The Ultrasound Student Assessment (USA)

The evaluation of inherent abilities crucial to sonography occupation is carried out in the USA. There are no supplementary resources, such as study materials and sample assessments. You can find further information on the Pegasus website - https://pegasuslectures.com/usa.php

Instructions

1. To initiate the assessment in a remote proctoring environment, apply through this link:
Pegasus Lectures Products & Seminars

Applicants can also contact Pegasus Lectures at (972) 564-3056 during business hours (Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST) and make a payment of $65 which includes the proctoring fee. Payments can be made using Visa/MC/AMEX or Discover. The testing hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CST.

2. After scheduling the appointment and completing the payment process, the applicants will receive an email from Pegasus Lectures that will confirm the scheduled appointment time.

3. On the day of the examination, the applicants will receive an email before the scheduled examination time that will include a link for the proctor to connect to their computer. The email instructions should be followed carefully.

4. The assessment must be taken continuously on the same day, and there will be no time limit, but generally, the duration of the test is between 1.5-2 hours.

5. Before starting the assessment, ensure that all other programs on the computer are closed.

6. Provide the Instructor's name and email and choose "Student" as the role.

7. When specifying your dominant hand to the USA, choose the hand that you use for using a computer mouse or any hand you feel comfortable with.

8. If you are unsure about your GPA, maximum GPA possible, rank in college, or the number of students in your class, simply leave it blank and N/A will be filled in automatically.

9. Only one attempt is allowed for taking the test before submitting the sonography program application. Therefore, take your time, analyze the questions, and choose your answers carefully.

10. A chat box with the examination proctor will be recorded during the test. If you require assistance during the test, don't hesitate to ask for it. Depending on the nature of your question, the proctor may/may not be able to respond to it. If significant technical issues occur, do not proceed with the test.

11. Upon completion of the USA, Applicants will not receive their scores. The TCC Sonography Program account will upload the scores. Do not contact Pegasus Lectures for scores. To request a review of your score for this assessment, you must contact the sonography program director via email.
If you have any technical queries, please contact Cindy Davis at techsupport@pegasuslectures.com.

Technical Requirements

1. To take the exam, download the USA to your computer. However, please note that the USA is not compatible with Mac, Chromebook, tablet, or phone.

2. Before starting the exam, the applicant must ensure the following requirements:
    a. Computer system with Windows operating system.
    b. Usage of a standard-size, free-moving mouse.
    c. It is strongly advised to use a mouse pad.
    d. Usage of a physical keyboard, as touchscreens are not compatible.
    e. Ensure a flat surface and a clear area with no clutter.
    f. Computer display settings should be no more than 100%.

If you are unable to meet any of these testing environment requirements, kindly reach out to the program director as soon as possible.

Scoring

The TCC Sonography Program uses the physics and clinical score groups to assign points for program application assessment. The total score you receive is the culmination of the points you achieve in both categories, which is referred to as the overall USA score.

The physics category evaluation criteria comprise of abilities like spatial resolution, logic, graph interpretation, and problem-solving. Similarly, the clinical category requires skills such as visualization, judgment, dexterity/hand-eye coordination, and persistence. It is important to note that the USA exam does not follow the traditional passing or failing approach or adopt a scale of 0-100 points. Instead, an average score of zero (0) is assigned to any category.

Weighted Score	Points Awarded in Physics Category	Points Awarded in Clinical Category
<= 0.0	0	0
0.1 – 3.5	4	4
3.6 – 7.0	8	8
7.1 – 9.9	12	12
>= 10	16	16

Table Explanation: Column 1 represents the applicant's cumulative test score, including both the clinical and physics categories. Points earned by the program for each category are indicated in Columns 2 and 3, which are combined to obtain the final score. Scores are rounded off to the nearest 10th.

Can I prepare for the Ultrasound Student Assessment?

The USA program is designed as a genuine aptitude test, and consequently, there is no preparation. The exam measures inherent abilities such as hand-eye coordination and visualization, which are crucial for mastering ultrasonography's fundamental concepts. In certain domains, the raw cut score may register a negative value, indicating poorer performance in that category. However, this does not imply failure. Instead, it spotlights areas that require improvement.