.9%	65.0% to 81.6%	81.7% to 100.0%
Leadership (60 items)	60.0% to 76.6%	76.7% to 89.9%	90.0% to 100.0%
Maternal Newborn (60 items)	55.0% to 66.6%	66.7% to 81.6%	81.7% to 100.0%
Mental Health (60 items)	56.7% to 66.6%	66.7% to 84.9%	85.0% to 100.0%
Pediatric Nursing (60 items)	51.7% to 64.9%	65.0% to 78.2%	78.3% to 100.0%
Nutrition (60 items)	48.3% to 66.6%	66.7% to 83.2%	83.3% to 100.0%
Pharmacology (60 items)	53.3% to 71.6%	71.7% to 86.6%	86.7% to 100.0%

Understanding ATI Proficiency Levels Definitions

<p>LEVEL 1</p> <p>Scores meeting the Proficiency Level 1 standard can be considered to meet the absolute minimum expectations for performance in this content area. Scores at this level were judged by the content expert panel to indicate a student as likely to just meet NCLEX-RN® standards in this content area. ATI advises these students to develop and complete a rigorous plan of focused review in order to achieve a firmer grasp of this content.</p>
<p>LEVEL 2</p> <p>Scores meeting the Proficiency Level 2 standard can be considered to exceed minimum expectations for performance in this content area. Scores at this level were judged by the content expert panel to indicate a student as fairly certain to meet NCLEX-RN standards in this content area. ATI advises these students to engage in continuous focused review in order to improve their knowledge of this content.</p>
<p>LEVEL 3</p> <p>Scores meeting the Proficiency Level 3 standard can be considered to exceed most expectations for performance in this content area. Scores at this level were judged by the content expert panel to indicate a student as likely to exceed NCLEX-RN standards in this content area. ATI advises these students to engage in continuous focused review to maintain and improve their knowledge of this content.</p>

Academic Integrity

If you attained a practice assessment score of 100% and have no remediation to complete in order to receive the 25 points credit towards your ATI exam grade **you must attain a LEVEL 2 or higher** on your proctored exam. If you do not attain a LEVEL 2 or higher on your proctored exam, 25 points will be deducted from your ATI exam grade for each perfectly scored practice assessment you submit.

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Per ATI, students who have large discrepancies on their proctored exam grade (attain a LEVEL 1 or below) compared to achieving perfect scores on the practice assessments, are students who may have used resources during their practice assessments to avoid the remediation process.

If a Level 1 or less than Level 1 is achieved:

In the event you earn a level 1 or less than Level 1, you will have the opportunity to retake the content mastery exam for grade replacement. The second attempt will be on a date determined by your instructor, no later than 7 days after your initial attempt. To qualify to take the second attempt, you must complete your remediation thoroughly and completely. Your instructor will determine if you have completed necessary remediation to take the second attempt. Your grade will be your highest level achieved.

Reference

Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI). (2024). *ATI content mastery series: Review module*. Assessment Technologies Institute. <https://www.atitesting.com/>

REVIEW and APPROVAL: Curriculum Committee