



# TESTING PODS

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OEBC TOWNHALL

THE OPTOMETRY PROFESSION IN CANADA DEVELOPS THE OEBC EXAM FOR THE PROFESSION.

## TESTING POD

- Capture the best of both our paper-based administration and computer-based testing
- Lower the overall cost to students without compromising the integrity of the exam
- Candidates, at a location, take the exam in one room
- All candidates across Canada and US take the exam on the same day
- Start time at the various location would be between 8 am and noon eastern time





# REQUIREMENTS

- Laptop
- Web Browser
  - Google Chrome Latest Version
  - Mozilla Firefox Latest Version
  - Apple Safari Latest Version
  - Microsoft Edge Latest Version
- Adobe Flash Version 9.0.115+
- JavaScript Must be enabled; automatically included with supported browsers
- Cookies Must be enabled; supported in the above browsers
- Screen Resolution 1024 × 768+

# THE EXAM ROOM

- quiet, secure atmosphere for testing
- classroom style with space appropriate for social distancing
- a reliable internet connection





## Examinee Login

Test Code

Please enter your valid Test Code

Login

Exit



Below is the link to the secure browser plugin download and test page.  
You should test your computer well before the administration to ensure you can download and install it

[Download Plugin](#)

# ONSITE PROCTOR

- follows OEBC manual
- verifies identification
- ensures you can login
- starts and stops the exam
- adds time for technical issues
- hands out and collects materials
- helps resolve technical issues
- maintains a live connection with a master proctor
- Use a second person onsite to assist / backup



# INTERNET

- a reliable internet connection
- minimum of 100 kbps per student



# CANDIDATES

- Bring a computer to use for the exam (pre-tested to ensure it is compatible with the secure browser)
- Secure browser that locks down their device
- OEBC provides a calculator, paper, pencils and erasers – same as those taking the paper-based exam
- **Read Candidate Instructions & Exam Guide**

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# CANDIDATE FEEDBACK RE: TESTING PODS

## - CANDIDATE SUGGESTIONS

- “Ability to eliminate choices by right clicking the mouse and crossing out answers that are deemed incorrect by the candidate.”
- “Ability to flag questions the candidate wishes to return to throughout the test.”
  - **Confirmed feature** – if a question is flagged, it is highlighted yellow and the candidate may return to it at any time



# OEBC CLASS OF 2021 SURVEY

## - US LOCATIONS

OEBC conducted a survey prior to Registration opening. The response rate was excellent (over 80%). There were 162 responses. Based on responses these were the preferred US locations.

Region	City	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Points (5-3-1)
US	Boston	3	1	5	23
	Portland	2	1	3	16
	Chicago	2	1	0	13



# TESTING PODS FOR THE USA

## - US TOWNHALL MEETING

OEBC held a Townhall style meeting on July 23, 2020 to provide US candidates a platform to introduce OEBC's testing pod concept and invite any candidate questions or concerns

Candidate Question	OEBC Response
"Is there any time line as to when candidates will be able to pick/vote on a pod location?"	OEBC had previously conducted a survey to identified preferred locations for testing. Top 3 preferred locations were Boston, Portland and Chicago. The Exam Team will be working on finalizing the location over the next week.
"A lot of states are requiring people to quarantine, what does one do if they are unable to quarantine?"	OEBC recognizes that a 14 day quarantine may not be ideal, this will be a part of decision making when identifying an exam location(s).
"When can candidates expect OEBC to have a finalized location for the US?"	The Exam Team will have a decision made by July 28, 2020 to provide candidates the option of the US location a week before Eligibility Registration closes on August 6, 2020.

# TESTING PODS FOR THE USA

## - US TOWNHALL MEETING

OEBC held a Townhall style meeting on July 23, 2020 to provide US candidates a platform to introduce OEBC's testing pod concept and invite any candidate questions or concerns

Candidate Question	OEBC Response
“Will a testing pod be available for the east coast of Canada in November?”	No, currently the focus of these testing pods are for OEBC's US Candidates at this time. Canada will remain the same with the traditional paper and pencil examination. However, OEBC has added more testing locations to assist Canadians during this time including Montreal, Waterloo and Calgary.
“Are there plans to have the testing pods available in Canada for Canadian candidates in the future?”	OEBC is continuously looking for new ways to administer the exam without compromising it's integrity. While the pods will not be available for the Fall 2020 Administration, based on their success in the US, OEBC will consider introducing them in Canada for future administrations.