



European Veterinary Dental College

EVDC Information Document No. 5

Entry Examinations

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EVDC Certifying Examination

1. Description of the examination and requirements for entry to the EVDC examination

a. Entry to the European Veterinary Dental College (EVDC, the College) is by successful completion of the College certifying examination.

b. Applicants will only be admitted to the EVDC certifying examination after they have produced satisfactory evidence that they meet the College's credentials requirements. Thereafter they are referred to as candidates.

c. Candidates are allowed a first attempt plus three retakes at each part of the examination within eight years of their credentials having been accepted. Exemptions or extensions will be considered by the Board on an *ad hoc* basis (e.g. pregnancy, major change in family circumstances, etc.).

Any candidate who has not successfully completed all parts of the examination within eight years will be permitted to re-apply. These candidates will be required to satisfy all current credential requirements, repeat the credential review process and to submit a new application and pay all application and examination fees. The repeat applicant whose new credentials have been accepted will be required to take the entire examination and complete all three parts successfully within eight years.

Those re-applying for College membership are required to re-take the whole examination as the results of those parts of the examination that were previously passed will lapse.

d. Examinations will be offered annually provided there are sufficient candidates to justify the expense. However, if there are candidates awaiting an examination they will not normally be required to wait longer than two years before being examined.

e. Fees are charged for reviewing applications and for sitting the examinations. (EVDC Information Document 7)

2. Examination format

- a. The College certifying examination is composed of three sections: Theory, Case-oriented multiple choice (bench) and Practical. All three sections must be passed before a candidate will be admitted to the College. The stated passing grade for each part is 70%. The practical examination includes a wide range of dental procedures typically performed in specialist practice. They are assigned to either core (endodontic, oral surgery, periodontal and restorative/prosthetic dentistry) or non-core (orthodontics, radiography, etc.) dental disciplines, and the scores are calculated to determine whether a candidate has an overall pass score in each of the core dental disciplines. A candidate must pass each core discipline (with a minimum of 70%) in addition to the overall pass score of 70% to succeed in the practical examination.

i. Theory: 175 multiple choice questions

The theory examination is intended to be an objective test of the range and depth of knowledge based on the scientific literature in the field of general and veterinary dentistry, oral medicine and surgery.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the examination.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring and consume refreshments during the examination provided that this is done discreetly to avoid distracting other candidates.
- e. Candidates are permitted 4.5 hours to complete all 175 questions.

ii Case-oriented multiple choice (Bench): 100 multiple choice questions based on images

The case-oriented multiple choice examination is intended to evaluate familiarity with anatomy, materials, supplies, instruments and equipment as well as skills in oral diagnosis, treatment planning and therapeutic judgement. The case-oriented multiple choice examination consists of one four hour session.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the examination.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring and consume refreshments during the examination provided that this is done discreetly to avoid distracting other candidates.

iii Practical examination: 12 to 15 treatments or procedures performed under laboratory conditions

The practical examination is designed to test manual dexterity and technical skills as well as knowledge of appropriate treatment procedures and techniques. The practical examination will be comprised of three sessions of four and a half hours each.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the examination.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring refreshments for consumption during the practical examination but, for health reasons, they must not be taken into or consumed in the operating area. A supervised refreshment area will be provided.
- e. Candidates are expected to arrive for the practical examination with sufficient instruments, equipment and materials to perform several procedures in each core discipline of veterinary dentistry and oral surgery.
- f. Each candidate will be provided with an individual work area equipped with air and water sources for conventional 4-hole hand-pieces. Conventional dental radiography unit/s will be provided for candidates to share. Radiography units capable of digital radiography may be available depending on the examination site. Bringing your own dental radiography unit is strongly discouraged and is subject to local law.

Candidates with preferences for specific equipment are allowed to bring their own provided it does not interfere with the work of other candidates or the Examination Committee. The use of a chair-side manual processor is acceptable. Digital radiographs are acceptable but, to ensure anonymity, must be submitted as jpeg images on a CD with no markings that would otherwise identify the candidate. Users of computers must satisfy the proctor that internet access and other communication devices have been disabled for the duration of the examination.

- g. Instruments and materials such as radiographic film, hand-pieces, restorative material, curing lights, impression materials, etc. are not supplied by the EVDC.

Candidates are reminded that laboratory specimens may be cold and that this may affect their choice of materials. The use of surgical adhesives for closure is not permitted because this prevents evaluation of surgical technique. Due to safety regulations, use of two-part, liquid-powder methyl methacrylate products are not encouraged. Candidates must find an alternate material for procedures that might call for the use of such products.

To summarise, all materials necessary to complete the practical examination sessions, and which were not mentioned above as being supplied by the EVDC, are the responsibility of the candidate. No reading materials associated with dental techniques, equipment or supplies may be brought into the examination room or accessed on computer, except product information sheets that were originally packaged with the equipment or material. When using any electrical instrument, the candidate is responsible for checking for voltage compatibility. Provision of plugs, adaptors and electric cords is the candidate's responsibility.

b. Candidates are expected to work independently and no candidate is allowed to receive help from any other candidate or other person on any phase of the practical examination. Candidates are instructed not to discuss the examination with each other or engage in conversation during the examination. Minimal conversation directed toward the use of shared materials and equipment which has been provided by the EVDC is permissible. If a candidate has a question, he or she should ask the proctor. Pets, family members, friends, staff, and personal belongings not related to the examination, will not be allowed in the examination area.

c. Any candidate found to be dishonest in the course of the examination will be reported to the Board of Regents by the Examination Committee and may be excluded from that and subsequent qualifying examinations. Admittance to subsequent examinations will be at the discretion of the Board of Regents.

d. The theory and case-oriented multiple choice examinations will include questions on any aspect of veterinary medicine and surgery which have any relevance to dentistry, oral medicine and surgery. Questions may be expected in the following discipline and species categories:

i. Disciplines:

- Equipment, materials
- Anatomy, development & histology
- Diagnosis, diagnostic imaging
- Oral pathology
- Oral medicine, pharmacology, anaesthetics
- Periodontology

- Endodontics
- Restorative dentistry, prosthodontics
- Orthodontics
- Oral surgery

ii. Species:

- Dog and cat
- Horse & farm animals
- Rabbit & rodents
- Other species
- Non-species (questions not species specific)

e. An EVDC reading list is available to assist in preparation for the examination. (See www.evdc.info)

f. Examination questions are the copyright of the EVDC and may not be divulged to third parties. No examination material may be removed from the examination venue. Candidates guilty of such an offence may be excluded from that and subsequent certifying examinations.

3. Passing grades, examination results, repeat-examinations and appeals

3.1. Passing grades

All three sections must be completed satisfactorily to pass the examination.

Candidates are expected to obtain a minimum of 70% of available marks in all sections of the examination (written, case-oriented multiple choice and practical), **AND** in the practical examination, 70% in each of the core discipline components of Oral Surgery, Periodontics, Endodontics and Restorative/Prosthodontic dentistry.

The examination is marked anonymously. An anonymity process has been designed and will be explained to candidates prior to the start of the examination. Each part of the examination is marked anonymously and independently.

3.2. Disclosure of examination results

Candidates will receive written notification of whether or not they passed the examination within **thirty days** of the date of the examination. Examination results will be sent to all candidates on the same day.

Candidates, who are not successful in the examination, including the practical examination, will be provided with their percentage scores in each section.

- For the written and the case-oriented multiple choice examinations, information will be made available on whether the candidate passed or failed each discipline category of the examinations.
- For the practical examination, information will be made available on whether the candidate passed or failed each procedure within each core category as well as non-core categories of the examination. A short narrative will be provided for failed procedures.

Candidates will not be allowed to review their examination papers or specimens after the examination.

3.3 Repeat examinations

The EVDC certifying examination has three parts: a written, case-oriented multiple choice and a practical part. Candidates will have **eight years**, with a maximum of 4 attempts at each part, to successfully complete the three parts of the examination. Any candidate who has not successfully completed all parts of the examination within eight years will be permitted to re-apply. These applicants will be required to satisfy all current credential requirements and repeat the credential review process; submit a new application and pay all application and examination fees. The candidate whose new credentials have been accepted will be required to take the entire examination and complete all three parts successfully.

3.4 Appeal procedure

EVDC constitution and By-laws - Article VI: Appeals against Adverse Decisions

1. A person, or persons adversely affected by a College decision may petition for reconsideration on the grounds that the decision was:
 - a. not based on established College criteria applicable to such decision
 - b. unsupported by the evidence available, or
 - c. arbitrary or capricious
2. A written petition must include a statement of the grounds for reconsideration with documentation sent to the Chair of the Board of Regents of the College via the Secretary. Such a petition must be postmarked to the College office within 90 days of the date on which the College's decision was made known to the petitioner.
3. The affected party(s) may be invited to appear before the Board of Regents.

4. The Board of Regents will meet in executive session to reach a final decision. The decision of the Board of Regents will be postmarked in writing to the affected person(s) not more than 30 days after it is made.
5. If a meeting is requested by either party to the dispute, and if one of the parties will accept the responsibility for the expenses of the meeting and provide a deposit of 1000 Euro towards these expenses, the Chair of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS) shall call a meeting of the parties in dispute or their representatives. The meeting may be held at the EBVS headquarters and may be chaired by the Chair of the EBVS. The parties in dispute would be guided to seek equitable solutions. The College will not provide travel funds to the parties in dispute.