

STUDENT EVALUATION COMPONENTS

The curriculum contains evaluation tools to test both the participant's knowledge-based skills and his or her operator or performance skills.

To test student knowledge of safe work practices, a pool of questions has been developed and tested that directly correspond to the core set of competencies. These questions are designed to be used as both review questions and final examination questions. In cases where a competency was considered extremely important to preventing injury, the competency may have two or more corresponding test questions.

The operator skills assessment involves actual operation of an agricultural tractor with a trailing two-wheel cart as prescribed by the HOOA training requirements. It consists of a two step process involving:

1. Pre-operation skills test
2. Operator driving skills evaluation

It is recommended that the testing be progressive and that successful completion of the written exam serve as a prerequisite for taking the pre-operation skills test and that successful completion of the pre-operation skills test be a prerequisite for participating in the operator driving skills evaluation. Failure of the student to successfully complete any of the tests would prevent continuation to the next testing level or eventual certification.

It was determined that mastery of some competencies was so important that failure to successfully demonstrate them during the skills testing portion would result in automatic failure and disqualification for certification until the student could demonstrate mastery.

A panel of experts established minimum passing scores for each of the testing steps. On the written, knowledge-based test, the panel determined that for a sample of 70 test questions, a minimum of 70 percent correct was needed to successfully pass the test. There are no restrictions that prevent you as the instructor in setting higher minimum passing scores. You should, however, be consistent in the scoring methods used.

