



Last updated: January 20th, 2026

Medical Terminology

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCES IN HOW THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN AT HOSA CANADA'S FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (FLC):

1. **Written test time is 60 minutes for 100 questions at FLC only.** This test includes a tiebreaker portion, the details of which are specified in the guidelines below.
2. Written test will take place online and be open book at FLC only.

PLEASE NOTE HOSA CANADA'S SPRING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SLC) WILL BE IN-PERSON AND THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCE:

1. There will be a verbal announcement when there are 30 minutes and 5 minutes remaining to complete the written test at SLC.
**Please note that NO verbal announcements will be made at the International Leadership Conference (ILC).*

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DIFFERENCES IN HOW THIS EVENT WILL BE RUN AT HOSA CANADA'S SECONDARY/POST-SECONDARY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

1. Written test time is shortened to 40 (still 50 questions). This test includes a tiebreaker portion, the details of which are specified in the guidelines below.
2. Written test will take place online and be open book.

******DISCLAIMER: virtual secondary competitor participation in any Competitive Event through the virtual membership is not ranked and not eligible to advance to the International Leadership Conference (ILC)******

Medical Terminology



Health Science Event

Eligible Divisions: Secondary & Postsecondary / Collegiate	Round 1: 50 Q test in 60 minutes	Digital Upload: NO
Solo Event: 1 competitor		



New for 2025 – 2026

Total number of test questions and test timing have been reduced. Editorial updates have been made.

Event Summary

Medical Terminology allows members to gain knowledge and skills regarding prefixes, suffixes, word roots, anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, and occupations related to the health field. This competitive event consists of a written test with tiebreaker questions and aims to inspire members to learn about terms used in health professions and specialties.

Sponsorship

HOSA-Future Health Professionals appreciates the sponsorship of Medical Terminology by [G-W Publisher](#).



Dress Code

Proper business attire or official HOSA uniform. Bonus points will be awarded for [proper dress](#).

Competitor Must Provide:

- [Photo ID](#)
- Two #2 lead pencils (not mechanical) with an eraser

HOSA Conference Staff will provide equipment and supplies as listed in [Appendix I](#).

General Rules

1. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the [General Rules and Regulations](#).

Official References

2. The references below are used in the development of the test questions:
 - A. [Ehrlich, Ann. Medical Terminology for Health Professions. Cengage Learning. Latest Edition.](#)
 - B. [Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary. Edited by Donald Venes and Clayton L. Thomas, M.D. F.A. Davis Company, Latest edition.](#)
 - C. [Stanhope and Turnbull. Introduction to Medical Terminology. Goodheart-Willcox. Latest edition.](#)
 - D. [Dean Vaughn's Medical Terminology by Body Systems, Peterson's Publishing, Latest Release \(Online version\).](#)

Written Test

3. [Test Instructions](#): The written test will consist of 50 multiple-choice items in a maximum of 60 minutes.
4. Twenty (20) tiebreaker questions will be administered with the original test.
5. **Time Remaining Announcements:** There will be NO verbal announcements for time remaining during ILC testing. All ILC testing will be completed in the Testing Center and competitors are responsible for monitoring their own time.

6. Test Plan

The test plan for the Medical Terminology Test is:

- A. Roots, Prefixes, Suffixes, and Combining Forms - 45%
- B. Overview of Body - 5%
- C. Skeletal - 5%
- D. Muscular - 5%
- E. Respiratory - 5%
- F. Digestive - 5%
- G. Cardiovascular & Lymphatic – 5%
- H. Nervous/Special Senses - 5%
- I. Endocrine - 5%
- J. Reproductive - 5%
- K. Integumentary - 5%
- L. Urinary - 5%

7. Sample Test Questions

1. What is the study of body tissue structure, composition, and function? (Stanhope page 34)
 - A. Biology
 - B. Cytology
 - C. Endocrinology
 - D. Histology**

2. What is the meaning of the term hysterectomy? (Stanhope pp 461)
 - A. Cryosurgery of the ovaries
 - B. Surgical removal of the uterus**
 - C. Rupture of the uterus
 - D. Suturing of the fallopian tubes

3. Which suffix refers to breathing? (Stanhope page 205)
 - A. -cide
 - B. -ion
 - C. -pnea**
 - D. -stasis

8. Final Scoring

In the event of a tie, successive sets of five (5) tiebreaker questions will be judged until a winner is determined. Correct spelling is required for an item to be considered correct in the tiebreaker.

Future Opportunities:

Graduating from high school or completing your postsecondary/collegiate program does not mean your HOSA journey has to end. As a HOSA member, you are eligible to become a HOSA Lifetime Alumni Member - a free and valuable opportunity to remain connected, give back, and help to shape the future of the organization. Learn more and sign up at hosa.org/alumni.