COMT ONLINE TESTS
FAQs —Frequently Asked Questions
(**Rev. 10/16/2023**)

1.   What are the NAIOMT Online Tests?

There is an online test associated with each COMT course and must be completed as part of the NAIOMT COMT certification process. They test are:

COMT-1: Lumbar Spine (previously C-611 Lumbopelvic Spine II)
COMT-2: Cervical Spine (previously C-616 Cervical Spine II)
COMT-3: Thoracic Spine (previously C-613 Thoracic Spine)
COMT-4: Upper Extremity (previously C-626 Upper Extremity)
COMT-5: Lower Extremity (previously C-621 Lower Extremity)

2. Does NAIOMT COMT Certification include these tests?

YES. Prior to the application for **NAIOMT COMT certification** (Certified Orthopedic Musculoskeletal Therapist – COMT), the candidate must be a <u>licensed physical therapist</u> and have **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL** the following course and test requirements:

    a. NAIOMT COMT courses: COMT-1, COMT-2, COMT-3, COMT-4, COMT-5 (or equivalents)
    b. The online (Thinkific™) components of each of the courses.
    c. NAIOMT "formal" online tests following NAIOMT COMT courses (or equivalents)
    d. NAIOMT COMT oral-practical examination.

3. I took online tests/exams prior to January 2023; do I have to retake them?

No, previously taken successful online tests will be carried forward and you will not have to repeat the test(s). For example, if you completed the 500 and 600 level online tests, you are credited the equivalent. The table outlines the equivalencies.

Online test *PRE* 1/1/2023	Equivalent Online tests *POST* 1/1/2023
C-511/C-611	COMT-1
C-516/C-616	COMT-2
C-613	COMT-3
C-626	COMT-4
C-621	COMT-5

4. Are they mandatory?

No, for those taking a NAIOMT course as a stand-alone continuing education experience you are not required to take the tests, however some employers require test completion before reimbursing course fees. Also, beginning in 2016, <u>the test fees are included in the course fee</u>, so as you have already paid for it – go ahead and register and take it!
The tests are a mandatory part of the NAIOMT COMT certification (Certified Orthopedic Musculoskeletal Therapist – COMT).

5. Who is eligible to take the tests?

Test registration is open to those who have been admitted to the NAIOMT courses, typically licensed physical therapists. It is recommended that a course be completed before taking the associated test. The COMT <u>courses and tests</u> are open to physical therapy students.

6. How often are the tests offered and what is the cost?

The tests are offered 12 times per year on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month. Effective 1/1/16, <u>the test fees are included in the course fee</u>.

7. What times are the tests available?

Tests are available online on the dates scheduled from very early morning on Saturday until late evening on Sunday, 3:00 am Saturday to 8.55 pm Sunday *Pacific Time*. Available access to test(s) is 30 hours.

8. How long will I have for each online test?

From the time you log on to the test, you will have a total of **70 minutes**, which includes a 10-minute orientation to the site and test. Pace yourself to complete all the questions within the time frame. Allow 5-15 minutes at the end for review and time to click the "**SUBMIT MY FINAL ANSWERS**." If you wait until after 70 minutes has elapsed before submitting your answers, your test may be lost and NAIOMT has no way to retrieve it.

9. Can I start the test and then return later?

No, once you log on you cannot leave and return. You must complete the test in the next 70 minutes or less.

10. How many and what types of questions?

A test will have 50 questions, each worth one mark. The questions are multiple-choice, true-false or mix-and-match.

11. What is the pass mark?

70% is the pass mark for each exam. A score below 70% will be a no-pass. Attempt to answer all questions; if unsure it is recommended you guess rather than leave the question unanswered.

12. Can I take more than one online tests on one weekend?

Yes. You may take any combination of the tests. All tests may be taken in one Saturday-Sunday weekend or just one or two may be taken. You can take the same test twice in one weekend if needed.

13. Do I need to take them in numerical order?

The five online tests may be taken in any order. Ideally, you take the test very soon after taking the class.

14. Do I need a proctor?

No, proctors are no longer required for NAIOMT tests. See also "Candidate Responsibilities" (Q24 below).

15. Are all on-line tests "Open Book"?

Yes, all online tests are "open book". See also "Candidate Responsibilities" (Q24 below).

16. What will the test look like?

NAIOMT uses Proprofs™ for its online tests. There is one question per page and you will be able to navigate back and forth between questions as well as marking questions for later review to return to later. Questions are arranged randomly, so questions from one topic will not be in succession.
Be sure to allow time at the end for review and to click the box to state you are finished to ALLOW TIME FOR THE TEST TO BE UPLOADED AND SAVED. (See Candidate Responsibilities Q22, below)

17. What is the scope of each online test?

The scope of each online test will be the syllabus of each course.

The scope of the test will be the application and clinical reasoning of the "same number" course syllabus, which includes: material taught in the course in person, in the **on-line study** (Thinkific®), in the course specific **Course Manual** and the Instructor's own **course materials** and supplementary materials and instructor-recommended independent study

18. What is the best study resource for the tests?

    a. NAIOMT is continually updating and improving the Course Manuals for each course. Faculty are utilizing this "central source" to ensure consistency of the material taught in the course.

    b. The instructors however have the freedom to teach with the favorite style and course handout supporting materials, which will also be available electronically before and on the course.

    c. Prior to the course and you will have links to all materials. The link to the Course Manual will always give you access to the latest version of the Course Manual.

    d. The **on-line part** of the course (Thinkific®), will also provide interpretations and clinical application of key materials. The on-line study is only available for a total of 6 weeks for each course.

19. Are sample online test questions available?

Yes, sample questions are available in the "**Guide to Online Test and Sample Questions**" document available on the NAIOMT website. NAIOMT will use a few "null or negative" questions. (i.e. which of the following would rule out the --- , the clinical reasoning would select all of the following, EXCEPT…)

20. What are the exam topic categories?

For each test, **50** questions in MC & TF formats in these categories:

1. Applied sciences
2. Scanning examination interpretation
3. Patho-anatomical pattern recognition
4. Dysfunction assessment
5. OMPT Treatment plan, risks, indications & contraindications and prognosis

OMPT = orthopaedic manual physical therapy

21. How do I register?

Online registration is available on the **Certification page** on the NAIOMT website.
There is a registration deadline before the test weekend, after which registration is CLOSED and the candidate will need to wait until a subsequent month to register. Registration closes at 11:59pm Pacific Time the Wednesday before the test weekend.

22. Is there any accommodation for special needs?

Yes. If you require language or medical special considerations when taking the test(s), please contact the exam coordinator at least 2 weeks prior to the test so accommodations can be arranged.
exams@naiomt.com

23. What are the candidate's responsibilities?

1. Use your private email address to register for the online tests and exams. Many workplace servers block external incoming email, so the NAIOMT responses may be blocked. Also, refrain from using multiple different email addresses to avoid missing communications from NAIOMT.
2. Make sure that you have allowed your Internet server to accept emails from any emails with the @naiomt.com domain.
3. Upon completion of your online registration you will receive a registration confirmation for the test(s).
4. On the Thursday prior to the test weekend, you will receive an email with the links to the test(s) for which you have registered. This email also includes detailed information on how to access your test. Please read and follow these instructions very carefully and SAVE THE EMAIL with the links to your tests.
5. The test links are NOT to be shared under ANY circumstance.
6. The candidate is responsible for checking their emails for instructions and correspondence regarding the tests.
7. If the candidate does not receive the confirmation email with the test instructions and links, they are responsible to contact NAIOMT's Administrative Coordinator at, exams@naiomt.com.
8. It is the responsibility of the candidate to contact NAIOMT's Administrative Coordinator if their email address has changed since they registered.
9. The candidate insures they are taking the test for which they registered on the designated test date. Test questions cannot to be accessed prior to the designated test date or outside of the Saturday-Sunday test timeframe (unless by special arrangement).
10. Taking the test on another date or taking a different test than the one registered to take will result in the test being forfeited and may void eligibility to take further examinations with NAIOMT Inc.
11. Be sure to take the test in a location where there is a low risk of losing your internet connection. An unreliable WIFI connection is not recommended. If you lose the connection, it is likely you will not have saved your questions and you cannot login a 2nd time.
12. Allow 5-15 minutes at the end for review and time to click "**SUBMIT MY FINAL ANSWERS**." If you wait until after 70 minutes has elapsed, your test may be lost and NAIOMT has no way to retrieve it.

24. What rules are required during the taking of the NAIOMT test?

1. You will not consult with another person during the test.
2. You will not share the link to the test.
3. You will make no printed or hand written copies of the questions.
4. You will not share the questions with others.

Failing to follow these rules and/or academic dishonesty will result in forfeiting this and any other test results completed with NAIOMT.

25. What do I do on the test day?

1. You will have previously received an email confirmation with a link to the test(s). (Refer to the section "Candidate Responsibilities" above).
2. Make sure you have a reliable Internet/WIFI connection
3. On the test date, the candidate will type in identifying information and when ready will begin the test.

4. Candidates have up to 2 attempts in one testing weekend to pass the test. If you no-pass on the second attempt you must re-register to take the test on another online test weekend.
5. Once you begin the test, you CANNOT STOP AND RESTART.

26. What if I experience computer problems during the test?

1. There is no technical assistance the day of the test
2. Be sure to check the link to the test at least 48 hours prior to the Saturday of the test, and inform the Administrative Coordinator if there are any problems. **exams@naiomt.com**
3. Do the test where the Internet connection is reliable. If Wi-Fi drops you, your test answers may be lost. It is preferable to use a consistent permanent connection rather than Wi-Fi.
4. If you have difficulties during the test, contact the Examinations and Credentialing Manager by emailing exams@naiomt.com explaining that you experienced some technical difficulties. NAIOMT will get back to you early the following week.

27. Will I get the results immediately?

YES! As soon as you have finished the test and have hit the "SUBMIT" icon, you will see a screen that will say "PASS or "FAIL."
We do not provide the pass mark or the scores for each topic section.
There is no academic appeal of the test results; the results are final.

28. How do I access the PASS certificate?

a. As of 1/1/17, the testing organization (ProProfs®) will immediately send you an email with a link to the certificate of completion. Please download and save it.
b. If you are pursuing NAIOMT COMT certification, you will need to collect and save 5 test certificates, one for each COMT course.

29. What if I do not pass?

NAIOMT 500 and 600-level written tests have an average of a 5% no pass rate. No-passes can occur when the candidate does not answer all the questions, misreads the questions or comes unprepared. NAIOMT uses a few "null" or "negative questions, so watch for the words "except, not, etc.
There is no limit on the number of retakes and no time limit to the retakes. To retake the test, you will need to register for a subsequent test.

THANK YOU FOR REVIEWING THESE ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

GOOD LUCK IN YOUR TESTS!