BC-ADM Exam - Diagnostic Scoring Information

Now that you have completed the BC-ADM examination, you will receive an examination results report that provides your pass/fail status and your exam score.

Pass/fail status on the exam is determined by comparing the total number of questions answered correctly out of the 150 scored questions on the exam with the number of questions required to pass the exam. Note that even though the exam questions are categorized as follows, the scoring is based on the overall number of questions on the exam:

Category	Domains of Practice	Percent	No. of Questions
I	Assessment and Diagnosis	30%	45
II	Planning and Intervention	34%	50
III	Evaluation and Follow-up	23%	34
IV	Population Health, Advocacy, and Professional Development	14%	20

Although the scoring is based on the total number of questions answered correctly, AADE does not report the actual BC-ADM score as the number or percentage of questions answered correctly. Instead, candidate report what is called a "scaled score." Scaled scores are determined by converting the number of questions answered correctly to a score on a scale that ranges from 200 to 500, with the passing point set at 350. If a candidate scored 400 on the BC-ADM exam, that score does not indicate how many questions the candidate answered incorrectly. It only tells the candidate that they exceeded the minimum passing score of 350 and passed the exam.

The process of converting the number of questions a candidate answered correctly to a scaled score can be thought of as similar to converting your height from inches to centimeters, or converting Celsius to Fahrenheit. In other words, just like a temperature of 86 Fahrenheit means exactly the same thing as a temperature of 30 Celsius, your scaled score means exactly the same thing as the number of questions you answered correctly, but it is just expressed differently. The reason that the BC-ADM exam, like most standardized tests, uses scaled scores for score reporting is so that scores on different versions of the exam can be directly compared to one another. Every form (version) of the BC-ADM exam is mathematically equated to a predetermined passing standard, ensuring that every candidate who tests on the exam—regardless of which version of the exam they receive—is held to the same standard.