

4A:4-2.9 Make-up examinations

(a) Make-up examinations, except for professional level engineering promotional examinations under (b) below and public safety open competitive and promotional examinations under (c) below, may be authorized for the following reasons:

1. Error by the Civil Service Commission or appointing authority;
2. Serious illness or disability of the candidate on the test date, provided the candidate submits a doctor's certificate specifying that the candidate was not able to take the test on that day for medical reasons;
3. Documented serious illness or death in the candidate's immediate family;
4. Natural disaster;
5. Prior vacation or travel plans outside of New Jersey or any contiguous state, which cannot be reasonably changed, as evidenced by a sworn statement and relevant documentation;
6. When required for certain persons returning from military service (see N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A); and
7. Other valid reasons.

(b) For professional level engineering promotional examinations, make-up examinations may be authorized only in cases of:

1. Debilitating injury or illness requiring an extended convalescent period, provided the candidate submits a doctor's certification containing a diagnosis and a statement clearly showing that the candidate's physical condition precluded his or her participation in the examination;
2. Death in the candidate's immediate family as evidenced by a copy of the death certificate;
3. A candidate's wedding which cannot be reasonably changed as evidenced by relevant documentation;
4. When required for certain persons returning from military service (see N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A); or
5. Error by the Civil Service Commission or appointing authority.

(c) For police, fire, correction officer, sheriff's officer, juvenile detention officer, and other public safety open competitive and promotional examinations, make-ups may be authorized only in cases of:

1. Death in the candidate's immediate family;
2. Error by the Civil Service Commission or the appointing authority;
3. When required for certain persons returning from military service (see N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A); or
4. A catastrophic health condition or injury, which shall be defined as either:
 - i. A life-threatening condition or combination of conditions; or

ii. A period of disability required by the candidate's mental or physical health or the health of the candidate's fetus which requires the care of a physician who provides a medical verification of the need for the candidate's absence from work for 60 or more work days.

(d) Subject to applicable provisions in N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A, employees returning from military leave shall have an opportunity to take promotional examinations that have not yet been administered, or make-up examinations for active promotional lists for which they were eligible while on military leave. If the eligible passes the examination, his or her name will be placed on the eligible list, for prospective appointment only, based upon the score obtained, as if the examination had been taken when originally held, except that in the case of certain persons returning from military service, applicable provisions of N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A shall govern placement on an eligible list.

(e) Employees who have been removed for disciplinary reasons or indefinitely suspended pending criminal charges, and are thereafter exonerated, shall have an opportunity to take promotional examinations that have not yet been administered, or make-up examinations for active promotional lists, if the suspension or removal resulted in the employee's non-participation in the promotional examination.

(f) Except as provided in N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A, a candidate must request, in writing, a make-up examination, within five days after the examination date due to one of the valid reasons set forth in (a), (b), or (c) above, as applicable. However, a candidate must submit a written request for a make-up examination within five days of receipt of the examination notice in case of one of the valid reasons set forth in (a), (b), or (c) above, as applicable, of which a candidate is aware upon receipt of the examination notice, except that the candidate shall follow the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A, where applicable.

(g) Make-up examinations will be administered to the extent possible under the same conditions as the original examination but, in the case of public safety examinations under (c) above, shall be different in content from the original examination.

(h) The name of any candidate passing a make-up examination will be added to the eligible list. Except for error by the Civil Service Commission or appointing authority, prior appointments from the eligible list will not be affected by the addition of a name to the list.

(i) All candidates taking make-up examinations, except physical performance examination, shall, as a precondition to taking the make-up examination, be required to sign a statement that they have no knowledge of the content of the examination as a result of information gained from or furnished by other candidates who participated in the original examination, or third parties, provided that:

1. In the case of open competitive and promotional public safety examinations referred to in (c) above, candidates shall sign an additional statement accepting the make-up examination as a substitute for the original examination, provided, however, that signing this statement shall not preclude the candidate from challenging the validity of the make-up examination's items, the scoring of the make-up or the make-up test conditions. See N.J.A.C. 4A:4-6.3 and 6.4.

(j) In extraordinary circumstances, such as an examination that requires a multiple assessment of a candidate which results in a group consensus rating by a panel of experts, a make-up examination shall not be held. In such cases, candidates will be so notified at least 45 days prior to the date of the examination. The only exceptions will be documented error on the part of the Civil Service Commission or appointing authority, in which case a make-up may be granted if practicable, or where N.J.A.C. 4A:4-4.6A applies in the case of certain persons returning from military service.