



2021 ICVA ANNUAL REPORT FOR LICENSING BOARDS

SETTING A HIGHER STANDARD TOGETHER®



Dr. Karen Robertson



Dr. Heather Case

Letter from the Chair and CEO

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to produce uncertainty and unexpected challenges, we remain focused on administering our assessments in ways that both keep examinees safe and maintain the integrity and high security standards of the examinations themselves. The challenges presented by COVID this past year were no match for our dedicated veterinary community, and we are pleased to announce successful testing during unprecedented times.

From the continued expansion in NAVLE testing windows, to the transition to remote proctoring for our Species Specific Examinations, our team remained in constant communication with all stakeholders involved. The collaboration demonstrated between the individual state and provincial licensing boards, the veterinary colleges, Prometric Testing Centers, and the 6,600+ examinees worldwide, was truly inspiring.

Looking back on this past year, we can't help but be grateful – to our talented volunteers, to our outstanding staff, to our dedicated colleagues, and to the entire veterinary community. Without your continued commitment we wouldn't be able to fulfill our mission to provide world-class assessments that protect animals and humans alike.

Karen Robertson
DVM, DACVPM
ICVA Chair

Heather Case, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM, CAE
Chief Executive Officer



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.

Values

Transparency

organizationally and in testing procedures, materials and content

Confidentiality

when collecting and reporting personal information, credit card data, and test scores

Reliability

in relevant test design, implementation, and scoring

Service

to candidates, licensing boards, and society at large

Respect, Civility & Collegiality

towards staff, stakeholders, board members, and across veterinary medicine

Integrity

in all actions and business relationships

Fiscal Responsibility

to ensure continuous improvements in our testing products and customer service, as well as a viable future for our organization

Diversity and Inclusion

treat everyone with fairness, respect and dignity, and purposefully act to attract and retain staff and Board members with a broad range of ideas, viewpoints, perspectives, expertise and experiences reflecting the diversity of the populations we serve. We respect and value these differences and encourage opportunities to learn from and be enriched by them as they challenge us to grow and think differently.

North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®)

Administered since 2000, the NAVLE consists of 360 clinically relevant multiple-choice questions and is a requirement for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in all licensing jurisdictions in the US and Canada.

Developed in cooperation with the National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®), the NAVLE is offered at Prometric computer testing centers throughout North America and certain overseas sites.



CUMULATIVE EXAM COMPLETIONS BY CANDIDATES:

2020-2021 TESTING CYCLE

6,639

COVID-19 RESPONSE

ICVA continued to work hand-in-hand with the National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®) and Prometric Testing Centers to make informed decisions regarding safety for candidate testing. The decision was made to proactively expand the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 NAVLE administration. As a result 6,639 candidates successfully tested.



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/>

NAVLE FEES

The 2020-2021 ICVA NAVLE application fee was \$690 (USD) for candidates to take the test. For those who wanted to take the NAVLE at selected Prometric Testing Centers outside of the U.S. or Canada, there was an additional \$330 (USD) overseas testing fee.



84,033

candidates completed the NAVLE since 2000-2001

103,485

total tests given since 2000-2001

20.2% ↑

Increase in candidate pool in the last five years

ULTIMATE PERFORMANCE PASSING RATE for senior students from AVMA-accredited schools

92%

2020-2021

95%

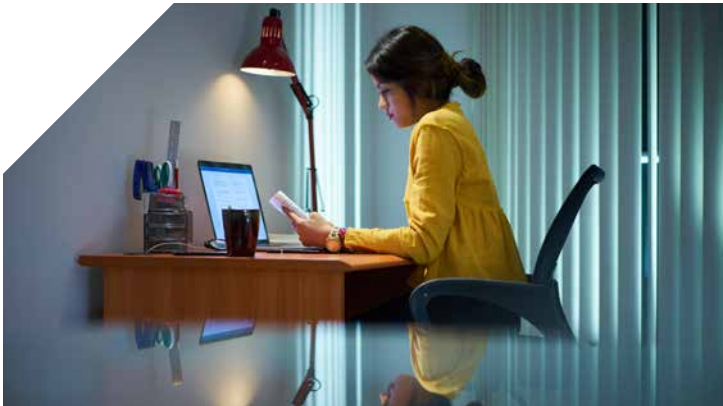
2019-2020

94%

2018-2019

94% passing the exam

remains relatively consistent for the past five years



COVID-19 RESPONSE

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic resulted in several changes to the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 NAVLE administration. As COVID-19 policies and guidelines were released, and continued to rapidly evolve, the ICVA worked hand-in-hand with the National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®) and Prometric Testing Centers to make informed decisions regarding testing.

KEY CHANGES:

Extended Exam Completion Options for Candidates

The NAVLE is typically offered twice a year – during a four-week window in November-December, and again during a two-week window in April. This provides most candidates two opportunities to pass the NAVLE before graduating from veterinary school.

In early 2020, as the scale and scope of Prometric Test Center closures began to increase, ICVA proactively expanded the Fall 2020 testing window from September 1 to December 31, 2020, to ease candidate scheduling and allow over 5,100 examinees to test successfully. In 2021, the ICVA was pleased

to announce that the expanded Spring 2021 NAVLE testing window (which opened March 1) was completed May 31 with all scores released in June. Though we saw continued COVID-19 challenges and test center closures in some areas, ICVA is proud to have successfully tested over 1400 NAVLE candidates in the spring window.

Multiple Score Report Releases

Throughout the expanded testing windows, ICVA provided multiple NAVLE score report releases to candidates and licensing boards. The change was made to allow successful candidates to begin practicing as soon as possible.

Performance on Fall 2020 NAVLE by Examinee Group

	Mean Scale Score	SD Scale Score	Number of Examinees Failing	Percent of Examinees Failing	Total Examinees
Criterion Group ¹	501	64	473	11.2%	4219
Non-Criterion Group ²	445	60	194	35.6%	547
Non-Accredited Group ³	390	74	270	65.4%	412
Total Group	487	73	937	18.1%	5179

Performance on Spring 2021 NAVLE by Examinee Group

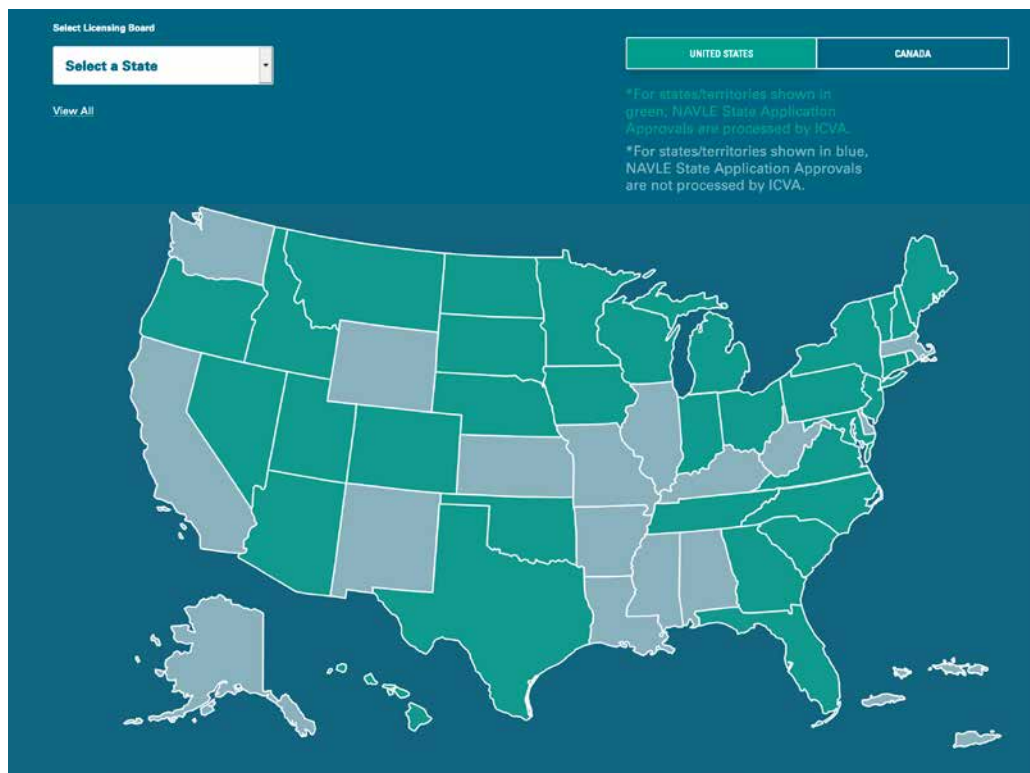
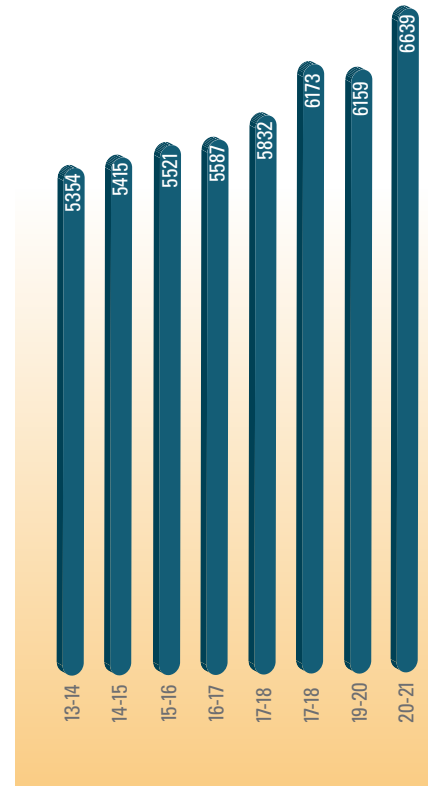
	Mean Scale Score	SD Scale Score	Number of Examinees Failing	Percent of Examinees Failing	Total Examinees
Criterion Group ¹	452	71	108	36.4%	297
Non-Criterion Group ²	433	50	291	40.8%	713
Non-Accredited Group ³	407	73	258	57.3%	450
Total Group	429	64	657	45.0%	1460

Performance on Both Administrations by Examinee Group

	Mean Scale Score	SD Scale Score	Number of Examinees Failing	Percent of Examinees Failing	Total Examinees
Criterion Group ¹	498	66	581	12.9%	4516
Non-Criterion Group ²	438	55	485	38.5%	1260
Non-Accredited Group ³	399	74	528	61.2%	863
Total Group	474	75	1594	24.0%	6639

- (1) Criterion Group: senior students of accredited veterinary schools who took the NAVLE for the first time under standard testing conditions;
 (2) Non-Criterion Group: senior students of accredited veterinary schools who had previously taken the NAVLE or took the NAVLE with test accommodations or graduate veterinarians from accredited schools; and
 (3) Non-Accredited Group: graduates or senior students of foreign veterinary schools that are not accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education.

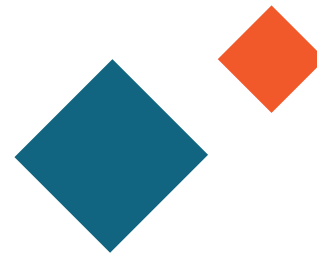
NAVLE Growth Chart



NAVLE Approvals

The ICVA currently reviews and approves NAVLE candidates on behalf of 35 licensing boards. This service allows licensing boards to focus resources on licensing priorities. Candidates pay an application fee to ICVA (\$55) and there is no cost to the licensing boards.





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.

Each NAVLE self-assessment form consists of 200 multiple-choice items, which are presented in four sections of 50 items each. There are now two types of self-assessments:

REGULAR & EXPANDED FEEDBACK USE

English

- Form 1 – Regular 1734
- Form 2 – Expanded Feedback 2388
- Form 3 – Regular 946

French

- Form 1 – Regular 21
- Form 2 - Expanded Feedback 50

Regular
Self-Assessment
Fee: \$50

Expanded Feedback
Self-Assessment
Fee: \$65

ICVA is pleased to announce that new NAVLE Self-Assessment forms are now available for purchase. There are three new English forms and two new French forms, which can be taken under standard-paced or self-paced timing modes.

All new forms follow the current blueprint of the NAVLE.

In response to candidate requests in recent years, an expanded feedback form was created in 2020, and allows the examinee to review the questions and answers to incorrectly answered questions. 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.

3,355

FREE Self-Assessments

As a good will gesture, candidates were offered one FREE web-based NAVLE Self-Assessment (SA) practice exam through December 31, 2020, as they prepared to take the test under unprecedented conditions, and 3,355 free self-assessments were taken.



Species Specific Examinations

At the request of licensing boards, in 2000 the ICVA developed the Species Specific examinations to evaluate a veterinarian's knowledge in companion animal or equine medicine. Veterinarians may take one or both of the examinations, depending on the needs of the licensing board.

Available in multiple forms of each examination, the 100 item exam is only available to licensing boards. Exams are used to assess a veterinarian's competency in disciplinary cases or as verification of competency for a veterinarian who is licensed in another jurisdiction. The Species Specific exam was recently reviewed and revised, and each form comes with an ICVA-recommended passing standard. Additionally, ICVA implemented options to allow remote proctoring for easier administration.



Species Specific exams given:

18

total in 2020/2021 fiscal year



ICVA implemented options to allow remote proctoring

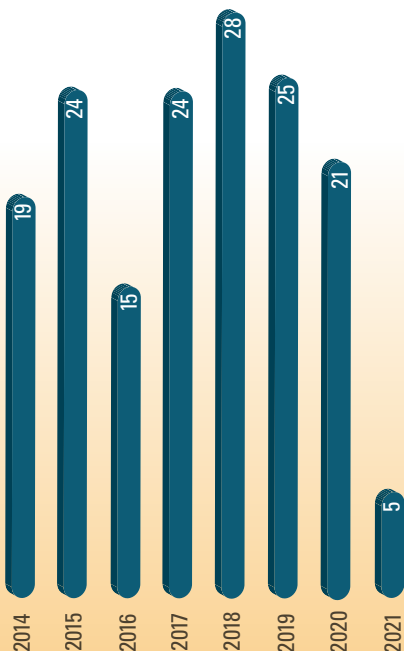
8

on-line with in-person proctoring

10

on-line with remote proctoring

Species Specific Use



18 total exams administered

4 different countries

Species Specific Testing Locations - 2020/2021

* The remote proctoring of the SSE allows North American licensing boards to administer a Species Specific Examination to wherever their candidate is located (country, time zone, etc).

300+
total volunteers



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** – NAVLE forms are reviewed prior to use in the next testing cycle.



“ I knew I wanted to be a Veterinarian since the 3rd Grade. Veterinary Medicine is a part of my heart and soul. Helping to play a small role in ensuring our animal patients and their owners get the best possible care is the reason I volunteer with the ICVA.”

– Dr. Gary Gackstetter

“ I suggest to my colleagues to whole heartedly participate because ICVA is a fantastic organization. I have been participating in the question writing and reviewing since 1994 - present. If you enjoy your life as a blessed veterinarian, ICVA is a way to give something useful back to the profession in your area of expertise.”

–Dr. Sanjay Kapil

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the ICVA, please contact our office at mail@icva.net.

“ I have enjoyed every moment being a veterinarian and have much to be grateful for being a part of a wonderful, enriching profession. Volunteering for the ICVA allows me to share my expertise and give back to my profession by helping to play a role in the development of assessments used in veterinary medicine.”

– Dr. Teresa Morishita

