

EPIDEMIOLOGY SPECIALTY EXAM INFORMATION

Administration of the Examination

The Epidemiology Specialty examination is administered annually. The next examination will be held in **June 2017**. Candidates have 8 hours to complete the examination. Candidates may bring a standard handheld calculator to the examination. The calculator must only have the capability to perform numeric calculations, not alpha capability that could allow storage of text and formulas. Computers are not permitted.

Format, Content, and Grading of the Examination

Questions for the Specialty examination are submitted to the Examination Committee by members of the Committee, members of the Specialty, or other experts in the field of epidemiology. The certifying examination consists of 12 short answer, essay or problem solving questions, of which the candidates need only answer 10. Each question is worth 10 points. A score of 70 is required to pass the exam. Candidates will be notified of examination results within 60 days of the examination. Candidates may appeal an adverse decision. The appeal procedure is contained in Article IX of the Epidemiology Specialty By-Laws. The appeal procedure is also included on the application form.

Candidates can expect the Epidemiology Specialty examination to address the following basic and advanced epidemiologic concepts:

- the varied uses of the epidemiologic approach
- the interpretation of findings
- calculations and interpretation of probabilities and estimations
- the assessment of statistical associations (including bias, confounding, chance, and effect modification)
- judgment of cause-effect relationships
- assessment of various study designs
- sources and methods of data collection
- calculation of epidemiologic measures
- assessment of sample size and sampling frameworks
- univariate and multivariate analyses
- outbreak investigations
- methods of program evaluation (economics; disease control, eradication, and prevention; and animal productivity)