



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

EXAMINATION STRUCTURE POLICY

1. The structure of each component of the examination shall be included in the Subject Guidelines for the information of candidates and examiners. Information to be provided in the subject guidelines is listed below. Chapters may include more detail if they wish.

- 1.1. For written examinations:

- 1.1.1. The number of main questions
- 1.1.2. The total marks for the exam
- 1.1.3. The duration of the exam
- 1.1.4. Whether the examination contains a choice of questions (for subjects with electives only)
- 1.1.5. The questions types which will be included (eg: long answer, multiple choice).
- 1.1.6. The marks per main questions. This may be a range where main questions are not of equal value.

- 1.2. For practical examinations

- 1.2.1. The number of main questions
- 1.2.2. The total marks for the exam
- 1.2.3. The duration of the exam
- 1.2.4. The questions types which will be included (eg: long answer, multiple choice).
- 1.2.5. The marks per main questions. This may be a range where main questions are not of equal value.
- 1.2.6. How the questions will be delivered (eg: on paper, on a slide show)
- 1.2.7. The type of ancillary materials used (eg: images, digital radiographs, histopathology slides)

- 1.3. For oral examinations

- 1.3.1. The number of main questions
- 1.3.2. The total marks for the exam
- 1.3.3. The approximate duration of the exam
- 1.3.4. The marks per main questions. This may be a range where main questions are not of equal value.

- 1.3.5. The type of ancillary materials used (eg: images, digital radiographs, laboratory results)
2. Revisions to examination structure can be planned as part of subject guidelines review and must be submitted to the College Office by 31st October in the year preceding examinations. Changes to examination structure are not permitted after this date.
3. Examination structure is subject to the following limitations:
 - 3.1. The maximum duration for each written examination paper is 2 hours for Membership examinations and 4 hours for Fellowship examinations
 - 3.2. Both written papers must be of the same total marks
 - 3.3. It is recommended that there be 60 marks allocated per hour of examination
 - 3.4. All questions and sub-questions must be out of a whole number of marks
 - 3.5. The perusal time for written exams will be 15 minutes for Membership and 20 minutes for Fellowship
 - 3.6. During perusal time candidates will be allowed to write on scrap paper only
 - 3.7. There will be no perusal time for practical examinations
 - 3.8. No choice of questions or parts of questions is permitted except in subjects for which the subject guidelines specify that candidates can elect to meet some learning outcomes and not others. For such subjects choice is permitted across the electives but not within the elective.
 - 3.9. No more than 20% of an examination component shall be multiple choice question type
 - 3.10. The following question types are primarily used to test fact-recall rather than higher order thinking and thus are unlikely to be acceptable for Fellowship and Membership examinations: true-false questions, matching questions, short answer (fill in word or single sentence) questions.
 - 3.11. If there are multiple choice questions these must be put together in one section
 - 3.12. Ancillary materials used in examinations must be of very high quality and contain adequate information for interpretation (for example an indication of magnification on micrographs).