



The American College of Zoological Medicine

June 16, 2021

To all ACZM examination candidates,

By now, we are all very familiar with the ways in which COVID-19 has affected our lives. Although vaccinations are ongoing and case numbers are declining, the pandemic will continue to impact the globe, both in predictable and unpredictable ways, for the foreseeable future. Travel restrictions, imposed either by governments or places of employment, may hinder our ability to gather in one location, and the effects of circulating COVID variants remains unknown.

In light of these facts, The American College of Zoological Medicine is announcing that the 2021 ACZM Examination will again be administered remotely. The examination will still be administered on October 9th (Qualifying exam) and 10th (Certifying exam), 2021, with specific start times yet to be determined. Based on the success of last year's remote test administration, we are very confident the exam can be administered remotely without sacrificing exam integrity.

Just like in 2020, all portions of the examination will be administered at the candidate's home location (or location of choice) using the web-based testing application from ExamSoft. This provides a secure platform for test administration and grading. Once the program is in use, it disables all internet, cellular and outside application functionality of the device so that only the examination itself can be accessed. The testing application also records audio and video during the exam, which is subsequently reviewed to ensure no collusion or academic dishonesty. **Candidates will receive specific training on using the program prior to the examination, along with detailed logistical information (regarding start time, access details, technical support, breaks, results reporting, etc.) in the coming weeks.** A practice test will be sent to each candidate to test the program and provide an opportunity to become familiar with the platform prior to the examination.

The ACZM executive committee has agreed to grant candidates deferment, if they so choose. If you wish to defer sitting for the ACZM examination until 2022, please contact the ACZM secretary, Dr. Chris Bonar (secretary@aczm.org). Deferments will be granted up until September 1, 2021. If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me (exam@aczm.org).

Sincerely,

Daniel V. E. Fredholm, MS, DVM, Dipl. ACZM
Chair, ACZM Examination Committee

cc: ACZM Executive Committee