

## How will my exam be graded?

The B Reader exam has been developed and validated by more than 15 experts in the ILO Classification from around the country through a partnership between the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the American College of Radiology. Lessons learned and feedback received during the previous 40+ years of administering the B Reader Training and Examination Program informed the design and approach of this completely digital examination.

You will be tested on five domains. You must pass each of the domains to earn a passing score on the examination. The five domains include:

- (1) assigning a quality score (readable vs. unreadable)
- (2) determining the presence or absence of small opacities (e.g. is a radiograph abnormal or normal?) and when present, assigning a small opacity profusion score
- (3) identifying large opacities when they are present
- (4) identifying pleural abnormalities (e.g. the presence [and side] of costophrenic angle obliteration and the presence of pleural plaques [and the side])
- (5) multiple choice questions covering material in the self-study syllabus

Correct classifications/answers were assigned to each of the domains based upon the responses that a majority of the experts indicated when independently classifying the radiographs. For example, for an individual radiograph there may be a range of accepted “correct” small opacity profusion subcategories based upon the range of expert responses. Additionally, because it is very important to determine when a film is of too poor quality to classify, there are Quality 4 or Unreadable quality films in this exam.

NIOSH recommends that you familiarize yourself with the B Viewer software and use the new study syllabus and accompanying images to learn the material and study for the examination.