



Reporting of Results

Results of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) Phase II Surgical Competency Examination are customarily emailed to all candidates within six (6) weeks after completion of the examination. Results will indicate whether the candidate passed or failed each section of the examination (i.e., the practical and case-based). For candidates who fail, the feedback report will include performance on the areas within each section. Information regarding overall performance will be available from an appointed advisor for any candidate who fails a section of the examination. Advisors will not discuss performance on individual test items but may offer suggestions for improving performance on subsequent examinations.

Advisor Assignments

Candidates who do not pass the Phase II examination will be assigned an ACVS Examination Committee member as their advisor within 21 days of receiving their examination results. Upon request by the candidate, advisors will review the examination to identify areas of strength and weakness to provide guidance to the candidate in future attempts. It is the candidate's responsibility to contact their advisor and request a meeting to review their examination performance.

Grading Process

- Exams will be graded with the points assigned to each question. The data will be entered into a spreadsheet and double-checked. Point totals will then be calculated by the computer.
- After grading is complete, cut scores will be set by the border group method as described in the *Phase II Surgical Competency Examination Information Pamphlet*.
- For exams falling within 5 points of the cut score (once the cut score has been set), data entry will be rechecked. These exams will also be carefully reviewed by the Examination Committee members, referencing the exam key, to make sure that nothing was missed during the original grading process.
- If an error is found that changes the candidate's score, then the exam will be discussed, and the cut score may be revisited according to the border group method.

Requests for Rescoring

Rescoring of the examination means that an employee of the examination consulting service reviews the examination to make sure that all scores were properly transcribed and correctly calculated. **Candidates who wish to pursue rescoring of their examination must email ACVS (acvs@acvs.org) and the Examination Committee chair within 60 days of notification by ACVS of the results. Prior to this communication, the candidate must have contacted and received feedback from their assigned advisor.** The Examination Committee chair will provide additional details to help the candidate decide if they wish to pursue rescoring.

If the candidate still wishes to have their examination rescored after the communication with the Examination Committee chair, they must contact the ACVS office and pay the rescoring fee within ten (10) days of that communication. The rescoring fee is \$500. The ACVS office will inform the examination

service of the rescoring request upon receipt of the fee. Every effort will be made to perform exam rescoring and notify the candidate within seven business days of a paid request.

Appeal Procedure

If a candidate believes the Phase II examination results were adversely affected by extraordinary conditions during the examination, the candidate may appeal such determination by submission of a written petition for reconsideration as detailed in the *Protocol for Processing of Appeals*. The ACVS office must receive the petition within sixty (60) days of releasing results. Contact the ACVS office to receive the most current version of the protocol.