

THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS



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MEMORANDUM

To: 2021 enrolled Membership candidates

From: Dr Peter Bennett, Chief Examiner

Subject: Membership examinations June 2021

The Board of Examiners (BoE) write to confirm the implementation and process for the College's 2021 examinations.

Due to the ongoing and evolving COVID pandemic restrictions that can be implemented by State and/or Federal government with limited warning, the BoE, with approval from Council, will conduct a Membership examination delivery plan with state based invigilated venue attendance for written and practical examinations and remote delivery of oral examinations.

The following is a brief outline of proposed delivery:

- Written examination papers: (1st – 4th of June, 2021)
 - Candidate attendance at allocated invigilated venues in their home state.
 - Two papers sat on the same day, as is normal.
 - Staggered by subject over 1st week of June, same subject sat worldwide on same day.
- Practical examinations: (3 subjects only: Veterinary Radiology SA/LA and Veterinary Pathology)
 - Candidates will attend the same invigilated venues as for their written examination components in the first week of June, 2021.
 - Practical examinations will be scheduled one or two days after the written papers. This means the practical and oral components will not be a day apart, which has previously been the case.

- Oral examinations: delivery by Zoom examination, candidates, observers and examiners will remain in their home or office (or at a suitable location meeting the College's requirements for information and internet security).
 - The ANZ cohorts' (and international candidates other than Medicine of Cats UK) examinations will be held over two weekends:
 - Friday 18th to Monday 21st, June 2021
 - Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th, June 2021
 - The number of candidates examined each day will be reduced to 6 in most subjects to ensure a buffer for implementation of Zoom delivery platform.
 - Candidates' identity will be validated by College representatives on entry to the Zoom environment.
 - Candidates will be required to provide College staff with a visual 'sweep' of their examination environment to demonstrate they have a suitable location, free from textbooks or other inappropriate information sources.
 - All Zoom meetings will be recorded by the College to allow review by the office staff, Head Subject Examiner (HSE), Chief Examiner (CE) or Assistant Chief Examiners (ACEs) if concerns are raised by observers or examiners. If suspicious behaviour is noted, the observer or examiner will note the time at which this occurred to expedite review.
 - Candidates will not be permitted to record their examination in any way.
 - If a significant concern is noted, the candidate will be asked to repeat the room sweep immediately.
 - Identified attempts to use external materials or assistance during the examination will lead the candidate's oral examination to be recorded as a fail (consistent with current College policies).
 - We encourage candidates to practice Zoom examinations in readiness for their oral examination delivery.
- Results date yet to be confirmed but likely Friday 9th, July, 2021.
- If regional lock down restrictions prohibit candidate attendance, affected candidate(s) will be required to defer to 2022 without penalty. All subject examinations will continue in other, unaffected regions.

Please note:

- International candidates may need to present for their oral examination outside traditional examination hours in their country as the examinations will be based on the Australian Eastern time zone.
- Enrolled candidates will be required to adhere to all relevant policies and procedures, including those being developed in support of regional and/or online delivery.
- During the delivery of the 2021 College examinations, in the event a candidate experiences a serious medical or critical personal circumstance, a candidate should apply for deferral under the [Extenuating Circumstances policy](#).

Our considerations for COVID-safe delivery of Fellowship 2021 examinations have addressed many scenarios relating to the challenges this pandemic has presented and those that may be presented through this coming year. The safety of candidates, examiners and all involved, and upholding the rigour and integrity of our Examination processes, have been forefront in all planning.

We acknowledge that specific aspects of finalising the delivery of the 2021 examinations is still a work in progress and we appreciate your patience as we progress through the intricacies of your examination delivery. As details are finalised you will be notified of this information as soon as they are confirmed.

As always if you require additional information, please contact the Examinations Team at the College office: examinations@anzcvs.org.au