

Setting the passing standard (cut score) for the NARM Exam

The passing score is determined using a modified Angoff procedure, where groups of subject matter experts (CPMs) rate each question on how likely a competent, but entry-level, midwife would be answer correctly. Based on the assumption that not all competent midwives will get every question right, but that each question should be clear and relevant enough to be answered correctly by most entry level midwives, the raters give each question a score based on how many competent midwives out of 100 would choose the correct answer. These scores are averaged to determine the passing score. The NARM Board has the final authority to determine the passing score, and may adjust the score upward or downward by one Standard Error of Measurement if they feel that the raters have judged the exam too harshly or leniently.