**General Assessment Information**

**Test Type:** The Floriculture industry-based credential is included in NOCTI’s Job Ready assessment battery. Job Ready assessments measure technical skills at the occupational level and include items which gauge factual and theoretical knowledge. Job Ready assessments typically offer both a written and performance component and can be used at the secondary and post-secondary levels. Job Ready assessments can be delivered in an online or paper/pencil format.

**Revision Team:** The assessment content is based on input from secondary, post-secondary, and business/industry representatives from the states of Idaho, Oklahoma, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

**Blueprint Contents**

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The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), the leading professional organization for career and technical educators, commends all students who participate in career and technical education programs and choose to validate their educational attainment through rigorous technical assessments. In taking this assessment you demonstrate to your school, your parents and guardians, your future employers and yourself that you understand the concepts and knowledge needed to succeed in the workplace. Good Luck!
**Written Assessment**

NOCTI written assessments consist of questions to measure an individual’s factual theoretical knowledge.

**Administration Time:** 3 hours  
**Number of Questions:** 141  
**Number of Sessions:** This assessment may be administered in one, two, or three sessions.

### Areas Covered

- **Basic Floral Design**
  - 28%

- **Intermediate Floral Design**
  - 16%

- **Advanced Floral Design**
  - 10%

- **Small Floriculture or Floriculture-Greenhouse Business**
  - 25%

- **Plant Science**
  - 21%
Specific Standards and Competencies Included in this Assessment

Basic Floral Design
- Display basic safe work practices
- Identify and correctly use floral supplies and tools
- Use ribbons and accessories in floral design
- Design and create basic arrangements
- Process, condition, and store plants and cut flowers
- Exhibit knowledge of shop sanitation, including coolers, containers, and buckets
- Identify cut materials and plants
- Display basic knowledge of floral design history

Intermediate Floral Design
- Create and design permanent floral arrangements
- Safely use steel pick machine, hot glue gun, and other floral adhesives
- Apply the principles and elements of floral design
- Exhibit knowledge of various floral wire services (FTD®, Teleflora®, and electronic services)

Advanced Floral Design
- Design and create various holiday and special occasion arrangements
- Apply knowledge and competence with wedding designs and accessories
- Apply knowledge and competence with funerals and sympathy work

(Continued on the following page)
Specific Standards and Competencies (continued)

**Small Floriculture or Floriculture-Greenhouse Business**
- Identify and describe business categories (sole proprietor, partnership, etc.)
- Exhibit knowledge of proper floriculture salesmanship techniques, customer relations, including telephone etiquette
- Set up effective merchandise displays and window displays
- Exhibit knowledge of effective floriculture advertising techniques
- Correctly price and determine costs of floral arrangements
- Apply knowledge of correct inventory procedures, shipping/receiving, and completing invoices
- Apply business math (invoice, payroll, labor, etc.)
- Identify and describe careers/jobs within the floral and/or greenhouse industry

**Plant Science**
- Classify plants using binomial nomenclature
- Identify and describe plant life cycles
- Identify and describe plant anatomy and physiology
- Exhibit understanding of sexual and asexual plant reproduction
Sample Questions

**Artistry and design principles are most important to an individual seeking a career in**
- A. greenhouse production
- B. plant science
- C. retail floristry
- D. soil science

**Steel pick machines use steel picks that may**
- A. come with or without wire attached
- B. be useful for cutting heavy stems
- C. cut fingers because they are sharp
- D. be purchased in various colors

**The two most common tools used for fresh flowers designs are a**
- A. styrofoam cutter and ribbon shears
- B. staple gun and wire cutters
- C. sharp knife and floral shears
- D. stem stripper and pruners

**What is the scientific name (binomial nomenclature) for the carnation?**
- A. lilium longiflorum
- B. erica carnea
- C. hyacinthus orientalis
- D. dianthus caryophyllus

**Living plants may be sent as an expression of sympathy so**
- A. a family can have a living remembrance to take home
- B. the florist can get rid of the stock plants hanging around in their shop
- C. individuals with allergies are not affected by a gift of flowers
- D. the immediate family can send more flowers

(Continued on the following page)
Sample Questions (continued)

A/An ____ plant completes its life cycle in one year or growing season.
A. biennial
B. annual
C. perennial
D. triennial

A floral wire service is a
A. group of florists who travel and wire all of a shop's flowers
B. meeting of professional florists who learn new wiring techniques
C. truck that delivers various types of wire to local florists
D. company that makes it possible to send flowers anywhere

To create a balanced arrangement in a bud vase, the
A. height should be the same as the vase
B. width should be twice the width of the vase
C. height should be one and a half to two times the height of the vase
D. width should be three times the width of the vase

The ____ of the plant produces or manufactures food.
A. root system
B. stem
C. leaf
D. hair root

A window display should convey its message to the viewer within
A. one minute
B. a split second
C. one hour
D. thirty seconds
NOCTI performance assessments allow individuals to demonstrate their acquired skills by completing actual jobs using the tools, materials, machines, and equipment related to the technical area.

**Administration Time:** 2 hours and 30 Minutes  
**Number of Jobs:** 4

**Areas Covered:**

23% **Isosceles Triangle Arrangement**  
Participants will calculate wholesale cost, resale cost, and margin of profit for the arrangement, prepare the container, design the arrangement and handle the equipment well.

31% **Design a Multi-Flower Corsage**  
Participants will appropriately select flowers and foliage, assemble, decorate, and package the corsage.

13% **Cash Register/Sales**  
Participants will greet the customer, complete the receipt, calculate the bill, count back change and close the sale.

33% **Plant Classification and Identification**  
Participants will correctly identify annuals, perennials, cut flowers, house plants, and cut foliage.
Sample Job

**Isosceles Triangle Arrangement**

**Maximum Time:** 45 minutes

**Participant Activity:** The participant will design/construct the arrangement described, securing the floral foam to the container with tape provided; determine retail cost of the arrangement, including container and foam; using wholesale price list, calculate the selling price by marking up the florist wholesale price; and determine the exact margin of profit.