

**ALABAMA**

**FOR  
SALE**



**Real Estate  
Appraisers  
Program**

# **Candidate Handbook**

July 2023





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	2	TAKING THE EXAMINATION.....	9
EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS.....	2	Identification.....	9
STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION.....	2	RULES FOR THE EXAMINATION.....	9
EXAMINATION INFORMATION.....	2	Security.....	9
HOW THE EXAMINATION IS ADMINISTERED.....	3	Personal Belongings.....	9
EXAMINATION FEE.....	3	Examination Restrictions.....	9
APPLYING FOR AN EXAMINATION.....	3	Misconduct.....	10
SCHEDULING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT.....	3	Copyrighted Examination Questions.....	10
Special Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities.....	4	Computer Login.....	10
EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT CHANGES.....	4	Practice Examination.....	10
MISSED APPOINTMENTS AND FORFEITURES.....	5	Timed Examination.....	10
INCLEMENT WEATHER, POWER FAILURE OR EMERGENCY.....	5	Candidate Comments.....	11
NO REFUNDS.....	5	FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION.....	11
EXAMINATION CONTENT.....	6	Your Score Report.....	11
Trainee Examination Specifications.....	6	If You Pass the Examination.....	11
State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General Specifications.....	7	If You Fail the Examination.....	11
Sample Questions.....	8	Licensure Application Instructions.....	12
		Duplicate Score Report.....	12
		ALABAMA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS EXAMINATION REGISTRATION FORM.....	13
		REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS.....	15
		DOCUMENTATION OF DISABILITY-RELATED NEEDS ..	17
		DUPLICATE SCORE REPORT REQUEST FORM.....	19

## QUESTIONS ABOUT LICENSING

For specific information about licensing procedures, contact the Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board at the following address:

Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board  
P.O. Box 304355  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4355

## HOW TO CONTACT PSI

For inquiries and general registration information write or call:

PSI Candidate Services  
18000 W. 105th St.  
Olathe, KS 66061-7543  
Phone: 800-345-6559  
Fax: 913-895-4651

Website: <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap>



## INTRODUCTION

PSI Services provides a range of services to the states that use the Real Estate Appraiser Examination Program (RAP). This handbook provides information that you will need to register for the Alabama real estate appraiser licensing examinations. Be sure to keep the handbook after you have registered for the examination; you may wish to refer to it later.

The appraiser examinations are developed through a combined effort of appraisal experts and testing professionals. Real estate appraisers and educators write the questions. Experts in the fields of both real estate appraisal and testing review the questions to ensure that they are accurate in their content and representative of good question-writing procedures. All questions are revised and updated on a continual basis to reflect the current laws and practices in the changing real estate appraisal field.

The examination content outline used to develop the State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General Appraiser examinations is based on a job analysis conducted by the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB). It reflects areas of knowledge required to perform those tasks that practicing real estate appraisers judged to be important. Appraisal experts who write questions use this content outline as a guide. Thus, examinees are tested only on subjects judged by real estate appraisers as most important for licensees to know.

The content outline does not include topics that may be helpful to success in the industry. Since the purpose of licensure testing is to protect the consumer rather than to guarantee success in practice, the examinations focus on the knowledge you must have to protect the consumer and your ability to apply that knowledge to a consumer's particular situation. Similarly, the examinations include some technical language not used in your everyday conversations. You must learn that language to become a part of the profession and be able to explain its meaning to customers and clients.

## EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Trainee Real Property Appraiser** – Applicant must provide proof of 75 classroom hours of appraisal education completed during the last ten years, including fifteen hours of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice during the last two years.
- 2. Licensed Real Property Appraiser** – Applicant must have been an appraiser in two of the last five calendar years and have a minimum of 200 points of actual

appraisal experience, which represents approximately 2000 hours. Applicant must provide proof of 150 classroom hours of appraisal education completed during the last ten years, including fifteen hours of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice during the last two years.

- 3. Certified Residential Real Property Appraiser** – Applicant must have been an appraiser in two of the last five calendar years, with a minimum of 250 points of actual appraisal experience, which represents approximately 2500 hours. Applicant must provide proof of satisfactory completion of at least 200 in-class hours of appraisal-related courses taken during the last ten years, including a 15-hour Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice during the last two years.
- 4. Certified General Real Property Appraiser** – Applicant must have been an appraiser in two of the last five calendar years, with a minimum of 300 points of actual appraisal experience, which represents approximately 3000 hours. At least 150 of the 300 points of experience must be in non-residential appraisals. Applicant must provide proof of satisfactory completion of 300 in-class hours of appraisal-related courses completed during the last ten years, including a 15-hour Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice during the last two years.

## STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

PSI does not discriminate among candidates on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

## EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board administers the following Appraiser Licensing Examinations under a contract with PSI.

- Trainee
- State Licensed
- Certified Residential
- Certified General

This handbook contains general information regarding the examinations and the testing process.



## HOW THE EXAMINATION IS ADMINISTERED

The Alabama Appraiser Licensing Examinations are administered by computer at five PSI Test Centers located in Alabama. The examinations are administered by appointment only Monday through Saturday. Appointment starting times may vary by location.

Following are the Alabama Test Center locations. Specific driving directions and maps for each Test Center are available on <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap>.

- 1. Athens, Alabama**  
Athens State University  
161 North Clinton Street  
Athens, AL 35611
- 2. Birmingham, Alabama**  
PSI  
100 Centerview Dr., Suite 100  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
- 3. Cullman, Alabama**  
Wallace State Community College  
801 Main Street NW  
Bailey Bulding 11th Floor  
Hanceville, AL 35077
- 4. Daleville, Alabama**  
Southeast Community Training Center  
807 Donnell Blvd, Suite J  
Daleville, AL 36322
- 5. Huntsville, Alabama**  
PSI  
4900 University Square, Suite 4  
Huntsville, AL 35816
- 6. Huntsville, Alabama**  
Calhoun Community College  
102 Wynn Drive  
Building 1, Room 122  
Huntsville, AL 35805
- 7. Mobile, Alabama**  
PSI  
Dorsey Center  
6051-B Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36608
- 8. Mobile, Alabama**  
Tennessee Valley Training Ctr  
3100 Cottage Hill Rd., Suite 112  
Mobile, AL 36606
- 9. Montgomery, Alabama**  
PSI  
500 Interstate Park Dr., Suite 530  
Montgomery, AL 36109

## EXAMINATION FEE

Examination Fee: \$83

All examination fees may be included in one payment using credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover), certified check, cashier's check or money order made payable to PSI Services Inc. Do not send cash or personal/company checks. Examination fees are not refundable or transferable and expire in 90 days.

Credit card transactions that are declined will be subject to a \$25 handling fee. You must send a cashier's check or money order for the amount due, including the handling fee, to PSI to cover declined credit card transactions.

## APPLYING FOR AN EXAMINATION

Applicants in Alabama register for the examination by submitting an application to the Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board. Contact the Board for application forms and instructions. After you have been confirmed by the Board, there is no limit on examination attempts within your two-year eligibility period.

Eligibility for the examination does not imply eligibility for real estate appraisal licensure. Examination results are forwarded to the Board to be used as one of the criteria for determining eligibility for licensure.

## SCHEDULING AN EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT

AFTER YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR THE EXAMINATION AND RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF YOUR ELIGIBILITY FROM THE ALABAMA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD, you may register for the Appraiser Examinations by one of the following methods:

- 1. Online Scheduling:** You may schedule an examination appointment online at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap>. To use this service on our website, follow these easy steps:
  - Go to <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap> and select "Begin Scheduling."
  - Follow the simple, step-by-step instructions to choose your examination program and register for the examination. Please have your credit card available for online payment of examination fees.

OR

- 2. Telephone Scheduling:** Call PSI at 800-345-6559 to schedule an examination appointment. This toll-free number is answered from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Central Time) Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m.

to 7:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Please have your credit card available for payment of examination fees.

OR

### 3. Mail your registration form. This is a two-step process:

First, complete the registration form included in this handbook and mail it to PSI with the examination fee (paid by cashier's check or money order) to the address indicated on the form. All sections of this form must be completed. This form will be returned, if it is incomplete, illegible or submitted with an incorrect fee.

Second, call PSI at 800-345-6559 seven to ten days after your registration form is mailed to schedule an examination appointment.

If special accommodations are being requested, submit the two-page Request for Special Examination Accommodations form included in this handbook or online at [https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket\\_form\\_id=360000150872](https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872) prior to contacting PSI to schedule your examination.

When you contact PSI to schedule an appointment, please be prepared to confirm a date and location for testing and to provide your name and Social Security number. Note: Your Social Security number is required for unique identification. All individuals are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Refer to the following chart.

If you contact PSI by 3:00 p.m. Central Time on ...	Depending on availability, your examination may be scheduled beginning ...
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday/Saturday
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday

You will be notified of the time to report to the Test Center. You will only be allowed to take the examination type for which you have applied; no changes in examination type will be made at the Test Center. UNSCHEDULED CANDIDATES (WALK-INS) WILL NOT BE ADMITTED to the Test Center.

## ■Special Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities

PSI is interested in ensuring that no individual with a disability is deprived of the opportunity to take the examination solely by reason of that disability. PSI will provide reasonable accommodations for candidates with disabilities. Accordingly, the following special needs have been addressed:

1. Wheelchair access is available at all established Test Centers. Candidates must advise PSI at the time of registration that wheelchair access is necessary.
2. Candidates with visual, sensory or physical disabilities that would prevent them from taking the examination under standard conditions may request special accommodations and arrangements.

*Please inform BOTH the Board of your need for special accommodations when applying for the examination and PSI when scheduling your examination.* You must provide documentation from an appropriate professional (e.g., education professional, physician, psychologist, psychiatrist) using the two-page Request for Special Examination Accommodations form included in this handbook or submit your accommodations request online at [https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket\\_form\\_id=360000150872](https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872). If you have questions, call Candidate Services at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.

*All special accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.*

## EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT CHANGES

If you have an appointment scheduled, you may reschedule your appointment for a future date on **one occasion per examination fee paid**. If you wish to change your appointment, you may do so online at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap> or by calling PSI at 800-345-6559 **at least two business days** prior to the examination (see following table).

If your examination is scheduled on ...	You must contact PSI by 3:00 p.m. Central Time to reschedule the examination by the previous ...
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Monday
Friday/Saturday	Tuesday

## **MISSED APPOINTMENTS AND FORFEITURES**

You will forfeit the application and all fees paid to take the examination under the following circumstances.

- You wish to reschedule an examination but fail to contact PSI at least two business days prior to the scheduled examination date.
- You wish to reschedule a second time.
- You appear more than 15 minutes late for an examination.
- You fail to report for an examination appointment.
- Failure to provide appropriate identification at the time of the examination is considered a missed appointment.

A complete application and examination fee are required to reapply for the examination.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER, POWER FAILURE OR EMERGENCY**

In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen emergencies on the day of an examination, PSI will determine whether circumstances warrant the cancellation, and subsequent rescheduling, of an examination. The examination will usually not be rescheduled if the Test Center personnel are able to open the Test Center.

You may visit [www.psionline.com/openings](http://www.psionline.com/openings) prior to the examination to determine if PSI has been advised that any Test Centers are closed. Every attempt is made to administer the examination as scheduled; however, should an examination be canceled at a Test Center, all scheduled candidates will receive notification following the examination regarding rescheduling.

If power to a Test Center is temporarily interrupted during an administration, your examination will be restarted where you left off and you may continue the examination.

## **NO REFUNDS**

If you fail to arrive at the Test Center on the date and time you are scheduled for an examination, **you will not be refunded any portion of your examination fee** and must reschedule by contacting PSI; examination fees may NOT be transferred to another appointment.

If you arrive more than 15 minutes late for an appointment, you will not be admitted, you will forfeit your examination fee, and must reschedule the examination online at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap> or by contacting PSI.

## EXAMINATION CONTENT

To begin your preparation in an informed and organized manner it is important to know what to expect from the actual examination in terms of the content. Information regarding the content of the examination you will be taking is presented in the following sections.

### ■ Trainee Examination Specifications

The Trainee Appraiser examination is composed of 110 questions, including 100 scored questions plus 10 unscored pretest questions. Pretest questions are not identified and are not included in your score. The number of items for the Trainee examination within each topic is shown below.

#### Trainee Content Outline

Candidates will be given 3 hours to complete the Trainee examination. In order to pass the examination, you must receive a score of at least 75% correct.

#### Topics / Subtopics

##### I – Influences on Real Estate Value (5 Items)

- IA – Physical and Environmental
- IB – Economic
- IC – Governmental and Legal
- ID – Social

##### II – Legal Considerations in Appraisal (6 Items)

- IIA – Real Estate vs. Real Property
- IIB – Real vs. Personal Property
- IIC – Limitations on RE Ownership
- IID – Legal Rights and Interests
- IIE – Forms of Property Ownership
- IIF – Legal Descriptions
- IIG – Transfer of Title

##### III – Types of Value (5 Items)

- IIIA – Market Value, Value in Exchange
- IIIB – Price
- IIIC – Cost
- IIID – Investment Value
- IIIE – Value in Use
- IIIF – Assessed Value
- IIIG – Insurable Value

##### IV – Economic Principles (5 Items)

- IVA – Anticipation
- IVB – Balance
- IVC – Change
- IVD – Competition
- IVE – Conformity – Progression/Regression
- IVF – Contribution

IVG – Increasing/Decreasing Returns

IVH – Substitution

IVI – Supply and Demand

IVJ – Surplus Productivity

##### V – Real Estate Markets and Analysis (5 Items)

- VA – Characteristics of RE Markets
- VB – Absorption Analysis
- VC – Role of Money, Capital Mkts
- VD – Real Estate Financing

##### VI – Valuation Process (12 Items)

- VIA – Definition of the Problem
- VIB – Scope of Work
- VIC – Collection and Analysis of Data
- VID – HBU Analysis
- VIE – App and Limitations of Each Approach
- VIF – Reconciliation, Final Value Opinion

##### VII – Property Description (9 Items)

- VIIA – Site Description
- VIIIB – Improvement Description
- VIIIC – Basic Construction and Design

##### VIII – Highest and Best Use Analysis (8 Items)

- VIIIA – Four Tests
- VIIIB – Vacant Site or As If Vacant
- VIIIC – As Improved
- VIIID – Interim Use

##### IX – Appraisal Statistical Concepts (5 Items)

- IXA – Mean
- IXB – Median
- IXC – Mode
- IXD – Range
- IXE – Standard Deviation

##### X – Approaches to Value (28 Items)

- XA – Cost Approach
- XB – Income Approach
- XC – Sales Comparison Approach
- XD – Site Value

##### XI – USPAP (12 Items)





## ■ State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General Specifications

The examination specifications and the detailed examination content outline have been established by the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB). The authority for the AQB to set standards and approve examination content was established by Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.

The State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General examinations are composed of 125 questions. In addition to the 110 questions that are used to determine your score, the examinations may contain up to 15 questions that are being pretested for use in future versions of the examination. Pretest questions are not identified and are not included in your score. The percentage of questions for the State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General Real Estate Appraiser examinations within each category are shown in the following content outline.

## State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General Content Outline

The State Licensed, Certified Residential and Certified General examinations are based upon 10 major content areas. Although the topics of the major content areas are the same for all examinations, the emphasis devoted to the content areas differs in each examination. Each of the content areas is briefly described below. In addition, the percentage of questions devoted to each of the examinations is indicated for each major content area.

Content Area Description	LR	CR	CG
<b>1. Real Estate Market</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>18%</b>
A. Types of influences on real estate value			
B. Types of government power			
C. Types of real estate value			
D. Date of value premise			
E. Market analysis			
F. Investment analysis			
G. Tests of highest and best use			
H. Analysis of highest and best use			
<b>2. Property Description</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>11%</b>
A. Description of land or site			
B. Description of improvements and building components			
C. Legal interest			
D. Rights to use			
E. Property taxation			
<b>3. Land or Site Valuation</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>
A. Land or site valuation methods			

Content Area Description	LR	CR	CG
<b>4. Sales Comparison Approach</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>13%</b>
A. Identification of comparable sales			
B. Units of comparison			
C. Elements of comparison			
D. Quantitative adjustments			
E. Qualitative adjustments			
F. Reconciliation to indicated value by the sales comparison approach			
<b>5. Cost Approach</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>11%</b>
A. Sources of cost information			
B. Cost components			
C. Depreciation			
D. Methods of estimating depreciation			
E. Reconciliation to indicated value by the cost approach			
<b>6. Income Approach</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>18%</b>
A. Sources of income generation			
B. Occupancy / vacancy analysis			
C. Expenses			
D. Capitalization			
E. Estimation of value using income approach			
F. Reconciliation to indicated value by the income approach			
<b>7. Reconciliation of Value Indications</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>
A. Reconciliation of approaches to value			
<b>8. Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>17%</b>
A. Definitions and preamble			
B. Ethics rule			
C. Record keeping rule			
D. Competency rule			
E. Scope of work rule			
F. Jurisdictional exception rule			
G. Standard 1			
H. Standard 2			
I. Standard 3			
J. Standard 4			
K. USPAP advisory opinions and FAQs			
L. Extraordinary assumption			
M. Hypothetical condition			
<b>9. Emerging Appraisal Methods</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>
A. Application of online property information database and technological tools			
B. Appropriate use and limitations of the hybrid/bifurcated appraisal method			
C. Use and limitations of automated valuation models			
<b>10. Appraisal Statistical Methods</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>
A. Statistical measures of central tendency			
B. Statistical measures of variation			
C. Inferential statistical techniques used in appraising			

## ■ Sample Questions

The following illustrate the type of questions used in the examinations. These sample questions do not represent the full range of content or difficulty levels contained in the examinations. They are intended to help you become familiar with the types and format of questions on the examination. Read each question and decide which answer is best. You may then check your answers with the answer key that follows.

1. The subject property is a 10,000 sf office building encumbered by a full-service lease with a contract base rent of \$1.25 per sf monthly. Stabilized vacancy/credit loss allowance for similar properties within the market area is 7% of PGI. The operating expense ratio for similar properties is 30% of EGI, plus reserves for replacement of \$0.15 per sf. Based on these facts, what is the projected net operating income?

- A. \$97,650
- B. \$93,000
- C. \$96,150
- D. \$94,500

2. The assignment is a warehouse located in an industrial park. The client requires the cost approach be completed. There are no vacant land comparables in the market area. There are 3 sales of commercial buildings in the industrial park with similar lots that the appraiser has researched extensively. The appraiser found the following information:

Sale 1 sold for \$1,750,000. The buyer allocated 20% of the value to the site and 80% to the value of the structure.

Sale 2 sold for \$1,000,000. The buyer was not available for verification, but the seller was available. The seller had just built the structure after holding the lot for 10 years as an investment property. He paid \$100,000 for the lot and had earned 25% straight line annual return on his investment over the cost of the structure and its entrepreneurial profit.

Sale 3 sold for \$3,500,000. The buyer estimated that 90% of what he paid was for the structure.

What is the indicated value of the lot using the allocation approach?

- A. \$350,000
- B. \$500,000
- C. \$135,000
- D. \$125,000

3. During the research of a subject property an appraiser learns the occupants (parents) have been granted a life estate by their children. What interest do the children hold in the property?

- A. Remainderman
- B. Life tenant
- C. Trustee
- D. Trustor

4. A homeowner purchased two adjacent lots in a tract subdivision 20 years ago and built a single-unit residence entirely on one lot, utilizing the second lot as a side yard. The homeowner has decided to build a smaller home on the vacant side lot and retain the existing home as a rental. What term applies to the second yard?

- A. Surplus land
- B. Vacant site
- C. Excess land
- D. Underutilized site

5. The subject assignment is to appraise a 1880s vintage house using the cost approach. The house has metal stamped ceilings, lath and plaster walls, which are items not easily available in today's construction. The estimated replacement cost using modern materials is \$120 per sf. Contractors charge \$15 more per sf to work on older houses. The estimated reproduction cost is \$185 per sf. What is the estimated loss in utility?

- A. \$65 per sf
- B. \$33 per sf
- C. \$80 per sf
- D. \$15 per sf

6. While working on an appraisal of a residential property in a new home subdivision, the appraiser finds that the builders have a total of 100 home sites currently offered for sale. In measuring market demand the appraiser notes that all of the builders are currently averaging 2 new sales contracts per month (combined), and are expecting to sell 24 homes within the next year. What conclusion could be drawn with regard to the 100 available home sites and a market period of the next 12 months?

- A. The market is in a condition of supply and demand.
- B. The market is in a condition of balance.
- C. The market is in a condition of oversupply.
- D. The market is in a condition of undersupply.

### Answers

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. C | 4. C |
| 2. A | 5. A |
| 3. A | 6. C |

## **TAKING THE EXAMINATION**

Your examination will be given by computer at a PSI Test Center. You do not need any computer experience or typing skills to take your examination. On the day of your examination appointment, report to the Test Center 30 minutes before your scheduled examination time. Look for signs indicating PSI Test Center Check-in. **IF YOU ARRIVE MORE THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION TIME, YOU WILL NOT BE ADMITTED.**

### **■ Identification**

To gain admission to the Test Center, you must present two forms of identification. The primary form must be government issued, current and include your name, signature and photograph. No form of temporary identification will be accepted. You will also be required to sign a roster for verification of identity.

- Examples of valid primary forms of identification are: driver's license with photograph; state identification card with photograph; passport; military identification card with photograph.
- The secondary form of identification must display your name and signature for signature verification (e.g., credit card with signature, social security card with signature, employment/student ID card with signature).
- If your name on your registration is different than it appears on your identification, you must bring proof of your name change (e.g., marriage license, divorce decree or court order).

## **RULES FOR THE EXAMINATION**

### **■ Security**

PSI administration and security standards are designed to ensure all candidates are provided the same opportunity to demonstrate their abilities. The Test Center is continuously monitored by audio and video surveillance equipment for security purposes.

The following security procedures apply during the examination:

- Examinations are proprietary. No cameras, notes, tape recorders, pagers or cellular/smart phones are allowed in the testing room. Possession of a cellular/smart phone or other electronic devices is strictly prohibited and will result in dismissal from the examination.
- Only silent, non-programmable calculators without alpha keys or printing capabilities are allowed in the testing room.
- No guests, visitors or family members are allowed in the testing room or reception areas.

### **■ Personal Belongings**

No personal items, valuables or weapons should be brought to the Test Center. Only wallets and keys are permitted. Large coats and jackets must be left outside the testing room. You will be provided a soft locker to store your wallet and/or keys with you in the testing room. You will not have access to these items until after the examination is completed. Please note the following items will not be allowed in the testing room except securely locked in the soft locker.

- watches
- hats
- wallets
- keys

Once you have placed your personal belongings into the soft locker, you will be asked to pull out your pockets to ensure they are empty. If you bring personal items that will not fit in the soft locker, you will not be able to test. The site will not store or be responsible for your personal belongings.

If any personal items are observed or heard (i.e., cellular/smart phones, alarms) in the testing room after the examination is started, you will be dismissed and the administration will be forfeited.

### **■ Examination Restrictions**

- Pencils will be provided during check-in.
- You will be provided with five pieces of scratch paper at a time to use during the examination, unless noted on the sign-in roster for a particular candidate. You must return the scratch paper to the supervisor at the completion of testing, or you will not receive your score report.
- No documents or notes of any kind may be removed from the Test Center.
- No questions concerning the content of the examination may be asked during the examination.
- Eating, drinking or smoking will not be permitted in the Test Center.
- You may take a break whenever you wish, but you will not be allowed additional time to make up for time lost during breaks.

## ■ Misconduct

If you engage in any of the following conduct during the examination you may be dismissed, your scores will not be reported and examination fees will not be refunded. Examples of misconduct are when you:

- create a disturbance, are abusive, or otherwise uncooperative;
- display and/or use electronic communications equipment such as pagers, cellular/smart phones;
- talk or participate in conversation with other examination candidates;
- give or receive help or are suspected of doing so;
- leave the Test Center during the administration;
- attempt to record examination questions or make notes;
- attempt to take the examination for someone else;
- are observed with personal belongings, or
- are observed with notes, books or other aids without it being noted on the roster.

## ■ Copyrighted Examination Questions

All examination questions are the copyrighted property of PSI (for the Trainee examination) or AQB. It is forbidden under federal copyright law to copy, reproduce, record, distribute or display these examination questions by any means, in whole or in part. Doing so may subject you to severe civil and criminal penalties.

## ■ Computer Login

After your identification has been confirmed, you will be directed to a testing carrel. You will be instructed on-screen to enter your Social Security number. Your photograph, taken before beginning the examination, will remain on-screen throughout your examination session. This photograph will also print on your score report.

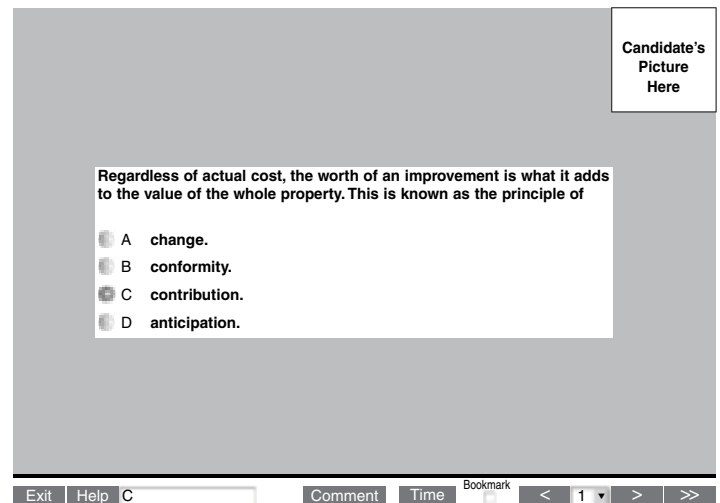
## ■ Practice Examination

Prior to attempting the examination, you will be given the opportunity to practice taking an examination on the computer. The time you use for this practice examination is NOT counted as part of your examination time or score. When you are comfortable with the computer testing process, you may quit the practice session and begin the timed examination.

## ■ Timed Examination

Following the practice examination, you will begin the actual examination. Before beginning, instructions for taking the examination will be provided on-screen. The following time limits will be in effect for each examination.

Examination	Time Allotted
Trainee	3 hours
State Licensed Appraiser	4 hours
Certified Residential Appraiser	4 hours
Certified General Appraiser	6 hours



Candidate's Picture Here

Regardless of actual cost, the worth of an improvement is what it adds to the value of the whole property. This is known as the principle of

☐ A change.

☐ B conformity.

☐ C contribution.

☐ D anticipation.

Exit Help C Comment Time Bookmark < 1 > >>

The computer monitors the time you spend on the examination. The examination will terminate if you exceed the time allowed. You may click on the Time box in the lower right portion of the screen to monitor your time. A digital clock indicates the time remaining for you to complete the examination. The Time feature may be turned off during the examination.

Only one examination question is presented at a time. The question number appears in the lower right portion of the screen. Choices of answers to the examination questions are identified as A, B, C, or D. You must indicate your choice by either typing in the letter in the response box in the lower left portion of the computer screen or clicking in the option using the mouse. To change your answer, enter a different option by typing A, B, C, or D or by clicking on the option using the mouse. You may change your answer as many times as you wish during the testing time limit.

To move to the next question, click on the forward arrow (>) in the lower right portion of the screen. This action will move you forward through the examination question by question. If you wish to review any question, click the backward arrow (<) or use the left arrow key to move backward through the examination.

An examination question may be left unanswered for return later in the testing session. Questions may also be bookmarked for later review by clicking in the blank square to the right of the Time button. Click on the double arrows (>>) to advance to the next unanswered or bookmarked question on the examination. To identify all unanswered and bookmarked questions, repeatedly click on the double arrows (>>). When the examination is completed, the number of examination questions answered is reported. If not all questions have been answered and there is time remaining, return to the examination and answer those questions. Be sure to provide an answer for each examination question before ending the examination. There is no penalty for guessing.

### ■ Candidate Comments

During the examination, you may make comments for any question by clicking on the Comment button to the left of the Time button. This opens a dialogue box where comments may be entered. Comments will be reviewed, but individual responses will not be provided. You will not be given additional time to provide comments.

## FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION

After completing the examination, you are asked to provide responses to a short evaluation of your examination experience. Then, you are instructed to report to the proctor to receive your instant score report. Scores are reported in printed form only, in person or by U.S. mail. Please do not call PSI or the Appraiser Qualifications Board for score information; scores are not reported by telephone, electronic mail or facsimile.

### ■ Your Score Report

The passing score reflects the amount of knowledge that the Appraisal Qualifications Board (AQB) has determined to be appropriate. A criterion-referenced, standard-setting procedure involving expert judgment was used by the AQB to evaluate each question on the entire examination in order to identify an appropriate passing point. Your ability to pass the examination depends on the amount of knowledge that you display, and not on the performance of the other individuals taking the examination.

While the Examination Content Outlines were recently updated, the scaled passing score remains the same at 75 or higher. Scaled scores can range from 0 to 110, with 75 and up representing passing scores.

Scores are reported to candidates as scaled scores. The scaled scores are computed from raw scores. Raw scores, or percentage scores, are the actual number of questions answered correctly. Raw scores are mathematically converted to scaled scores to maintain a consistency in the meaning of scores, regardless of when the examination was taken or the difficulty of the examination form.

Examinations change over time. Each examination form may vary in difficulty, with one examination form easier or more difficult than other examination forms. However, when converting raw scores to scaled scores, it should not make a difference whether candidates take an easier or more difficult examination form. With the mathematical adjustment, the scaled score accounts for differences by adjusting the scores up or down depending on the difficulty of examination forms. When these adjustments are made, the effect is to produce an unbiased and consistent passing standard that does not change from one examination form to another.

As new forms of the examination are introduced, a certain number of questions in each content area are replaced by new questions. Questions are selected for inclusion on an examination form to ensure that it exactly matches the detailed content outline. The goal of this procedure is to ensure fairness to all candidates.

### ■ If You Pass the Examination

If you pass the examination, the score report will indicate that the examination has been passed. To obtain your license, follow the instructions in the following LICENSURE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS section.

### ■ If You Fail the Examination

If you fail the examination, you will receive a diagnostic score report showing your score. Your score report will also show scores on major content areas of the examination.

To reregister for the examination, visit <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/alrap>, call PSI at 800-345-6559 or submit a new completed registration form (if payment is made by certified check, cashier's check or money order). There is no limit to the number of times you may take the examination within your two-year eligibility period.





## ■ Licensure Application Instructions

The licensure process cannot begin until you have passed the examination and received a passing score report from PSI. To obtain your license, submit the original score report verifying that you have passed the examination to the Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board, P.O. Box 304355, Montgomery, AL, 36130-4355.

## ■ Duplicate Score Report

You may purchase additional copies of your score report at a cost of \$15 per copy. Requests must be submitted to PSI, in writing, within one year after the examination and include the required fee payable to PSI Services Inc. (see form on page 19). The written request should include your name, Social Security number, mailing address, daytime phone, examination taken, examination date, Test Center and your signature. Duplicate score reports will be processed and mailed within approximately five business days following receipt of the request.

# ALABAMA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS EXAMINATION REGISTRATION FORM

## Instructions for Completing the Examination Registration Form

The numbered items correspond to the numbered blanks on the registration form (next page). **Please type or print all information in ink.**

1. NAME: Enter your last name, first name and middle initial exactly as they appear on your driver's license. Do not use nicknames. NOTE: If your examination registration does not match your official form of identification provided at the Test Center, you will not be admitted to the examination.
2. MAILING ADDRESS: Abbreviate words like street, drive or road, and enter the zip code.
3. TELEPHONE NUMBER: Please provide a telephone number at which you may be reached during normal business hours Monday through Friday. This number will be used by PSI only in the event the registration form has been incorrectly completed or if there should be a last minute change in the Test Center location. In addition, please provide your email address.
4. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: Enter your Social Security number. **Your Social Security number will be used as the identification number for this examination. Registration cannot be processed without it.**
5. BIRTH DATE: Enter the month, day and year of your birth.
6. TYPE OF EXAMINATION TYPE: Choose the appropriate box.
7. EXAMINATION FEE: The examination fee is \$83. This fee must be submitted with the registration form, unless payment is made by credit card. Cashier's checks, money orders and certified checks should be made payable to PSI Services Inc.
8. SIGNATURE AND DATE: You must read the statement and sign your legal name as it would appear on a check or business letter.

1. NAME			
	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

**6. BIRTH DATE**

\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please complete this information online and provide the Documentation of Disability-Related Needs on the next page at least 45 days prior to your requested examination date. The information you provide and any documentation regarding your disability and your need for accommodation in testing will be treated with strict confidentiality.

### Candidate Information

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_ Requested Test Center: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial, Former Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Telephone Number

### Special Accommodations

I request special accommodations for the \_\_\_\_\_ examination.

Please provide (check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Reader

\_\_\_\_\_ Extended testing time (time and a half)

\_\_\_\_\_ Reduced distraction environment

\_\_\_\_\_ Please specify below if other special accommodations are needed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE READ AND SIGN:

I give my permission for my diagnosing professional to discuss with PSI staff my records and history as they relate to the requested accommodation.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to:**

**PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543; Fax 913-895-4650**

**or submit your accommodations request online at:**

**[https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket\\_form\\_id=360000150872](https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872)**

**If you have questions, call Candidate Services at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.**







## DOCUMENTATION OF DISABILITY-RELATED NEEDS

Please have this section completed by an appropriate professional (education professional, physician, psychologist, psychiatrist) to ensure that PSI is able to provide the required examination accommodations.

### Professional Documentation

I have known \_\_\_\_\_ since \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ in my capacity as a

Candidate Name

Date

\_\_\_\_\_.

Professional Title

The candidate discussed with me the nature of the examination to be administered. It is my opinion that, because of this candidate's disability described below, he/she should be accommodated by providing the special arrangements listed on the Request for Special Examination Accommodations form.

Description of Disability: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ License # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to:**

**PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543**

**or submit this form with your accommodations request online at:**

**[https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket\\_form\\_id=360000150872](https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872)**

**If you have questions, call Candidate Services at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.**



## DUPLICATE SCORE REPORT REQUEST FORM FOR ALABAMA REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

**DIRECTIONS:** Use this form to request a duplicate score report. Complete all requested information. This form must be received within one year of the examination date and include a cashier's check or money order payable to PSI Services Inc. for \$15 per copy. Duplicate score reports will be processed and mailed within approximately five business days following receipt of the request.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Examination Taken: ☐ Trainee ☐ State Licensed ☐ Certified Residential ☐ Certified General

Examination Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Test Center: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize PSI to send me a duplicate of my examination results.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PSI  
18000 W. 105th St.  
Olathe, KS 66061  
800-345-6559









18000 W. 105th St.  
Olathe, KS 66061-7543  
800-345-6559  
Fax: 913-895-4651

