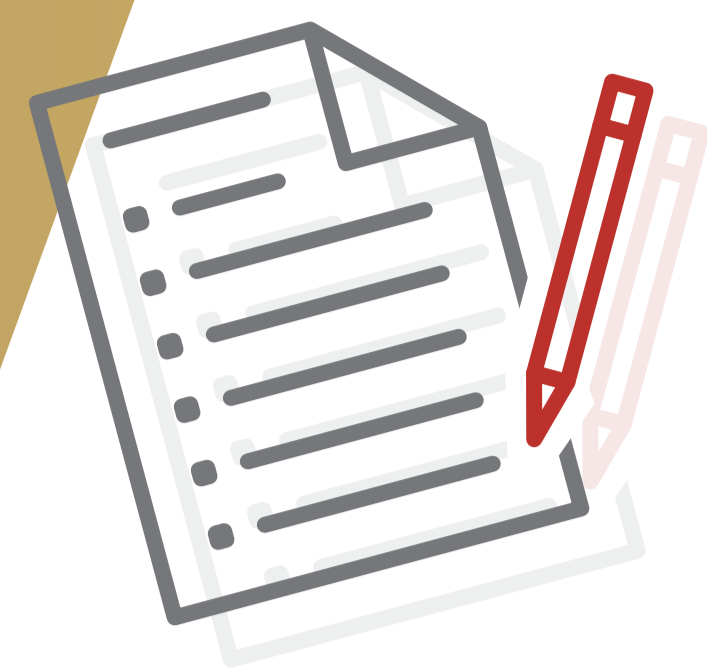


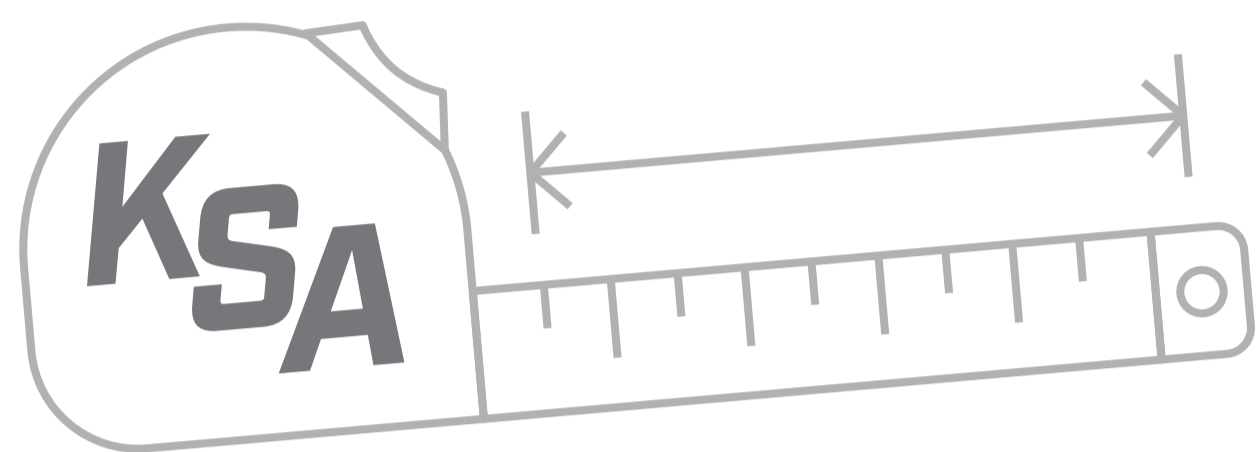
SCALED SCORING

EXPLAINED

THE EXAM

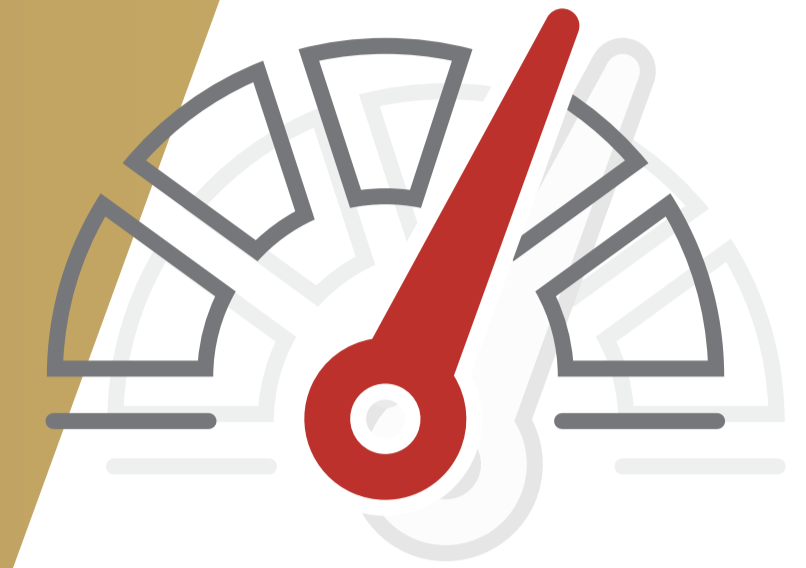


All NSCA certifications are based on the critical **k**nowledge, **s**kills, and **a**bilities (KSAs) needed to perform an identified job or role. The exam outline and questions are based on these KSAs.

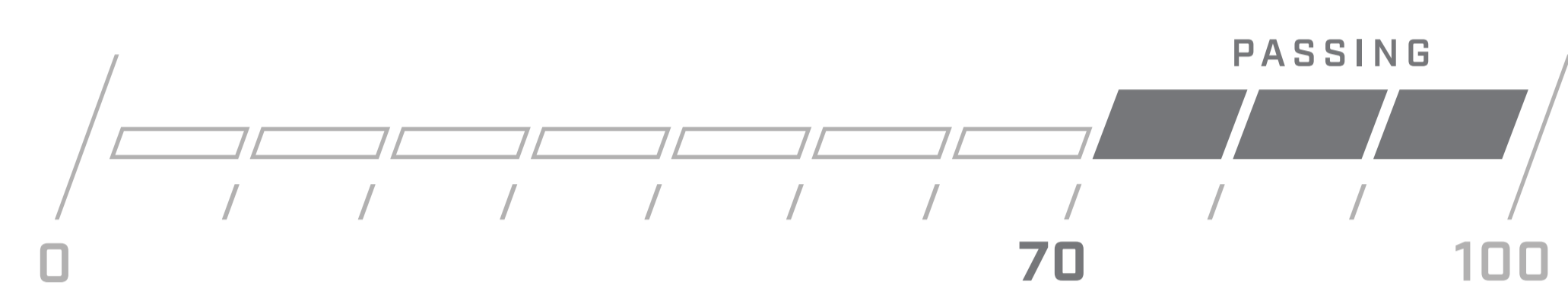


Each NSCA certification exam assesses how a candidate compares to a standard — a predetermined level of competence — established by industry experts. The methods used to develop certification exams follow procedures recommended by relevant industry standards. Passing an NSCA certification exam demonstrates you have the specialized knowledge, skill and ability to perform a specific job.

SETTLING THE SCORE



After taking an NSCA certification exam, you will receive two scores: a raw score and a scaled score. Scaled scores range from 1-100. You must earn a scaled score of 70 or higher to pass.



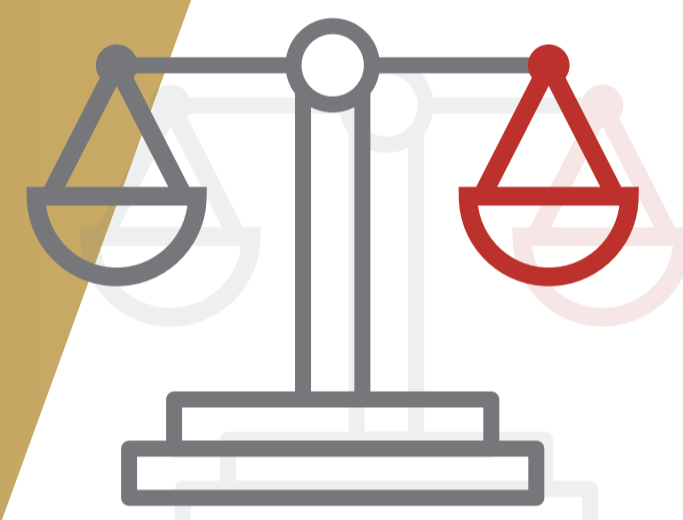
RAW SCORE

Your raw score is the number of questions you answered correctly on your exam. Your raw scores in each domain are provided as additional feed-back on your performance. However, these scores are not intended to guide your future test preparation as they are based on limited information as compared to your total test performance.

SCALED SCORE

Performance standards for all certification exams are represented as scaled scores. The NSCA uses scaled scoring to make sure the standard is applied consistently across multiple exam versions.

LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD



As times change and questions get substituted, some exams can be more difficult than others. To adjust for these differences, the NSCA uses "equating" to determine the score to ensure fairness to all candidates.

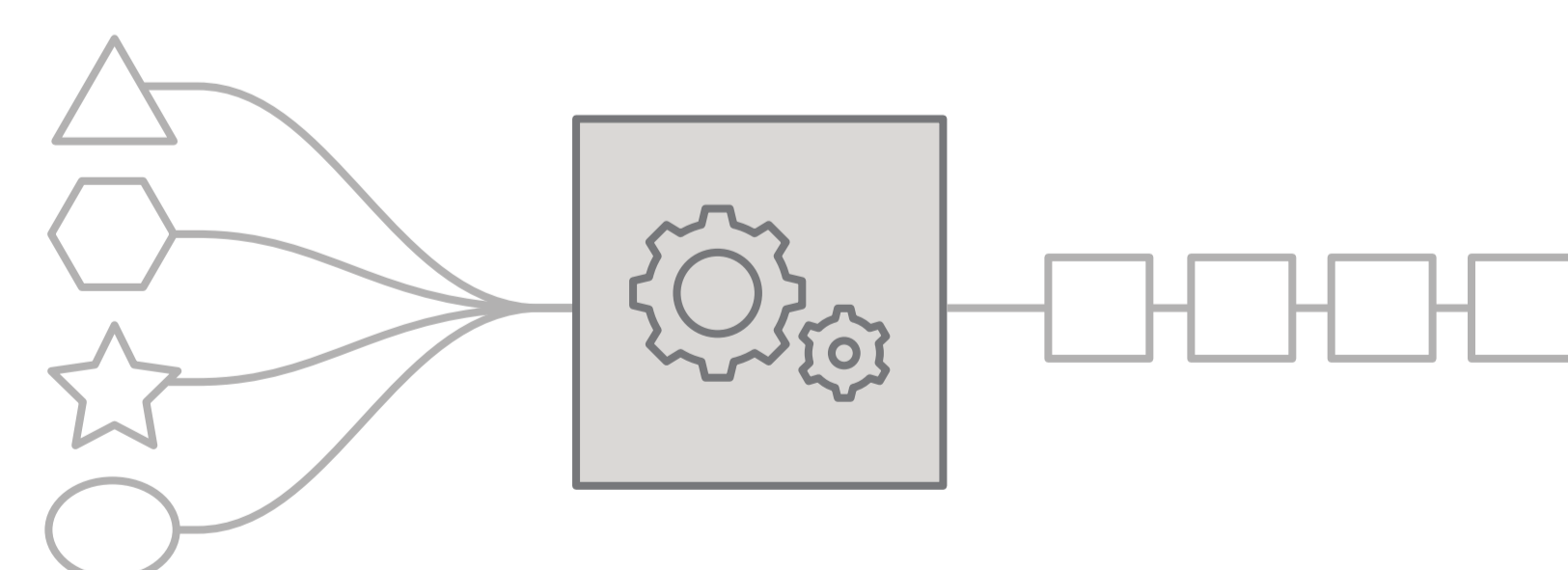


Through equating, a scaled score of 70 obtained in 2018 is equivalent to a scaled score of 70 obtained in 2022, even though the exams contained different questions.

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

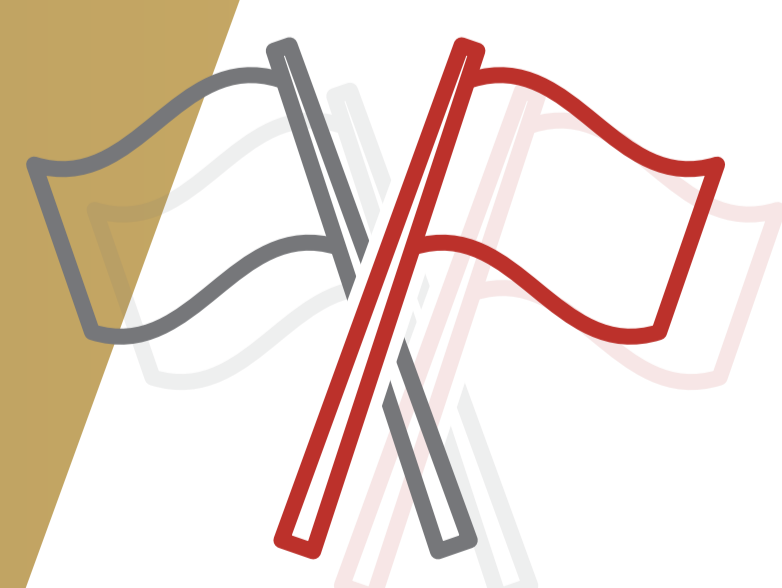


To arrive at the scaled score, your raw score is converted onto a consistent and standardized scale. The passing score reflects the amount of knowledge a committee of experts has determined to be appropriate for credentialing.



A criterion-referenced standard setting procedure and expert judgment were used to evaluate each item on the entire examination to identify the passing point. Therefore, your score is not based on a curve; it is determined independently of all other exam candidates.

WRAP UP



Using industry best practices, the NSCA strives to create an equitable environment for all candidates seeking certification while ensuring testing procedures produce consistent and accurate results.

For questions about the exam process, please email exams@nsca.com.