



SCREEN & HUMAN READER ACCOMMODATIONS

(REQUIRE SEPARATE ROOM ACCOMMODATION)

Updated January 2023

For test-takers who need screen reader technology, you may be approved to take the PSSC exam with accommodations. Pearson VUE uses JAWS® screen reader software, which reads the text that is displayed on the computer screen to the test-taker, or human readers to assist test-takers by reading the exam aloud.

What is JAWS®?

JAWS, Job Access With Speech, is a popular screen reader, developed for computer users whose vision loss prevents them from seeing screen content or navigating with a mouse.

Candidates requesting the screen reader accommodation must be proficient with the software. Pearson VUE test administrators are not trained on the software and are unable to assist candidates with its functionality during testing. Additionally, a separate room accommodation is required for testing.

JAWS® Single-User License – Home Annual License (U.S. Only) Purchase Price: \$95/year

<https://www.freedomscientific.com/products/software/jaws/>

JAWS® Tutorial

A JAWS tutorial is available at <https://home.pearsonvue.com/ncbe/sample-test/browser>.

The tutorial shows the user how to access the features available on the Pearson VUE testing system, followed by five practice questions. It is recommended that you use a Chrome Browser when using the tutorial. NOTE: This tutorial was developed for a different program and should not be used as resource for the PSSC but is relevant as it pertains to the functionality of JAWS®.

For more information on JAWS®,

<https://support.freedomscientific.com/Content/Documents/Manuals/JAWS/JAWS-Quick-Start-Guide.pdf>

Human Readers

An individual designated by the test-taker or Pearson VUE may be employed to read the entire test to the test-taker. Readers must sign and agree to a non-disclosure confidentiality agreement and consent to video and voice recording. Readers must read the exam, word-for-word, with no clarification, simplification, explanation, or rewording of the questions.

If you have been approved to test with screen or human reader accommodations, you MUST:

- 1. Notify CalMHSa of your intent to test with JAWS® or a human reader.**
- 2. Ensure you are proficient with the JAWS® software; or identify an individual to serve as the human reader.**
- 3. Call Pearson VUE Customer Service at (888) 536-1460, Option 8, to schedule your PSSC exam appointment. NOTE. It is recommended that test-takers using JAWS® test in-person at a Pearson VUE test center.**

If you have questions, please contact CalMHSa at (279) 234-0699 or PeerCertification@CalMHSa.org.