

**Nail Technician
Practical Examination
Information for Candidates**

**Always refer to the Apprenticeship Manitoba website for the most up-to-date information regarding
Practical Examinations:**

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/wd/apprenticeship/>

Nail Technician Practical Examination Information for Candidates

- The exam is designed to test the practical knowledge and skills required to practice in the trade.
- This document lists the tasks that the Examiner will be examining throughout the practical exam.
- The minimum pass mark for each section of the practical exam is 70%.

General Information

DO:

- Arrive for registration at 8 a.m.
 - Present to the Examiner at registration:
 - photo identification
 - ‘*Verification of Completion*’ form or ‘*Pocket Card*’ or letter from Apprenticeship Manitoba
 - ‘*Waiver of Liability*’ form (completed and signed by model)
- Be organized and ready to start the practical exam at 8:30 a.m.
- Bring all supplies, equipment, and sanitized implements to perform all components of the exam. Candidates will be supplied with a bare manicure table and chair.
- Use professional products in original or clearly marked containers (no pharmacy brands).
- Have a professional appearance: i.e., clean professional smock, lab coat or school uniform and enclosed shoes. Hair must be tied back, make-up done, no jewelry, nails groomed, hair neat and tidy.
- Maintain professional conduct (attitude, body language, safe work practices) throughout the exam, Candidates will be marked on this.
- Clean up after each service within the time limit. Extra time will not be given to complete a component.

Note: Examiners may ask questions about work performed at anytime throughout the exam or stop the exam if there is a risk of injury to a model.

DO NOT:

- Set up until assigned a station.
- Use cell phones during the exam (cell phones must be turned off).
- Take personal items such as purses, knapsacks and coats into the exam.
- Use tip blenders or French white ‘cheaters.’
- Assist or speak with other candidates.
- Leave during the exam without permission.
- Borrow tools, equipment or supplies from the exam facility or other candidates.
- Ask examiners questions regarding your examination results.

Model Criteria for Practical Examination

Model **MUST**:

- Be a minimum 18 years of age.
- Come to the exam wearing red (or dark) polish on six fingernails (middle, ring, and pinkie fingers of both hands; not on index fingers and thumbs).
- Have 'free edge' in order for examinee to demonstrate skills.
- Be available at the required time.
- Read and signed the '*Waiver of Liability*' prior to the exam.

Model must **NOT**:

- Have health conditions such as diabetes.
- Use a cell phone during the exam (cell phone must be turned off).
- Wear nail polish on toenails.
- Have any nail, hand or foot diseases/disorders.
- Wear artificial nail products.
- Wear jewelry.
- Model must not be a current or former hairstylist, esthetician, or a candidate of these trades.

NOTE: Following the practical exam the instructor will record the practical exam grades onto the 'Verification of Completion' form. Once this form is completed and signed, please submit it to:

**Apprenticeship Manitoba
100-111 Lombard Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 0T4**

Exam Schedule and Components

8:00 a.m.	Registration
8:30-9:05 a.m.	1. Nail shaping and cuticle work (pedicure)
9:10-9:25 a.m.	2. Callous removal
9:30-9:40 a.m.	3. Foot and leg massage
9:45-10 a.m.	4. French polish application
10:05-10:35 a.m.	5. White sculptured gel nail and tip with gel overlay application
10:40-11:10 a.m.	6. White sculptured acrylic nail and tip with acrylic overlay application
11:15-11:45 a.m.	7. Nail shaping and cuticle work (manicure)
11:50 a.m.-12 p.m.	8. Hand and arm massage
12:05-12:20 p.m.	9. Red enamel application

Marking Criteria

Examiners will assign points based on the following:

<i>Student performance of task</i>	<i>Maximum points possible</i>	<i>Points Given</i>	<i>Description</i>
Exceeds standard	10	8-10	Student shows high level of skill and proficiency in task. No errors. Performance is excellent in preparation, technique, and workmanship.
	5	4-5	
Meets Standard (Pass)	10	7	Student shows competency in task. Rare errors. Performance is adequate in preparation, technique, and workmanship.
	5	3.5	
Does not meet standard	10	< 7	Student shows little or no competency in task. Multiple errors. Performance is below industry standard in preparation, technique, and workmanship.
	5	< 3.5	

Pedicure

1. Nail shaping and cuticle work (pedicure) (35 minutes - includes 10 minutes for soaking; both feet)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Sanitized implements and equipment.	5
Model properly seated/clothing protected.	10
Model's feet suitable for the exam.	5
Soak in appropriate product.	5
Applied antiseptic on model's leg and foot.	5
Dried and analysed feet (checked for contraindications).	10
Cut and filed toenails starting with left foot.	5
Toenails filed straight across rounding the corners.	5
Complimentary nail shape on both feet (no sharp edges).	5
Cuticles pre-softened.	5
Cuticles pushed back with towel.	5
Correct implements used for cuticle work.	5
Cuticle work done with cuticle nippers.	5
Cuticle work clean - no pterygium left on feet.	5
Cleaned under free edge with proper use of implements.	5
<Examiner's checkpoint >	
Applied cuticle oil.	5
Cuticle oil worked into the nails.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	5
Hands washed or sanitized.	
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Total Points:	100

2. Callous removal
(15 minutes; both feet)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Prepared feet for callous removal.	5
Demonstration of putting blade into credo remover.	5
Used credo blade for callous removal on ball of foot.	10
Used credo blade for callous removal on heel of foot.	10
Maintained control of excess callous skin from removal.	5
Application of exfoliation product.	5
Preparation of foot file. Use of foot file on upper foot.	10
Use of foot file on middle and heel of foot.	10
Smoothness of the foot.	5
Smoothness of the toes.	5
Removed excess exfoliation product.	5
Rinsed and dried feet.	5
Wrapped feet.	5
Disposed of blade in sharps container.	10
Professionalism Professional conduct. Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	5
Total Points:	100

3. Foot and leg massage
(10 minutes; both feet and legs)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Product control.	5
Cream application to the lower leg and foot.	10
Sequence of massage movements used throughout.	10
Used consistent rhythm.	10
Massaged leg calves.	5
Massaged leg shin bones (worked the sides).	5
Massaged ankles.	5
Massaged heels.	5
Massaged feet.	5
Massaged toes.	5
Massage cream worked into skin.	5
Toes scrubbed and dried.	10
Cream removed from under the free edge.	10
Toe separators applied.	5
Professionalism Professional conduct.	5
Total Points:	100

4. French polish application
(15 minutes; 2 toes only)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Proper holding of the nail polish bottle.	5
Base coat application.	5
French application free hand technique used on toes.	10
Sealing the free edge with French polish.	10
Covered side walls.	10
Skin free from white polish (check tips of toes).	10
Even application of smile lines.	10
Top coat application.	10
Sealed free edge top coat.	10
Clean up of any polish on skin.	5
Overall appearance.	5
Removed/disposed of toe separators and applied appropriate footwear.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	5
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Work station/sink area sanitized after service.	
Total Points:	100

Artificial Nails
(60 minutes total)

5. White sculptured gel nail and Tip with gel overlay application
(Index finger and thumb of one hand only)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Preparation of nails.	5
Applied nail form.	5
Applied white gel to create a smile line.	5
Removed nail forms correctly.	5
Even smile lines.	5
Suitable length.	5
Tip application fits to model's nail.	5
< Examiner's checkpoint >	
No air bubbles.	5
Seams blended.	5
<Examiner's checkpoint >	
Suitable length.	5
Used gel brush correctly during application.	5
Gel application smooth.	5
Created C-curve to enhance stability.	5
Removed inhibition layer.	5
Buffing of the gel.	5
Even gel and C-curve application.	5
Removed dust properly.	5
< No cuticle oil applied until checked by Examiner >	
Shaping of the nail/no sharp corners.	5
Suitable to the model's hands.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	
Hands washed or sanitized.	5
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Work station/sink area sanitized after service.	

Total Points:

100

6. White sculptured acrylic nail and tip with acrylic overlay application
(Index finger and thumb of one hand only)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Prepared nails.	5
Applied nail form.	5
Applied white acrylic to create a smile line.	5
Removed nail forms correctly.	5
Even smile lines.	5
Tip application fits to model's nail.	5
< Examiner's checkpoint >	
No air bubbles.	5
Seams blended.	5
< Examiner's checkpoint >	
Suitable length.	5
Used acrylic brush correctly during the application (pressing and patting).	5
Acrylic application smooth.	5
Created C-curve to enhance stability.	5
Removed inhibition layer.	5
Buffing of the acrylic.	5
Even acrylic and C-curve application.	5
Removed dust properly.	5
< No cuticle oil applied until checked by Examiner >	
Shaping of the nail/no sharp corners.	5
Suitable to the model's hands.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	
Hands washed or sanitized.	5
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Work station/sink area sanitized after service.	

Total Points:

100

Manicure

7. Nail shaping and cuticle work (manicure) (30 minutes; both hands)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Sanitized implements and equipment.	5
Model properly seated/clothing protected.	10
Model's hands suitable for the exam.	5
Model is wearing red polish.	5
Applied antiseptic on model's hands and arms.	5
Demonstration of polish removal; skin free of red polish stains.	5
Checked for contraindications.	5
Filed properly (started with the left hand pinkie finger).	5
Soaked the left hand.	5
Filed right hand using proper strokes.	5
Cuticles pre-softened.	5
Pushed cuticles back with towel and implements.	5
Nipped cuticles/removed hangnails.	5
Cleaned under the free edge.	5
Applied cuticle oil.	5
< Examiner's checkpoint >	
Nails free from frays on the free edge.	5
Complimentary nail shape and uniformity on both hands.	5
Overall appearance of shaping and cuticle work.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	5
Hands washed or sanitized.	
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Total Points:	100

8. Hand and arm massage
(10 minutes; both hands)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Product control.	5
Cream application to the hand and arm.	5
Sequence of massage movements used throughout the massage.	10
Consistent rhythm.	10
Arm massage.	10
Hand massage.	10
Carpal massage (wrist).	5
Digit massage (fingers).	5
Palm massage.	5
Massage cream worked into the skin.	10
Fingernails scrubbed and dried.	10
Cream removed from under the free edge.	10
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	5
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Total Points:	100

9. Red enamel application

(15 minutes; middle, ring and pinkie fingers of both hands – 6 fingers total)

Marking objective:	Maximum Points
Proper holding of the nail polish bottles.	5
Proper holding of the fingers.	5
Base coat application.	5
Sealed free edge with base coat.	5
Proper technique of red polish application.	10
Sealed the free edge with polish.	10
Covered side walls.	10
Even and consistent around the cuticle area.	10
Skin free from red polish.	10
Top coat on six fingers.	10
Sealed free edge with top coat.	10
Overall appearance.	5
Professionalism	
Professional conduct.	5
Work station maintained in clean/organized manner.	
Work station/sink area sanitized after service.	
No clean-up until after mark.	
Total Points:	100