

2025 CBCS Study Guide, Practice Tests, and Exam: Common FAQ

What code sets are covered in the CBCS exam?

The CBCS exam covers the application of coding utilizing code sets from CPT®, HCPCS Level II, and ICD-10-CM.

Are coding manuals required with the CBCS exam?

NO – as of September 24, 2024, coding manuals will NOT be necessary or allowed into the Exam (all necessary information needed to answer each application of coding item is contained alongside each question).

*The below image provides an example of what this may look like.

Exhibit 1

CPT Codes	
99212	Established patient, problem oriented; 10 - 19 minutes
99202	New patient, problem oriented; 15 - 29 minutes
99213	Established patient, problem oriented; 20 - 29 minutes
99203	New patient, problem oriented; 30 - 44 minutes
99395	Established patient; annual exam; 18 - 39 years
99385	New patient, annual exam; 18 - 39 years
99396	Establish patient, annual exam; 40-64 years
99386	New patient, annual exam; 40 - 64 years

You are preparing a claim for Rhoda Oxonous, a 31-year-old new patient who came in for an annual exam and was also evaluated and treated for seasonal allergies. The provider spent an additional 19 minutes for the problem-oriented encounter. Which CPT codes should be assigned?

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☐ 99385, 99212-25
☐ 99385, 99202-25
☐ 99395, 99212-25
☐ 99395, 99202-25

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Will the exam be updated with new codes to replace any deleted codes?

The exam is reviewed annually and any questions that contain deleted codes or updated guidelines will be removed, and new questions & codes will be inserted and will always align to the new test plan.

- This will happen behind the scenes with no impact on the exam taker or institution.



- The Test Plan “Exam Blueprint” will not change.

What is the breakdown and number of questions on the exam regarding coding and coding guidelines (Domain 3)?

- Coding and Coding Guidelines will have 32 items (questions) on the exam.
- To protect the integrity of the certification exam, NHA cannot provide visibility to the questions on the final exam.

DOMAIN	# of Items on Examination
1. The Revenue Cycle and Regulatory Compliance	15
2. Insurance Eligibility and Other Payer Requirements	20
3. Coding and Coding Guidelines	32
4. Billing and Reimbursement	33
TOTAL	100

How do current CBCS certification holders renew their certification?

To renew certification, you must complete 10 hours of continuing education credits every two years. Refer to the NHA website for more information.

Will NHA offer the printed/paper version of the Study Guide?

Yes.

What is the recommended learning time to be successful on the exam? How many classes do you recommend covering all this information (number of hours for instruction)?

The Implementation Guide has recommended guidelines to follow to ensure maximum learner success. However, it is up to each institution to set their course and program length.

The Implementation Guide will also suggest timing of the online practice tests available: Baseline Practice Test (1), Practice Tests (4), and the Final Practice Test (1).

Will it be better to have the Online Study Guide vs Printed Study Guide in terms of features such as Mentors, EHR Simulation Activities, Professionalism Tips, etc.?

The Online Study Guide has interactive features such as Animated Video Mentors, EHR Simulation Activities, Professionalism Tips Videos, etc. and provide a more engaging learning experience for your candidates. You can ask your NHA Representative for a demonstration of the study resources and features.



What is the cost of the Exam, Study Guide, and Practice Tests?

Reach out to your NHA Representative to obtain pricing. There are individual prices and a package price available.

Will students be required to have some A&P and Medical Terminology pre-training before working with the code sets?

That would be an institution/program policy/determination. All healthcare professionals are better served with some background/basic A&P and Medical Terminology. NHA offers both **Medical Terminology** and **Anatomy & Physiology Learning Resources** available as separate products. You can reach out to your NHA Representative for a demonstration of the study resources and features.

Will CBCS include pharmacology content?

No

Will there be any changes in the Analytics for CBCS?

No, PDF reports with individual and group performance metrics will be available.

Can NHA help me build partnerships with Employers of CBCS in my area?

Employers see credentialed candidates as more committed to their career and to excellence. At NHA we believe in always being industry advocates with a focus on recognition & the value of certification. We are excited to spread the news of our new CBCS exam with employers throughout the country and help you by building strategic partnerships between educators and employers.

Additional Resources

[CBCS Test Plan](#)

[CBCS Crosswalk](#) (comparison of the 2013 test plan to the 2020 test plan)

Have additional Questions?

Please reach out to your NHA Representative. NHA is here to help you.