

## **Examination Development Procedures**

1. The capability to conduct a practice analysis on an annual basis exists; however, the progression of the RPA role is monitored. When significant changes occur within the role, a practice analysis is completed utilizing the clinical competency evaluation documents completed by the supervising radiologists in clinical practice. This entails approximately 40-50 radiology practices across the country each year, depending on student numbers.
2. Knowledge and skill areas are derived from the practice analysis and placed into content specifications. The items of the content specification listings are then placed into performance domains or categories.
3. An examination is developed utilizing the practice analysis and content specifications as the basis for item development.
4. The examination is reviewed by members of the Examination Committee and the Examination Development Committee to determine weighting of the content specification categories or domains.
5. Items are selected to be used as “equivalency” items which will appear in the examination for the next five years with the purpose of determining equivalency among exam administrations.
6. The examination is again reviewed by members of the Examination Committee prior to administration.
7. The examination is administered under the supervision of the Executive Director and a member of the Examination Committee.
8. The results of the examination are computer generated, providing a mean, high, low and medium, with an item analysis which are reviewed by staff and members of the Examination Committee to determine item validity.
9. The final scores are calculated into a scale score for each candidate and released to the candidates.
10. When necessary, items on the examination are changed or may be deleted from the test bank depending on the computerized item analysis.