

- ***Does everyone take the same test?***

To maintain the validity, security and relevance of the CAM Exam, NAAEI replaces old, outdated, or poorly performing items on a regular basis. Every time this process is performed, the result is a different version of the examination (called a *test form*). As a result, over time, candidates will receive different forms of the CAM Exam.

- ***Could one form be easier than another?***

NAAEI works hard to ensure that all test forms are comparable in difficulty. NAAEI does this to ensure that candidates who take different test forms on different dates are treated equally. However, each item on a test form differs in how easy or hard it is. As a result, some test forms turn out to be harder (or easier) than others. NAAEI takes into account these differences when determining final scores for candidates.

- ***What is a passing score?***

The passing score is the number of items candidates must answer correctly to pass the examination. The passing score has been established by a committee of industry experts with years of experience in apartment management as well as knowledge of the CAM candidate population. During this process, committee members discuss the minimum level of competency required to pass the examination.

- ***What is a raw score?***

A raw score is the actual number of items a candidate answers correctly. Raw scores from different test forms are not directly comparable. For example, a raw score of 75 out of 100 on Form A is not equal to a raw score of 75 on Form B if one of the forms is harder than the other.

- ***What is a percent correct score?***

A percent correct score is the number of items answered correctly divided by the total number of scored items on the exam. Percent correct scores are just another version of raw scores and thus do not resolve the issue of comparability of scores from different test forms.

- ***What is a scaled score?***

A scaled score is a mathematical conversion of the number of items that a candidate correctly answers onto

another scale that is used for reporting purposes. During the conversion process, NAAEI also takes into account the relative difficulty of each test form, so that no candidate is unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged.

The transformation is similar to converting from pounds to kilograms. The weight of the object has not changed, only the units being reported.

Below is the score scale for the CAM examination:

	Minimum Score	Maximum Score	Passing Score
Part I	200	800	650
Part II	200	800	650

- ***Why use scaled scores?***

Since the scale and the passing score are always the same, scaled scores allow for direct comparisons of scores across different test forms. As stated earlier, it is not appropriate or fair to compare raw scores of candidates who took test forms that were slightly different in how easy or hard they were. Thus scaled scores make comparisons over time easier.

The use of scaled scores also adheres to “best practices” in the standardized testing industry. Testing guidelines discourage the use of raw (and percent) scores. In fact, most established testing programs use scaled scores, including the ACT® and SAT® examinations.

- ***Do scaled scores change who passes or fails?***

Scaled scores **DO NOT** affect individual candidate pass or fail decisions. The decision is always made by comparing the number of items answered correctly to the number of items required to pass the test form that was established using the criterion-referenced process.

Candidates who correctly answer more items than are required to pass the test form will obtain scaled scores that are between the scale’s passing score and the maximum scaled score (e.g., 650 to 800 for Parts I and II of the CAM Exam). Candidates who do not answer enough items to pass will obtain scores from the minimum to just below the scaled passing score (e.g., 200 to 640).