



GUIDANCE

Covid-19 Guidance from the Committee on Test Standards

VERIFICATIONS

For verifications, this should be very much business as usual. Assessors, whether new or applying for re-verification, should follow all current procedures. The only change they will notice is that the verification meetings will be carried out as virtual meetings rather than face-to-face. Whilst this may be new for some Assessors, the Verifiers already have experience of successfully conducting meetings in this way.

TRAINING

As all of the BPS Test User standards are competence based, the focus has always been on the 'output' – how delegates demonstrate their competence – rather than the 'input' or how training is delivered or knowledge and skills acquired.

Over the years we have seen an increasing number of Verified Assessors moving to blended or distance learning courses, therefore many training providers may find themselves already prepared to deliver courses with limited or no face-to-face contact with delegates.

For training providers considering moving from face-to-face training, we would offer the following advice:

The BPS wishes to support training providers who are making changes to enable the continued delivery of their training courses at these challenging times.

Verified Assessors are able to move the delivery of their training courses online or can conduct training via video-conference facilities, without needing to seek re-verification or informing the Society of this change.

As verification focuses on the assessment of competence through an Assessors' assessment materials, it is important that delegates still complete all assessment materials.

If delegates are completing these unsupervised, Assessors may need to pay more attention to ensuring the validity of the assessments and that the work is the delegate's original work.

Practical elements of the course – test administration, scoring and feedback – still need to be observed by Verified Assessors or Delegated Assessors, though this does not necessarily need to be done in real time. Delegate videos of their administration, scoring and feedback can give acceptable evidence of competence.

As always, it is the Verified Assessor's responsibility to ensure that a delegate is fully competent when they affirm a delegate's competence with the Society.

We wish you continued success in your business at this difficult time and appreciate your ongoing support of the Test User Standards.