

ACPV Exam Test Center Proposal

From: ACPV Exam Committee (Tak Niino - chair, Ian Rubinoff, Elise Myers, Yuko Sato, Sarah Tilley, Steve Collett, Natalie Armour)

To: ACPV Board of Directors

Date: February 6, 2017

Dear Board of Directors of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians,

The current ACPV boarding exam is a paper based exam for all three parts. While in 2016, a scan-based grading was used for the multiple choice, the other two sections are manually graded. As the ACPV continues to adapt and align with the American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS), the use of a standardized computer testing will further advance our College.

Reasons for computer-based testing

1. Computer-based testing is the standard for most major tests including SAT, ACT, GRE, NAVLE, ACVPM, ACVS, and many others in the veterinary and medical colleges.
2. Computer-based documents are the standard for communication via email, word processing, PowerPoints, and other electronic methods. Additionally, many people are more comfortable typing than hand-writing in the current age.
3. Using a testing center would be secure, anonymous, and reduce the human resources required to proctor the exam.
4. The current ACPV practical exam grading relies heavily on assessing spelling, grammar, and communication skills. In the hand-written format, the penmanship and legibility of the candidates is important for the graders ability to accurately assess the content of the answer. Difficulty reading and interpreting the hand-written responses adds time and heightens the possibility for misunderstanding meaning or intent from the test taker.
5. For the images and multiple choice sections, having computerized answers will speed the process and accuracy of grading. These answers will also be able to go directly into a database to analyze the cut score for future tests.
6. As we strive to improve the exam, we would be able to include a feedback section at the end of the day.

Given the reasons above, the Exam Grading Committee would like to propose starting the computer-based testing in 2018. A single test center would be assigned for the Thursday (due to the change AVMA schedule) before the AAAP symposium in the city of the symposium.

July 12, 2018 - Denver

August 1, 2019 - Washington D. C.

July 30, 2020 - San Diego

We are in the process of receiving quotes and guidelines from Prometrics and Pearson VUE testing centers.

We will continue the tradition of grading the tests at the AAAP hotel as soon as they are complete so the new diplomats can join us at the annual breakfast meeting.

Here is an example of the American College of Internal Medicine's schedule used from Prometric

Exam Day Schedule

- The Internal Medicine Certification Exam takes approximately 10 hours
- The exam lasts one day and is divided into several sessions, each containing up to 60 multiple-choice questions

Action	Time Allotted
Registration	Varies
Tutorial	Optional, up to 30 minutes
Instructions and Pledge of Honesty	Up to 10 minutes
First Session	Up to 2 hours (maximum 60 questions)
Break	Optional, up to 100 minutes (divided between 3 breaks)*
Second Session	Up to 2 hours (maximum 60 questions)
Break	Optional, up to 100 minutes (divided between 3 breaks)*
Third Session	Up to 2 hours (maximum 60 questions)
Break	Optional, up to 100 minutes (divided between 3 breaks)*
Fourth Session	Up to 2 hours (maximum 60 questions)
Optional Survey	Up to 10 minutes
Total	Approximately 10 hours

* You will have 100 minutes of available break time to use during your examination. The amount of break time you use after each test session will be subtracted from the amount of available break time. For instance, if you take a 10-minute break after session one, the amount of break time remaining for the exam will be reduced to 90 minutes.