2027 ACVIM LARGE ANIMAL INTERNAL MEDICINE SPECIALTY EXAMINATION

Candidate Preparation Information

This information below is provided to help prepare for the Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine. Information pertaining to the exam schedule, administration, use of translational dictionaries, and special accommodation requests can be located on the Specialty Exams page on the ACVIM website: https://www.acvim.org/board-certification/prepare-exam/specialty-exams

Exam Structure and Scoring

The Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine consists of one section consisting of 200 single-response equally weighted multiple-choice items. The single section exam is broken into two parts (with an optional 30-minute break between parts), where domain coverage is evenly distributed across both parts.

There will be 2 scenarios in part one of the LAIM Exam and 2 scenarios in part two of the LAIM Exam, containing a total of 12 equally weighted questions. A Scenario is a grouped set of items (up to five items)..The number of scenarios is subject to change if any items are flagged for removal during the final development phase of the exam.

All questions (including questions that make up scenarios) are equally weighted.

The pass point for the Large Animal Internal Medicine Specialty Examination is determined by a standard setting process where LAIM Diplomates rate the examination based on the definition of the minimal level of competence or a statistical procedure called equating which is used to adjust for any differences in the level of difficulty across examination forms. The pass point is approved by the ACVIM Certification Council.

Starting in 2025, ACVIM adopted a standardized scaled score range to report scores for all certification exams. Scaled scores provide a uniform frame of reference based on the standard adopted by ACVIM of the threshold at which a candidate demonstrates minimum competency. The scaled scores account for variation among forms, so candidates are held to the same standard regardless of which form they take. Scaled scores are determined by converting the total exam score out of 200 possible points to a scaled score that ranges from **200** to **800.** The raw pass point approved by ACVIM is set to equal a scaled score of 600. A candidate needs a scaled score of at least **600** to pass the examination.

NOTE: The Large Animal Internal Medicine Specialty Examination is written in concordance with USA (USDA/APHIS) regulations regarding the extra label use of drugs and legal use of antimicrobials. Candidates need to know drugs illegal for use and legal regulations surrounding common antimicrobials used in food producing animals in the US. The following website may prove useful in reviewing pertinent US regulations regarding drug use in food animals:
http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=21&PART=530&SECTION=41&TYPE=TEXT