



2021 BY THE NUMBERS – REPORT FOR VETERINARY SCHOOLS

SETTING A HIGHER STANDARD TOGETHER®

Letter to Our Stakeholders

As we share our 2021 By the Numbers report, it's amazing to think of all the events that have transpired since COVID-19 began two years ago. From the continued expansion of NAVLE testing windows to the transition to remote proctoring options for the VEA, our veterinary community has shown tremendous flexibility and resolve as we adapt to the new normal.

Most of all, we are grateful – to our dedicated volunteers, to our steadfast staff and to our hard-working partners in academia. Throughout a myriad of challenges and uncertainty, the solidarity of the entire veterinary community demonstrates a commitment to strong values and a true spirit of kindness and compassion that will lead us through this pandemic.

ICVA remains on a strong path forward toward being the world leader in veterinary assessments and continues to provide world-class examinations and other assessment tools to protect the public, and animal health and welfare.



Dr. Karen Robertson



Dr. Heather Case

Karen Robertson,
DVM, DACVPM
ICVA Chair

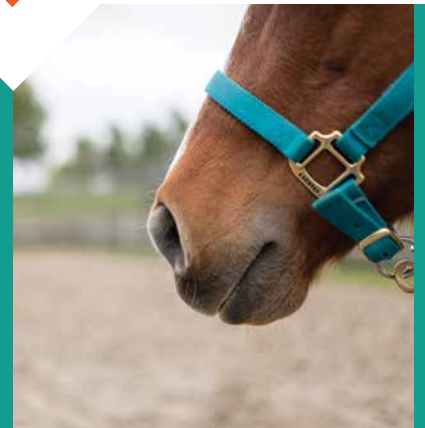
Heather Case,
DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

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 U.S. and Canada.

Developed by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) working 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

6,639

candidates took the NAVLE in 2020-2021

84,033

candidates completed the NAVLE since 2000-2001

20.2% ↑

increase in candidate pool in the last five years

NAVLE®

Ultimate Performance Passing Rate

for senior students from AVMA-accredited schools

92%

2020-2021

95%

2019-2020

% passing the exam remains relatively consistent for the past five years and we continue to monitor the data as part of our ongoing quality control measures. This includes monitoring the differences in ultimate performance passing rate variance during the Covid-19 pandemic which is not yet attributable to any single source or cause.



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 NAVLE fee for the upcoming 2022-2023 testing cycle is \$720, in U.S. funds. For those who want to take the NAVLE at selected Prometric Testing Centers outside of the U.S. or Canada, there is an additional \$345 fee for overseas testing.



COVID-19 RESPONSE



The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the Spring and Fall 2021 NAVLE administration, resulting in several changes. As COVID-19 policies and guidelines were updated, ICVA coordinated with the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and Prometric Testing Centers to make informed decisions regarding testing. NAVLE candidates were kept up to date on all changes with regular emails.

Our commitment to having candidates test safely and receive score reports in a timely manner to proceed with licensing, while maintaining the high standards of the NAVLE itself, remains a top priority.

KEY CHANGES:

Extended Exam Windows 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.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, ICVA proactively gave all 2021 Spring and Fall NAVLE candidates an expanded timeframe to complete the exam. The Spring NAVLE testing window ran from March 1 – May 31, 2021, and the Fall 2021 NAVLE window allowed for testing from November 1 - December 31, 2021.

Early Application and Advance Scheduling

Candidates for the Spring and Fall 2021 NAVLE testing windows were encouraged to apply early. In order to ease scheduling, candidates also received access to their scheduling and admission e-permits online earlier, allowing them to make their testing appointments with Prometric as soon as the permits were ready.

Multiple Score Report Releases

Normally, all scores for a testing window come out at once on the same day, about a month after the testing window ends. For the expanded Spring window, scores were released on a monthly basis, with tests taken during each month reported approximately two weeks after that month ended, so candidates could complete the licensure process and begin practice. For the Fall 2021 window, scoring returned to a single release a few weeks after the end of the testing window.



NAVLE Self-Assessments

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 self-assessment form consists of 200 retired NAVLE items, which are presented in four sections of 50 items each. All NAVLE Self-Assessments follow the current blueprint of the NAVLE.

Each 200-item assessment costs \$50, with multiple English and French versions offered. Additionally, at a cost of \$65 per form, there is one form in each language with expanded feedback that includes correct answers to individual questions that were answered incorrectly.

There are 2 types of self-assessments: Regular and Expanded Feedback

English

Form 1 Regular
Form 2 Expanded Feedback
Form 3 Regular

French

Form 1 Regular
Form 2 Expanded Feedback

\$50

Regular
Self-Assessment Fee

\$65

Expanded Feedback
Self-Assessment Fee

A score report is available immediately after completing a self-assessment, showing the strengths and weaknesses in performance for each of the main topic areas. The report also indicates the performance of a comparison group of candidates on the same items. The score report also includes a projected NAVLE score range based on the participant's performance on the assessment.

The expanded feedback form 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.

Veterinary Educational Assessment (VEA)

The VEA offers veterinary schools a comprehensive, standardized, independent assessment of knowledge in basic veterinary medical sciences. It allows schools to track the performance of their students in the below content areas over time, and to compare the performance of their students to that of students from other veterinary schools.

The VEA is a 240-item web-based standardized examination covering five content areas:

Anatomy

Physiology

Pharmacology

Microbiology

Pathology

2020-2021 testing cycle stats

- 1,633 students took the VEA over three testing windows at 22 schools, including three schools testing some candidates remotely
- 1.99% increase over 2019-2020 testing cycle
- 37.6% increase over the last five years

VEA Exam Fee Increase

The ICVA will charge a per-candidate fee of \$75, payable by the school beginning with the September 2022 administration. The increase of \$15 is due to administrative costs and is the first fee increase since 2015.



VEA COVID Update

VEA remote proctoring started in May 2020 to allow for more accessible testing during the pandemic.



Academic Veterinary Assessment Committee

The Academic Veterinary Assessment Committee (AVAC) is charged by the ICVA BOD with identifying what assessments and measurement resources currently exist across academia, and where ICVA could best serve the assessment needs of academic veterinary medicine. Current initiatives include overseeing ICVA's Assessment Grant Program, promoting Assessment Development Workshops, and developing and updating the Assessment Tools and Resources page on ICVA's website.

Currently, there are twelve members of the AVAC and four ICVA staff providing support.

AVAC Committee Members 2021-2022

Elizabeth Armitage-Chan, MA, VetMB, PhD, ACVAA, FHEA, MRCVS, University of London-RVC, London, UK

Kristin Chaney, DVM, ACVIM (LIAM), ACVECC, Texas A&M University-CVM, College Station, TX

Pedro Diniz, DVM, PhD, Western University-CVM, Pomona, CA

Gary Gackstetter, DVM, MPH, PhD, Sioux Falls, SD

Tamara Hancock, DVM, MS, DACVP, PhD, University of Missouri-CVM, Columbia, MO

Kent Hecker, PhD, **Co-Chair**, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada

Kathryn Michel, DVM, MS, MSED, DACVN, University of Pennsylvania-CVM, Philadelphia, PA

Liz Norman, BVSc, MVM, EdD, MANZCVS, Massey University, CS, Palmerston North, NZ

Emma O'Neill, BSc, BVSc, PhD, DSAM ECVIP-CA, PGDip, University College of Dublin-CVM, Dublin, IE

Malathi Raghavan, DVM, MS, PhD, Purdue University-CVM, West Lafayette, IN

Kenneth Royal, PhD, MS, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Jack Wilson, DVM, **Co-Chair**, National Examining Board, Calgary, AB, Canada

Staff Support

Jeanne Blasewitz

Heather Case, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CAE, ICVA CEO

Elizabeth Johnson Million, DVM

Courtney Vengrin, MS, PhD



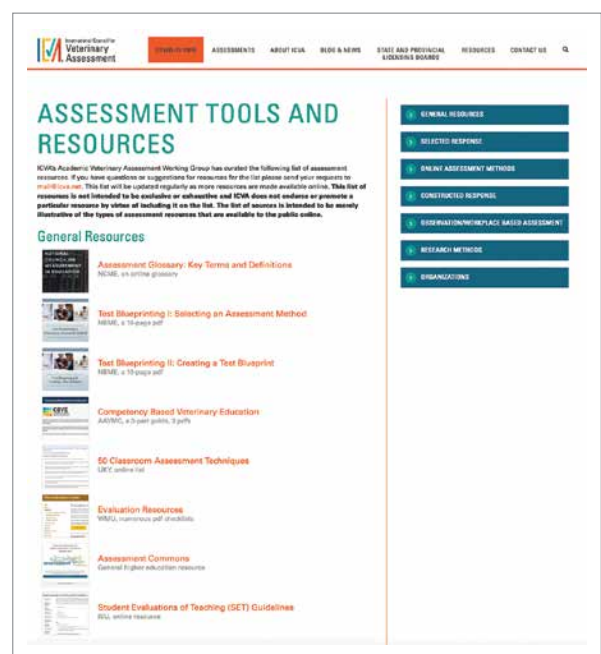
Assessment Tools and Resources

With the move to remote exams and the emphasis on online learning, ICVA's Academic Veterinary Assessment Committee curated a list of veterinary assessment resources.

The resource list is updated regularly as more resources are made available online:

<https://www.icva.net/resources/assessment-resources/>

If you have questions or suggestions for resources for the list, please send your requests to mail@icva.net.



Assessment Grant Program

In 2019, the Academic Veterinary Assessment Committee (AVAC) created and the ICVA Board of Directors approved the ICVA Assessment Grant program to fund research projects focused on veterinary assessment within academia. The purpose of an ICVA assessment grant is to validate current, discover new, implement, and support best practices in veterinary medical education assessment.

The entry deadline for the third year of the Assessment Grant program was June 1. The ICVA received six Letters of Intent and sent invitations for full proposals to all six applicants. The proposals were reviewed by all members of the AVAC and discussed in a virtual meeting on November 23.



2021 ICVA Assessment Grant Program Recipients



Dr. India Lane

Congratulations to the 2021 ICVA Grant Winners, Dr. India Lane and co-investigator Dr. Misty Bailey! The title of their proposal is “Assessing across the Curricula – University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine”.

The grant funds will be used primarily to assist the winners’ school faculty with assessing and revising learning outcomes, revising and tagging exam questions, and creating exam blueprints with an aim toward analyzing their curriculum map for potential divergence between declared, delivered, and learned curricula.

Long-term, this project will better prepare the faculty to determine if day-one competencies are being met, examine horizontal and longitudinal content alignment, and provide evidence to support assessment and curricular decisions.



Dr. Misty Bailey

“Since the framework is not university-specific, we plan to make the process available to others to replicate. We also anticipate the construction of a rubric to assess written learning outcomes that can be used by other colleges.”

– Dr. Misty Bailey

2019 ICVA Assessment Grant Update

Dr. Bok has completed the grant research and published a manuscript. His project was titled “Can we effectively assess students’ learning over time? The information function of students’ learning trajectories in high-stakes decision making.”

Timelines for the 2022 Grant Application Process

Grant announcement: May 11, 2022

Letter of Intent due date: June 12, 2022

Full proposal invitation: August 1, 2022

Submission deadline: September 30, 2022: 11:59pm EST

Application review: October 2022

Applicants notified of awards: November 30, 2022