



Memorandum:

To: LLR, South Carolina, South Carolina Board, Schools and Applicants
From: NIC
Date: August 11, 2016
Re: Urgent Message Regarding Examinations

As has been discussed since March of this year, NIC, following its regular job analysis studies which led to revisions to the Cosmetology, Esthetics Advanced, Hair Design and National Hair Styling examinations, intended and did launch the new examinations in some states in May and June. Following feedback from those states who did launch the new examinations and feedback from NIC vendors who are responsible for the administration of our examinations in most states, NIC determined additional revisions were necessary to address the concerns and feedback received.

After meetings with the NIC Executive Board and the National Examination Committee, it was determined that revisions to the examinations needed to occur quickly and that we could hopefully meet the deadlines we set for ourselves, as most states had not launched the examinations at that time. Our sincere intent and belief was that these revisions could be made, documents revised accordingly, and scoring implements and software changes that would be necessitated as a result of these changes could be made fairly quickly and painlessly.

That has not been the case. We have only just finalized the new Candidate Information Bulletins that reflect the most recent changes made and have determined it only fair to delay the launch of the new examinations in those states that had not launched them yet until January 1, 2017.

The schedule by which you can be assured will be met is as follows:

New Candidate Information Bulletins (or Handbooks) will be made available through your testing vendor in October 2016. That provides everyone impacted by these changes ample time within which to prepare for the changes made. Through December 2016, the examinations administered will be the same as those administered for the last five years. We anticipate that there is not one person who would not be prepared to test for these examinations. In January, we will launch the new examinations.

We apologize for the delays in communication, inconveniences, and for any confusion these delays have caused.

Please contact us if you have any questions and/or concerns at rosannenec@gmail.com and copy the NIC President at mthompson.nic@gmail.com.

Again, our apologies and we look forward to launching the new examinations in January!