

# American College of Veterinary Surgeons

## Phase II Surgical Competency Examination, February 9-10, 2026

### 2026 ACVS PHASE II EXAMINATION READING LIST

The following references and books are suggested reading in addition to the current Phase I reading list for preparation for the 2026 Phase II examination. Other textbooks and current references may be pertinent. A substantial understanding of basic and applied physiology and anatomy is assumed.

Unless otherwise indicated, all chapters apply.

### SELECTED REFERENCES FOR SMALL ANIMAL SURGERY

1. Johnston, S., and K. Tobias. *Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal*. 2nd ed. Elsevier, 2018.
2. Fossum, T. W. *Small Animal Surgery*. 5th ed. Mosby Co., 2018.
3. Johnson, A. L., J. EF Houlton, and R. Vannini. *AO Principles of Fracture Management in the Dog and Cat*. AO Publishing, 2005. *Chapters 1, 2, 3, 20, 27*.
4. Kudnig, S. T., and B. Seguin, eds. *Veterinary Surgical Oncology*. 2nd ed. Wiley, 2022.

Knowledge of basic and applied physiology, pharmacology, anesthesia, and basic applied anatomy is assumed and should be reviewed in an appropriate text. The Phase I reading list can be used as a guide.

1. Hall, J. E., and M. E. Hall. *Guyton and Hall Textbook of Medical Physiology*. 14th ed. W.B. Saunders Co., 2020. *Chapters 4-13, 16, 20, 22, 25, 30-31, 37-43, 50, 61, 63-65*.
2. Hermanson, J. W., and A. de LaHunta. *Miller's Anatomy of the Dog*. 5th ed. Elsevier, 2019.
3. Boothe, D. M. *Small Animal Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. 2nd ed. Elsevier, 2011. *Chapter 6 (Principles of Antimicrobial Therapy), Chapter 7 (Antimicrobial Drugs), Chapter 19 (GI Physiology), Chapter 29 (Anti-Inflammatory Drugs)*.
4. Lamont, L., K. Grimm, S. Robertson, L. Love, C. Schroeder, eds. *Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia, The 6th of Lumb and Jones*. 6th ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2024. *Chapters 2-8, 10-17, 19-51, 59-60, 68, 69, 71*.

### SELECTED REFERENCES FOR LARGE ANIMAL SURGERY

1. Auer, J., and J. Stick. *Equine Surgery*. 5th ed. Elsevier, 2018.
2. Nixon, A. J., ed. *Equine Fracture Repair*. 2nd ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.
3. Fubini, S. L., and N. G. Ducharme. *Farm Animal Surgery*. 2nd ed. W. B. Saunders Co., 2017.
4. McIlwraith, C. W., I. Wright, and A. Nixon. *Diagnostic and Surgical Arthroscopy in the Horse*. 4th ed. Elsevier, 2014.
5. Ragle, C. A., ed. *Advances in Equine Laparoscopy*. 2nd ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
6. Theoret, C., and J. Schumacher, eds. *Equine Wound Management*. 3rd ed. Wiley, 2017.

Knowledge of basic and applied physiology, pharmacology, anesthesia, and basic applied anatomy is assumed and should be reviewed in an appropriate text. The Phase I reading list can be used as a guide.

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Many journals contain articles pertaining to surgery (both human and veterinary) and should be perused for current literature.

For the 2026 examination, article-based questions will **primarily** come from articles published in the range of June 1, 2020–May 31, 2025 (five years) and June 1, 2022–May 31, 2025 (three years). This date range includes publication of content in an issue except when indicated beside the specific journal listed below. Early view articles are not included for any journals.

A partial list of veterinary journals includes:

### JOURNALS FOR SMALL ANIMAL SURGERY CANDIDATES

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#### FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

- *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. Additional online content is also included within the five-year date range.
- *Veterinary Comparative Orthopaedics and Traumatology*
- *Veterinary Surgery*. Themed online journals are also included within the five-year date range. The articles within those themed online journals are included regardless of the original date of publication.

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#### FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS

- *Journal of Feline Medicine & Surgery*
- *Journal of Small Animal Practice*
- *Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care*
- *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*
- *Veterinary Radiology & Ultrasound*

### JOURNALS FOR LARGE ANIMAL SURGERY CANDIDATES

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#### FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

- *Equine Veterinary Journal & Supplements*
- *Equine Veterinary Education*
- *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. Additional online content is also included within the five-year date range.
- *Veterinary Surgery*. Themed online journals are also included within the five-year date range. The articles within those themed online journals are included regardless of the original date of publication.

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#### FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS

- *Veterinary Comparative Orthopedics and Traumatology*
- *Veterinary Radiology & Ultrasound*