

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD EXAM

Currently, the examinations are held over two to four days. The day one, or qualifying, examination is given on the first day. Candidates that pass the day one examination are eligible to take the day two, or certifying, examination. The day two examination is given one of three days following the day one examination.

DAY ONE OR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION:

The first exam is designed to cover **five sections** with equal point totals. Each section contains 75 multiple choice questions. The five sections include:

Aquatic: includes fish (about 47.5%), marine mammals (about 47.5%), and aquatic invertebrates and miscellaneous (about 5%)

Avian: includes zoo and companion birds

Herptile: includes reptiles and amphibians, with a major emphasis on the reptiles

Mammal: includes all captive terrestrial mammals with emphasis on species commonly kept in zoos

Wildlife: covers issues of free ranging wildlife, including mammals, birds, and other species

Each candidate must take and pass each of the five sections of the first examination with a score of at least 65 percent for each section. Passing all five sections qualifies the candidate to take the day two certifying examination. If a candidate passes three of five sections of the day one examination, they can return the next time the examination is given to retake only the sections not passed. These remaining sections must be passed within the second cycle, otherwise, all five sections of the day one examination must be repeated in the next sitting of the examination.

DAY TWO OR CERTIFYING EXAMINATION:

The day two or certifying examination focuses on one of four disciplines in greater depth and detail. The certifying exam is selected by the candidate at the time of application from those certifying examinations being offered. The certifying examinations offered at the present time are aquatic, general zoo, zoological companion animal, and wildlife. Questions on the aquatic and wildlife exams cover only those species described above. The general zoo second day examination includes questions on captive mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish, with an emphasis on species kept in standard zoological institutions. The zoological companion animal second day examination includes questions on captive mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish, with an emphasis on species kept as companion animals. The day two or certifying examination in all specialties consists of the following components:

Multiple choice questions	75 points
Essay examination	140 points
Slide/Video examination	85 points

Minor alteration in exam component point totals may occur from year to year, but the point total for the second day examination will remain **300 points**. For each day of examination, there are short breaks between each test along with a lunch break. Time is of the essence in the examinations as each component of the examination is timed.

CURRENTLY, THE FOLLOWING TOPICS ARE EXAMINED IN THE BOARD EXAMINATION:

ADMINISTRATION	METABOLIC DISEASES
ANATOMY	NUTRITION
ANESTHESIOLOGY	PARASITOLOGY
CLINICAL PATHOLOGY	PATHOLOGY
CLINICAL PROCEDURES	PHARMACOLOGY
COMMUNICATION	PHYSIOLOGY
DEMOGRAPHICS	PREVENTIVE MEDICINE
DENTISTRY	RADIOLOGY
DIAGNOSTICS	RESEARCH
EDUCATION	RESTRAINT
ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE	SURGERY
EPIDEMIOLOGY	TAXONOMY
HUSBANDRY	THERAPEUTICS/BIOLOGICS
GENETICS	THERIOGENOLOGY
IMMUNOLOGY	TOXICOLOGY
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	

The examination blueprint developed by the Job Task Analysis of 2011 will be phased in over the course of 2012 - 2015. See the Job Task Analysis as it relates to future ACZM examinations.