NBCOT® National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy

EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE FEEDBACK REPORT

Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA®)

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Report For: Test Test

Examination: **COTA®**

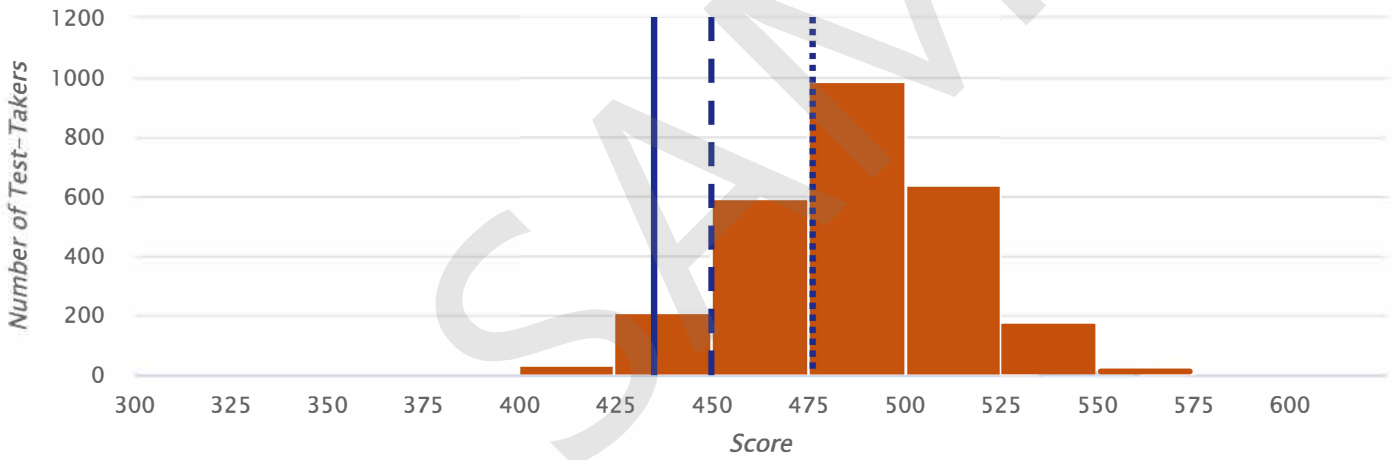
Examination Date: **10/21/2026**

You did not pass

Your Score: **435**

Passing Score: **450**

Your Overall Performance



Your Score (435)

Passing Score (450)

Mean Passing New Grad Score (476)

Distribution of All Recent Scores from First-Time Test-Takers

Recent Scores from First-Time Test-Takers

This table shows the distribution of scores of all candidates who have recently taken the COTA exam for the first time. The top row of the table contains score ranges, and the second row contains the number of first-time test-takers who have obtained that score range.

Score Range	300-324	325-349	350-374	375-399	400-424	425-449	450-474	475-499	500-524	525-549	550-574	575-599	600
Number of Test-Takers	0	0	1	3	32	212	598	1001	648	182	30	2	0

Interpretation of Your Overall Performance

Your overall performance on the NBCOT® COTA examination is based on the total number of items you answered correctly. Your overall performance is reported on a standardized scale ranging from 300 to 600. To pass the exam, your score must equal or exceed the passing score of 450.

In the graph above, the vertical blue lines show your performance (solid line) relative to both the passing score of 450 (dashed line) and to the mean score of candidates who have recently taken the COTA exam for the first time and passed (dotted line). Additionally, the histogram (orange bars) shows the distribution of scores of both passing and failing candidates who have recently tested for the first time.

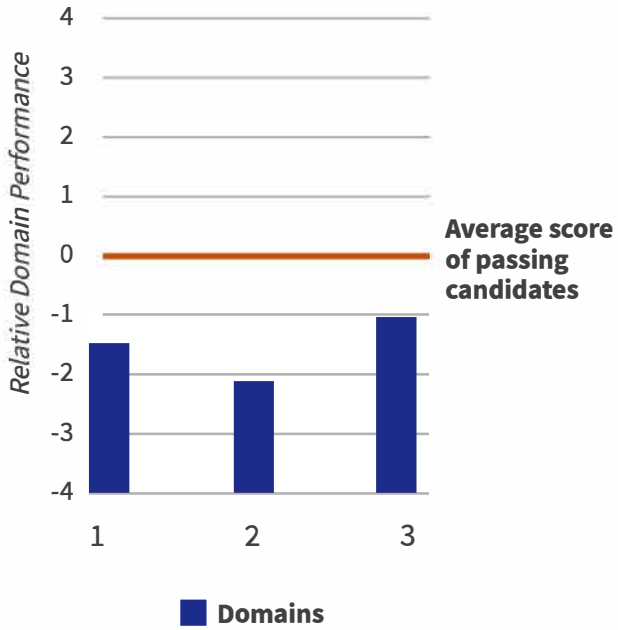
Your Domain-Level Performance

The graph below provides an overview of your areas of relative strength and weakness on the COTA examination by showing how your performance compares to a reference group of new candidates who have recently passed the exam on their first attempt. By comparing your performance to that of successful candidates, you can better understand the areas where you need the most improvement.

In the graph below, the horizontal orange line at zero represents the average domain-level performance of successful candidates in each domain. The vertical blue bars indicate your performance in each domain in standard deviation units. The standard deviation indicates how far away your score is from the average reference group scores. If your performance in a domain is above the average of passing new candidates, the bar will extend above the orange line. If your performance in a domain is below average, then the bar will not reach the orange line. More information can be found below the graph, as well as in the Frequently Asked Questions section at the end of this report.

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Your Domain Performance



Domain 1: Collaborate and Gather Information

Under the supervision of the OTR, acquire information on an ongoing basis regarding factors that influence occupational performance.

Worth 27% of the exam

Domain 2: Select and Implement Interventions

Implement interventions, under the supervision of the OTR, in accordance with the intervention plan and level of service competence to support client participation in areas of occupation throughout the occupational therapy process.

Worth 55% of the exam

Domain 3: Uphold Professional Standards and Responsibilities

Uphold professional standards and responsibilities by achieving service competence and applying evidence-based interventions to promote quality in practice.

Worth 18% of the exam

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How to Use Your Domain-Level Score

Your domain-level performance feedback is provided for self-development purposes. This feedback is descriptive only, meaning that it only provides a snapshot of your testing performance based on a single test administration. Domain-level feedback is based on a limited number of questions, which means that these domain-level results are not as stable as your overall exam score, which is based on a much larger number of questions. In other words, you might perform better or worse in any domain when you retake the exam. For this reason, it is important to study all domains when you prepare to retake the exam. You may wish to engage in extra preparation in the domains in which you are the weakest. However, neglecting to study the domains in which your performance was strongest could result in lower performance on those domains when you retest.

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. How is the passing score determined?

The passing score on the examination is determined through a rigorous statistical process that is widely used in the professional testing industry. This method, called the Modified Angoff method, is a way of determining the performance standard required for safe and competent entry-level practice, and then determining the number of examination questions candidates must answer correctly to demonstrate that they meet that performance standard. Consistent with all criterion-referenced examinations, once the passing standard is set, it cannot be changed. Future forms of the examination are then statistically equated to this standard to ensure that the passing standard remains constant over time, regardless of which version of the exam a candidate takes. Maintaining the same performance standard over time is very important for the fairness and integrity of the exam.

2. What is a scaled score?

The examination pass-fail decision is made by comparing the total number of items answered correctly on the exam to the number of items required to pass. Then, your overall performance is reported on a standardized score scale ranging from 300 to 600 with a passing score of 450. Reporting scaled scores is standard practice on certification examinations and other standardized tests. A scaled score is a score that has been mathematically transformed from raw score (i.e., the number of items that a candidate answered correctly) to a different scale that is used for reporting purposes. This transformation is similar to converting from pounds to kilograms: the weight of the object has not changed, only the units being reported. A scaled score of 450 is required to pass the examination. More information on scaled scores.

3. Why is my performance compared to a reference group?

The reference group in the Your Domain Performance chart includes new graduates who recently took the exam for the first time and passed on their first attempt. By showing you how your performance compares to this group of successful candidates, you can better understand your relative areas of strength and weakness.

4. Why did I not receive a score in each domain?

Each domain is based on a small subset of the total number of questions on the exam. Therefore, if you were to retake the exam in the future with no additional preparation, your score in each domain might be better or worse than the first time you tested. For this reason, it is best practice not to provide a score in each domain. Instead, candidates can understand their areas of relative strength and weakness by

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understanding how their performance compares to the performance of successful candidates. Note that this is not the case with your overall exam score. Your overall performance on the exam is a very stable measure of occupational therapy knowledge and skills because it is based on the full set of exam questions. This is why pass/fail decisions are based only on the total number of exam questions answered correctly, and there is no domain-level passing standard.

5. How should I prepare to retake the exam?

When preparing to retake the exam, it is important to study all domains of the exam. See details about the exam content outline and information on optional study tools to help you prepare for your exam.

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