ICVA Services for Veterinary Licensing Boards

**NAVLE®**
The North American Veterinary Licensing Examination® (NAVLE), administered by the ICVA since 2000, is a requirement for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in all licensing jurisdictions in the U.S. and Canada. The NAVLE consists of 360 clinically relevant multiple-choice questions.

The NAVLE is offered at all approved Prometric testing centers domestically and internationally. The NAVLE is available during a four-week testing window in November–December, and a two-week window in April.

The NAVLE is sponsored by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) and the National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®). The ICVA supports veterinary licensing authorities through its leadership in the development, delivery, and continual improvement of high-quality assessments across the continuum of veterinarians’ preparation for practice.

**NAVLE Exam Administration** – 73,726 candidates have taken the NAVLE as a computer-based test since 2000 – 2001. The total number of tests given (which counts repeating candidates) is 90,690. The chart below shows the total number of candidates who have taken the test since 2010.

**NAVLE Candidate Data 2010 – 2019**

![Candidate Data Graph](image)
**NAVLE Performance Data** – Complete data can be found here on our website by clicking on the heading “How have others done on the NAVLE”: [https://www.icva.net/faqs/](https://www.icva.net/faqs/)

**NAVLE Fees** – The ICVA NAVLE application fee is $670 U.S.D. for candidates to take the test. For those who want to take the NAVLE at selected Prometric Testing Centers outside of the U.S. or Canada, there is an additional $320 U.S.D. overseas testing fee.

**NAVLE Practice Analysis Update** – In order to implement the changes that resulted from the NAVLE Practice Analysis, ICVA worked with NBME in 2018 to gather subject matter experts from the veterinary community and begin recoding NAVLE items to match the new competency-based NAVLE blueprint.

To ensure consistency around how and when competency codes are applied to different items, in 2018 ICVA identified a team of four subject matter expert volunteers who worked closely with the NBME to create the NAVLE Competency Coding Guidelines. These guidelines were used by the recoding project team and the NAVLE item writers to correctly assign the new codes to new and existing NAVLE items.

The first batch of test item recoding was completed in September 2018. The final batch of recoding was completed by the recoding project team in February 2019.

With the recoding process now complete, the NAVLE for the upcoming November–December 2019 testing window will now be based on the new NAVLE blueprint.

**NAVLE Species Breakdown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>TARGET BLUEPRINT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canine</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feline</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equine</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bovine</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcine</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Small Mammals</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovine/Caprine</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet Birds</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Species Specific</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camelidae/Cervidae</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reptiles</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquatics</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**NAVLE Specifications Based on Species**

- Canine: Current Blueprint 30%, New Blueprint 25%
- Feline: Current Blueprint 20%, New Blueprint 22%
- Equine: Current Blueprint 10%, New Blueprint 15%
- Bovine: Current Blueprint 5%, New Blueprint 10%
- Porcine: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 5%
- Other Small Animals: Current Blueprint 25%, New Blueprint 10%
- Ovine/ Caprine: Current Blueprint 15%, New Blueprint 5%
- Pet Bird: Current Blueprint 5%, New Blueprint 0%
- Camelids/ Cervidea: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 5%
- Poultry: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 0%
- Reptiles: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 0%
- Fish: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 0%
- Non-Species Specific: Current Blueprint 0%, New Blueprint 0%

**NAVLE Specifications Based on Competencies**

- Clinical Practice: Current Blueprint 90%, New Blueprint 80%
- Communication: Current Blueprint 80%, New Blueprint 70%
- Professionalism, Practice Management, and Wellness: Current Blueprint 60%, New Blueprint 50%
- Preventive Medicine and Animal Welfare: Current Blueprint 40%, New Blueprint 30%

**NAVLE Practice Exams** — NAVLE practice exams (also known as NAVLE Self-Assessments) are web-based examinations designed to help NAVLE candidates identify their strengths and weaknesses as they prepare for the NAVLE, and to help them learn about the content and format of the NAVLE. Each practice exam costs $50. Research has confirmed that the projected score range for examinees who take the practice exams under the standard-paced timing mode is predictive of later performance on the NAVLE. NAVLE Self-Assessment forms (four unique forms in English, and three unique forms in French) will be updated in conjunction with any updates made to the NAVLE test forms, as noted in the Practice Analysis information above. Built to the same specifications as NAVLE and using content that is in the same format of NAVLE, the self-assessments may be valuable tools in preparing for NAVLE.
NAVLE Approvals – The ICVA currently reviews and approves NAVLE candidates on behalf of 33 licensing boards. This service allows licensing boards to focus resources on licensing priorities. Candidates pay an application fee to ICVA (generally $55), and there is no cost to the licensing boards. This year for the first time, candidates applying through any of the 33 states that have ICVA as their designated NAVLE processor will submit both applications simultaneously by completing one form on the ICVA website.

NAVLE Volunteer Opportunities – Licensing board members, academicians, current practitioners, and other subject matter experts are needed on an on-going basis as part of ICVA’s commitment to assessment quality. Volunteer opportunities include the following:

- NAVLE Item Writing – writing items for the NAVLE in accordance with the current NAVLE blueprint.
- Annual NAVLE Pool Reviews – older NAVLE items are reviewed for accuracy and relevance.
- Annual NAVLE Form Reviews – the current NAVLE forms are reviewed prior to use in the next testing cycle.

All ICVA volunteer reviewers begin the process by attending a one-day NAVLE Item Writer Training Workshop (IWTW) at ICVA’s expense. The next IWTW is scheduled for February 27, 2020 in Philadelphia. Anyone interested in volunteering for future committees should contact ICVA (mail@icva.net).
Species Specific Examinations
ICVA developed these two examinations for use by licensing boards in evaluating a veterinarian’s knowledge in companion animal or equine medicine. Each examination consists of 100 multiple choice questions, and there are two versions of each available.

Each version comes with an ICVA-recommended passing standard. Boards may use the examinations in a disciplinary case for a veterinarian already licensed in the state, or to determine a veterinarian’s competency if that veterinarian has been licensed previously in another jurisdiction (and is now seeking licensure in your state), or for other licensure-related purposes.

The fee for each species specific examination is $400. Currently, the Species Specific Examinations are in a paper-and-pencil format but are now in a pilot program for an online format.

ICVA also recently reviewed and updated the species specific examinations and is currently in the final stages of completing a new standard setting.

State Board Examinations
The Wisconsin Veterinary Examination Board (VEB) requested that ICVA handle the administration of their web-based Wisconsin Rules and Laws Examination for veterinary licensure. The Wisconsin VEB provides ICVA with a list of eligible candidates, and ICVA then coordinates payment (a $50 fee), test administration, and score reporting to both the Licensing Board and to the examinee. Test administrations began in October 2016.
ICVA VISION

The world leader in veterinary assessments.

ICVA MISSION

Provide world-class examinations and other assessment tools to protect the public, and animal health and welfare.

Provide leadership and facilitate collaboration throughout veterinary medicine.

SETTING A HIGHER STANDARD TOGETHER®