



CVMA • ACMV

National Examining Board
Bureau national des examinateurs

Frequently Asked Questions

An additional resource designed to help answer questions for current and prospective NEB candidates.



This FAQ Guide is an additional resource designed to help answer questions for current and prospective NEB candidates. In support of the information provided on the CVMA website, candidates are encouraged to review both this guide and the CVMA website to understand all policies and procedures. While we strive to provide accurate and up-to-date information, the NEB is not liable for outdated or incorrect details in this Guide. Fees and procedures may change without notice, and candidates are responsible for staying informed about any updates that may affect them.

If you still have questions after reviewing all available information, please contact us by email or through your NEB Candidate Portal.



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Important Websites

NEB Candidate Information Guide

<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/accreditation-and-national-examining-board/national-examining-board/>

Visit Site

NEB Candidate Portal

<https://cvma.knack.com/neb-db#login/>

Visit Site





General Questions – Policies and Procedures

I have questions about licensure and practicing veterinary medicine in Canada.

In Canada, legislative authority to regulate the practice of professions and trades is a provincial responsibility.

In each province, a licensing body is established by statute. Licensing for veterinary medicine is the responsibility of the provincial licensing body empowered by provincial legislation. While the general requirements to obtain a license to practice veterinary medicine are similar, specific requirements may differ from province to province. Individuals intending to apply for a license must correspond directly with the registrar of the licensing body of the province in which they wish to practice, in order to determine the relevant requirements.

The addresses of the licensing bodies in each of the ten provinces can be found [here](#).

Is the NEB process the same as licensing?

No, the NEB is not a licensing body. The National Examining Board (NEB) is a body established by the CVMA to administer the NEB veterinary medicine examination process. Like the CVMA, the NEB does not have power to license or discipline veterinarians.

Does NEB assist with visas or immigration?

The NEB does not have any control or influence, nor can we help with matters regarding immigration or visa issuance.

Immigration status is not considered during the NEB application review process. Anyone who meets the initial application criteria may apply, regardless of immigration status.



How do I apply to the NEB examination process?

Before registering for any of the examinations, please make sure that you meet all eligibility requirements. All candidates, including students from CVMA/AVMA-accredited veterinary schools outside of Canada, must send in a complete NEB application before being able to register for an exam. **Candidates of Canadian Veterinary Medicine Programs are exempt from submitting any documentation to the NEB.**

Here are the steps to apply with the NEB to begin the examination process:

1. Create your profile and complete the initial application steps and fee payment (see [Fee Schedule](#)) using the NEB Candidate Portal.**
 - A. *Candidates of Canadian Veterinary Medicine Schools: Your file will be automatically approved after this step. You can continue with exam registration accordingly.*
2. Follow the [Document Checklist](#) that is relevant to you.
3. If you have already passed some or all required examination(s), you will have to get your results transferred to NEB. For BCSE or CPE results, ask ECFVG to transfer those results to NEB. For NAVLE results, request a score transfer by using [AAVSB Viva](#) and transfer the score to the CVMA-NEB.
4. Send your application documents to the NEB and we will complete the credential assessment. Check the current application processing times at the top of document checklists page for how long it will take for us to review your application documents.
5. After application approval, register for the first step of the NEB examination, the [BCSE](#) (or the [NAVLE](#) for students/graduates of CVMA/AVMA-accredited schools).

***Important: If you've previously applied to the NEB, do not create a new portal account. Contact us if you're unsure of your status at nab-bne@cvma-acmv.org.*

Can the CVMA-NEB issue a T2202 form?

The CVMA-NEB cannot issue a T2202 form because we are not a Designated Educational Institution. Receipts of payment that may be useful for tax filing are accessible from the NEB Candidate Portal.



I am a veterinarian licensed in the USA and moving to Canada. How do I get my Certificate of Qualification (CQ) from the NEB?

The steps below are to help US-based veterinarians to begin the process with the NEB. A Certificate of Qualification (CQ) from the NEB is a prerequisite to being able to apply for a license with any of the provincial licensing bodies:

If you graduated from an [CVMA/AVMA-accredited school](#):

1. Apply with the NEB on the NEB Candidate Portal and send in your [supporting documentation](#).
2. Transfer your board exam / NAVLE results to the CVMA-NEB using [AAVSBs Viva](#) service. A passing NAVLE result will have to be obtained within three attempts (as of March 2022) or you will have to take the practical exams of the NEB (PSA and CPE). If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the NEB at neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org.
3. Once your application is completed, we will issue your Certificate of Qualification (CQ). The CQ is a prerequisite to apply for a license in any Canadian province.

If you are licensed in the US but graduated from a non-accredited veterinary school [listed by the AVMA](#):

1. Apply with the NEB on the NEB Candidate Portal and send in your [supporting documentation](#).
2. Transfer your board exam / NAVLE results to the NEB using [AAVSBs Viva](#) service and ask ECFVG to transfer your BCSE & CPE results to NEB.
3. Once your application is completed, we will issue your Certificate of Qualification (CQ). The CQ is a prerequisite to apply for a license in any Canadian province.

Please Note:

Any ECFVG Certificate obtained by doing the ECFVG Clinical Year are not recognized by the NEB.

The NEB accepts an ECFVG Certificate only if it was awarded upon passing the CPE or equivalent.

A Certificate of Qualification from the NEB is a prerequisite to being able to apply for a license with any of the provincial licensing bodies. However, granting a license is under the authority of the licensing bodies and in some provinces, applicants may have to pass an additional provincial jurisprudence examination to demonstrate knowledge of the legislation that governs the veterinary profession in that province.

How can I practice veterinary medicine in the US?

The educational prerequisite for veterinary licensure in most states and for certain federal positions includes graduation from a veterinary school accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE).

Graduates of schools not accredited by the CVMA/AVMA COE are required to demonstrate that they have received an education equivalent to that of a CVMA/AVMA COE- accredited school before they can take a licensing exam. The certificate offered by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates® (ECFVG®) is accepted by all state veterinary regulatory boards and the federal government as meeting the educational prerequisite for licensure or certain types of employment, respectively.

Individuals who are interested in practice in the US can contact the ECFVG for more information about its process: ECFVG@avma.org

What is the difference between the NEB and the ECFVG programs?

Both the National Examining Board (NEB) and the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) use almost the same examinations as part of their certification programs, namely the Basic and Clinical Sciences Examination (BCSE) and the Clinical Proficiency Examination (CPE), and each agency accepts BCSE and CPE score transfers from the other agency. However, the application requirements/procedure differs between the two programs, and each application is independent of the other. In other words, your NEB file documents cannot be transferred to the ECFVG – only examination scores on the BCSE and CPE.

These are key differences between the two programs:

- The NEB process is intended for those seeking licensure in Canada, while the ECFVG program is intended for those seeking licensure in the USA.
- The NEB requires a candidate from a non-accredited university to pass the BCSE, NAVLE, PSA and CPE.
- The NAVLE is a requirement for obtaining a CQ across Canadian jurisdictions, whereas it is an individual state licensure requirement in the USA.
- Language proficiency requirements differ between the two programs.

Can the CVMA-NEB issue an educational credential assessment (ECA)?

No, the CVMA-NEB does not provide ECAs for immigration or other purposes.

Where can I get a payment receipt?

Receipts are available in your NEB Candidate Portal. Contact the NEB if need further help at neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org



I am a graduate of a non-accredited university. What are my options if I do not want to go through the regular NEB process?

The NEB has [Alternative Pathways to the Certificate of Qualification \(CQ\) for Graduates From Non-CVMA/AVMA Accredited Programs](#) listed on our website. Outside of these options, you may also consider the following:

Option one: Repeat veterinary school at a CVMA/AVMA-Accredited university.

Option two: Consider a career that does not require licensure.

How can I get my school added to the Directory of AVMA ECFVG®-Listed Veterinary Colleges?

To be eligible to apply for enrollment in the NEB process or the ECFVG certification program, an individual must be a graduate of, or final-year student at, an AVMA ECFVG-listed veterinary college. The schools listed on this directory, and their curricula, are not reviewed, accredited, validated, endorsed, approved, accepted, granted, or certified in any manner by the AVMA, the ECFVG program, the NEB or the CVMA. The AVMA ECFVG-listed school directory is used by the AVMA and CVMA solely to allow individuals to apply for enrollment in the ECFVG certification program or the NEB program. An individual from a non-listed veterinary school cannot apply for enrollment in the ECFVG or NEB program until the school becomes listed. If there is no individual applying to the ECFVG or NEB program, the ECFVG will not consider a request to list the school.

The time required to add a school to the listed school directory varies and depends on many factors, such as the country or language of communication within the country of origin, and the speed at which the school responds to the ECFVG's request. Prospective candidates should plan well in advance to start this step as the time required to add a school to the directory is beyond the control of the ECFVG.

If a school is not already included in the AVMA ECFVG-listed school directory, specific documentation is required to add the school. Please review the requirements here: [ECFVG-listed veterinary colleges](#).

How long does it take to complete the NEB process?

The time it takes to complete the NEB process depends on many factors, including the candidate's educational and skill level as well as the availability of seats for the PSA and the CPE. Due to the high volume of applicants from non-accredited veterinary schools, please expect an extended waiting period to receive a seat for the PSA.

Candidates applying to the NEB program have seven (7) years to complete all requirements (i.e., credential assessment and required examinations). More information on this can be found here: [Renewal Policy](#).

I am looking for more information for Veterinary Technicians.

Contact the provincial licensing bodies directly, listed on the RVTTC website, for more information: <https://rvttcanada.ca/become-a-rvt/>.

Is it possible for me to get a restricted license to practice for the CPE?

In certain provinces it might be possible to get a restricted license to practice under certain circumstances.

For more information, contact your respective [provincial licensing body](#).

Where can I find additional training opportunities for the NEB examinations?

You can find more information about the content and structure of the BCSE, along with references and a practice test on our website.

More information on preparing for the NAVLE is available on our website.

The NEB provides a [Self-Assessment Tool](#) for the Clinical Proficiency Exam.

There are entities offering an instructional program designed to prepare internationally trained graduates of non-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine for practice in Canada and/or the US. However, the NEB and CVMA have no opinion as to the usefulness of these programs for any given individual, nor do they endorse any of the resources listed on the CVMA Web site.

Does the NEB/CVMA provide financial assistance to internationally trained veterinarians in the NEB process?

The NEB recognizes the significant costs and time involved in completing the examination and certification process. While the NEB/CVMA does not provide direct financial assistance, there are programs in Canada that may help internationally trained professionals cover related expenses.

One option is the [Foreign Credential Recognition Program](#) (www.canada.ca/foreign-credential-recognition), which offers low-interest loans to help with training, examination, and other related costs. Funding is delivered through several non-profit organizations across Canada that also provide other support services, including access to training, recertification, alternative certification, career placement, and career and financial counselling.

Note: The NEB/CVMA does not endorse any specific financial assistance program. This information is provided solely to assist candidates seeking possible support options.



Application Process and Document Evaluation

What happens after I submit my application and documents to the NEB?

Once you have opened the account on the NEB Candidate Portal, paid your fee, and sent in your documents:

What Happens Next?

- The NEB staff will conduct a formal review of your application.
- We will inform you if any documents are still missing or are not accepted.
- Once we have approved your application, you will be eligible to register for your first examination (BCSE or NAVLE, depending on your candidate type).

Processing Timelines

- **Start of NEB Application** – NEB starts tracking your application period when you pay the initial application fee. It is important to note the date your fee was paid, as shown in your NEB profile, because this is the start date of your seven-year cycle. NEB candidates have seven years to complete all their NEB exams requirements to obtain the Certificate of Qualification.
- **Submitting Required Hard Copy/Physical Documents to NEB** – The time this takes is determined by you and the institutions that must submit documents on your behalf. Note that physical documents must be mailed in – applicants cannot drop off documents at the CVMA-NEB office.
- **Application Documents Received and Reviewed** – Within the [current processing times](#) of NEB receiving your documents for the initial application, you will be informed via the NEB portal or by email if you are approved or if there are any outstanding requirements.
- **Completion of any Outstanding Requirements** – If you are informed that there are outstanding requirements, the time this takes to complete is based on how quickly you can follow through. Once we receive further documentation, we will expedite the process to ensure those who are pending registration with outstanding requirements are approved.

Did you receive my application documents?

If you wish to know the delivery status of a document, check your tracking info from your courier – not with the NEB – to confirm delivery.

The NEB does not send delivery confirmation emails due to the high volume of mail received. All documents are processed in the order that they are received.

Is there a deadline to send my application documents to the NEB after paying the initial application fee?

No, there is no specific deadline – but your seven-year cycle begins once the application fee is paid. We strongly recommend sending your documents promptly to avoid delays.

Why isn't my school listed on the NEB's application form?

First check the following lists to verify the school's status:

[CVMA/AVMA-Accredited Schools](#)

[AVMA-Listed Non-Accredited Colleges](#)

If your school is on one of these lists, contact the NEB and we will update our database. If your school is not listed, please see [here](#) for more information.

I'm having trouble logging into the NEB Candidate Portal.

Use the correct link to log in: <https://cvma.knack.com/neb-db#login/>. Be sure to bookmark the above link for future access.

Can you reset my password on the NEB Candidate Portal?

You can request a password reset from the [log in page](#). Be sure to check your spam/junk folder for the reset email.

I am registered with the ECFVG. Can they transfer my application documents to the NEB?

Our application process is independent from ECFVG, so you will need to submit the necessary application documents to us even if you have done so prior with the ECFVG. Refer to the [relevant document checklist](#) for more information on what you'll need to send us.





I can't submit required documents for the NEB application due to exceptional circumstances.

Please review the information at the bottom of this page regarding [alternative document submission](#).

If you believe that any of the circumstances listed apply to you, please email the NEB with the reasoning listed and we will send you the alternative document submission guidelines to complete. These requests are handled on a case-by-case basis and may require more time to process.

How do I request exam accommodations?

To request exam accommodations, follow these steps:

1. Read the Guidelines for Accommodation Requests for NEB Examining Process.
2. Complete electronically and completely the Accommodation Request Form, and sign it.

3. Send your completed Accommodation Request Form and supporting documentation to the NEB by email at neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org at least 60 business days before you plan to take the BCSE, on or before the NAVLE application deadline, or 60 business days before your scheduled PSA and CPE exam dates.

4. Instruct your health professional to fully complete the Health Professional Assessment and Recommendations form electronically (i.e. not handwrite), and submit the completed form with any supporting documentation directly to the NEB (not via you) by the exam deadline (stated in bullet #3 above) to neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org.

A new form and updated documentation is required for each exam/exam session that you register for.



Basic and Clinical Sciences Examination (BCSE)

What happens after I register for the BCSE?

1. Complete your BCSE registration and payment in the NEB Candidate Portal
2. Wait up to **20 business days (not including weekends/holidays)** to receive your Authorization to Test letter (ATT). This letter will be posted on your NEB Candidate Portal only.
3. Once you've your ATT, schedule your exam date with Prometric.

If more than 20 business days have passed without the ATT letter, contact us at neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org.

I need to retake the BCSE, do I need to pay the registration fee again?

Yes. Each attempt requires a new registration, fee payment, and ATT letter. ATTs are usually posted within **20 business days** of registration. Note that candidates will be permitted to take the BCSE three times within a 12-month period.

Where can I find my ATT letter?

Log in to your NEB Portal and select "View ATT Letter" under your most recent BCSE registration. If you cannot access it or do not receive it within **20 business days**, contact NEB immediately.

How early must I complete the BCSE to register for the NAVLE through the NEB?

Candidates from non-accredited schools must pass the BCSE before taking the NAVLE. The BCSE should be completed at least 30 days before the NAVLE registration deadline (we recommend 40 days). See the [BCSE Test Results](#) page for details.



North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE)

Is the NEB initial application fee the same as the NAVLE registration fee?

No. These are [separate fees](#).

All NEB candidates (except Canadian veterinary school students/graduates***) must pay the NEB application fee first. Once your NEB application is approved, you can register and pay for the NAVLE through your NEB Portal.

***Candidates of Canadian Veterinary Colleges: Please check [here](#) for steps on how to register for the NAVLE with the NEB.

Do I need to apply to both the NEB and the ICVA for the NAVLE?

If you plan to practice veterinary medicine in Canada and/or you are an existing NEB Candidate, you apply for the NAVLE directly on the NEB Candidate Portal during the [NAVLE registration window](#).

Where do I submit NAVLE accommodation requests?

NEB Candidates registering for the NAVLE through the NEB Candidate Portal must submit exam accommodation requests to the NEB, using the NEB's forms and following the NEB's guidelines listed [here](#).

I registered for NAVLE but haven't received my scheduling permit.

Processing the NAVLE Scheduling and Admission Permits takes some time. You will receive an e-mail as soon as your permit is ready. Note that permits may be issued **after** the registration deadline.

Do I need to resubmit application documents to the NEB if I need to retake the NAVLE?

No. If you have an active NEB account, simply re-register and pay the NAVLE fee in your NEB Candidate Portal during the NAVLE registration window.

It is recommended to review the [NAVLE retake policy](#) as well to confirm your eligibility.

If I withdraw from the NAVLE, does this count as an attempt?

If you do not take the test, it does NOT count as an attempt for the purposes of the NAVLE retake policy. Candidates will be permitted to take the NAVLE up to five times, including incomplete attempts. An incomplete attempt is any attempt where a candidate initiates the NAVLE and responds to questions without completing the exam.

I am a candidate from an AVMA/CVMA-accredited university, and I am not sure if I will practice in Canada or the US. Where should I register to take the NAVLE?

This is entirely up to you. You may register with either the NEB or with the ICVA.

You can request a score transfer at any time after your scores are released through [AAVSB's Vault service](#). For example, if you register through the NEB (Canada) and later decide to move to the US, request a transfer through AAVSB to the appropriate jurisdiction.

I passed the BCSE, but I don't see the NAVLE registration on my portal.

This likely means that the NAVLE registration window is closed. Please always check our [Latest News and Updates](#) for when the next NAVLE registration window will open. Candidates can only register for the NAVLE during the registration window. Note that the NAVLE registration window deadlines are firm.

I registered for the NAVLE through the NEB as a final year student of an AVMA/CVMA- accredited university. I passed the NAVLE and have now graduated. How can I get my CQ?

Upon graduation, you are required to submit your final university transcripts and, if applicable, your degree certificate to the NEB. Please follow the guidelines listed in this [Document Checklist for Graduates](#) under "Education Verification" about how to submit these to us.

We will not issue the Certificate of Qualification (CQ) until we have received confirmation of graduation from your university. With this certificate, you would be eligible to apply for licensing in the province/ territory of your choice.

Once received, we can proceed with completing your file and issuing a Certificate of Qualification.

Do NAVLE scores expire?

No, your NAVLE scores never "expire", and your scores are counted indefinitely. However, some provincial licensing bodies may impose additional restrictions. Check directly with the province where you plan to practice.



How does the NAVLE registration process work in my case?

Step-by-step Guide

Case #1: I am a final year student of a CVMA/AVMA-accredited program:

1. Apply to become a NEB candidate. See [here](#) for more information.
2. Once your application is submitted, you will get a NEB candidate ID and will have to wait until your application is processed and approved. Note that NEB Staff prioritize applications for candidates of accredited programs during NAVLE registration windows.
3. If you already have a profile on the NEB Candidate Portal, complete the NAVLE registration from your dashboard (only available during the NAVLE registration windows).
4. Make sure you select the correct testing region and select if you will request exam accommodations or not. You can find more information here: [Exam Accommodations](#)
5. A few weeks after you register on the NEB Candidate Portal you will receive an email from NBME with your scheduling information.

Case #2: I am already a NEB candidate and have graduated from a **non-accredited school:**

1. Make sure you are eligible to take the NAVLE by having passed the BCSE first.
2. Login to the NEB Candidate Portal and complete the NAVLE registration from your dashboard (only available during the NAVLE registration windows).
3. Make sure you select the correct testing region and select if you will request exam accommodations or not. You can find more information here: [Exam Accommodations](#)
4. A few weeks after you register on the NEB Candidate Portal you will receive an email from NBME with your scheduling information.

Case #3: I am a final year student of a Canadian veterinary college:

1. Your school will send us a list of all eligible final year students.
2. If you haven't taken the NAVLE before, create your candidate account in the NEB Candidate Portal by following the steps listed here: [Canadian Veterinary College Candidates Registration](#)
3. If you have previously taken the NAVLE and don't have an account in the NEB Candidate Portal yet, contact neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org for more information.
4. If you will be requesting exam accommodations, you can find more information here: [Exam Accommodations](#).
5. Once your profile is created, register for the NAVLE from the dashboard by going to the next available NAVLE session under "Available Exam Sessions" and clicking on "register".
6. After submitting payment, you will receive a confirmation email and a receipt.
7. A few weeks after you register on the NEB Candidate Portal you will receive an email from NBME with your scheduling information.

Please Note:

Graduates from CVMA/AVMA-accredited schools who need more than 3 attempts to pass the NAVLE must also complete the PSA/CPE before NEB can issue a CQ. Candidates (except final-year Canadian students) are asked to submit their full NEB application and documents at least 10 business days before the NAVLE deadline or risk being ineligible for that session.

You can review the [NAVLE Sample Scheduling and Admission Permit](#) for your reference.



Preliminary Surgical Assessment (PSA)

How do I register for the Preliminary Surgical Assessment (PSA)?

Eligible candidates can register for the **PSA Waiting List** through the NEB Portal.

1. Pay the exam fee to complete the waiting list registration. You will then receive a confirmation email.
2. The NEB will contact you through the NEB Candidate Portal when a seat is available.
3. A detailed exam schedule is sent a few weeks before the exam. See the [Withdrawal Policy](#) for details on seat offers. Wait times for a seat are posted on our [website](#).

Note: While every effort will be made to maintain dates and locations for PSA and CPE exams, they are subject to change or cancellation. We strongly recommend booking travel accommodations that can be cancelled or rebooked in case of a date change.

I just passed the BCSE. Should I take the NAVLE or the PSA next?

The PSA is required before the CPE. If you passed the BCSE, you may proceed with either the PSA or NAVLE as your next step. Graduates of accredited schools who need more than three NAVLE attempts must also take the PSA and the CPE.

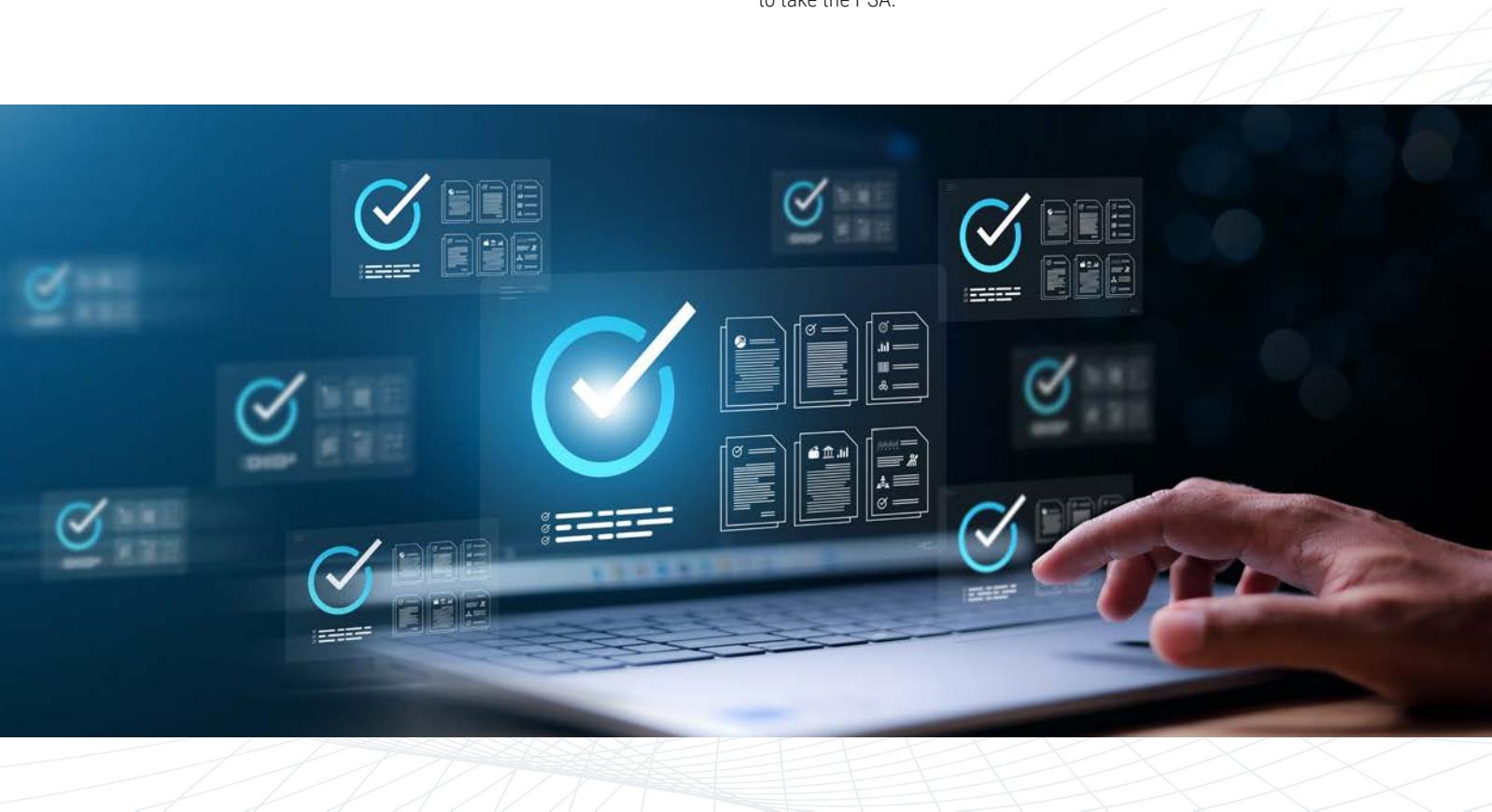
Therefore, a candidate, who has successfully completed the BCSE, may proceed with either the PSA or the NAVLE as the next step. More information on the PSA is [here](#).

Why is the PSA Waiting List so long?

The NEB has seen a significant increase in the number of international non-accredited graduates. Such candidates must complete the PSA before they are eligible to undergo a live surgery in the CPE through the NEB.

The NEB has made significant efforts to expand seat availability and has strengthened the exam withdrawal policy to reduce delays/withdrawals.

Since the PSA is only offered in Canada, we recommend that candidates ensure they can obtain a visa/required travel documents to take the PSA.





Clinical Proficiency Examination (CPE)

How do I register for the full Clinical Proficiency Exam (CPE)?

[Eligible candidates](#) can register for the **full CPE Waiting List** through the NEB Portal. The waiting list will continue to be opened until maximum capacity is reached.

1. You'll be required to pay 50% of the exam registration fee at registration and the remaining 50% is due at least 45 days before the exam.
2. The NEB will contact waitlisted candidates through the NEB Candidate Portal at least 8 weeks before an exam date to assign a seat. In other words, if you join the full CPE waiting list, you may be assigned a seat as early as eight (8) weeks from the date of registering.
3. A detailed exam schedule is sent a few weeks before the exam. See the [withdrawal policy](#) for details on seat offers.

Note: While every effort will be made to maintain dates and locations for PSA and CPE exams, they are subject to change or cancellation. We strongly recommend booking travel accommodations that can be cancelled or rebooked in case of a date change.

If you haven't already, use the Message function in your portal to send your completed Surgical Experience Documentation upon registration. You can obtain a copy of the document [here](#).

I took the CPE through ECFVG and need to retake some sections. Can I do them with the NEB?

It depends. The NEB requires candidates to complete the PSA before the CPE (full exam or surgical section retake). For example, if you have not passed the PSA with the NEB and failed the Surgery section of the CPE with the ECFVG, you will not be able to retake the Surgery section with the NEB.

To avoid double-booking, the NEB and ECFVG will share candidate scheduling information. Neither the NEB nor ECFVG office will knowingly assign an examination date to candidates who have already been assigned a position through the other office.

Candidates who have already accepted an examination position through one agency must also decline a testing position inadvertently offered through the other agency. Candidates who attempt to circumvent this requirement by accepting a testing position through one agency while already scheduled through the other agency will be withdrawn from the second testing position and will lose all deposits paid.

When will I get a seat for a CPE retake section?

The waiting times for CPE retakes vary depending on the section(s) you must retake, the availability of seats at the exam centres, and your place on the CPE retake section waitlist. If you are on the CPE retake waiting list, you will be contacted directly in advance once a seat is available to you.

How difficult is it to pass the CPE?

The examination is a comprehensive assessment of the clinical skills of an entry-level veterinarian, evaluating the diagnostic, surgical, and therapeutic proficiency a candidate possesses in a variety of species, including dogs, cats, horses, cows, and other food animals (sheep, pigs, goats). Pass rates for CPE should be understood in the context of the huge variation in the experiences and skills of the NEB candidates, and candidates are well-advised to gain all the skills and working familiarity necessary to be considered equivalent to a graduate of a CVMA/AVMA-accredited veterinary school prior to attempting the examination.

Where can I find study materials for the PSA and/or CPE?

The PSA manual of administration (MOA) is available on our website and is a foundational document that every PSA candidate should be well-acquainted with.

The CPE manual of administration (MOA) is a foundational document, and every CPE candidate should be well acquainted with it. The MOA details most skills tested during the exam. The CPE MOA is posted on our website.

The case-based exams are usually based on diagnoses such as those listed [here](#). However, note that the list of cases provided is a representative sample to illustrate the type of cases that might be used in the examination and is not all-inclusive.

Where can I request a CPE Summary Feedback Report?

Feedback Report Requests are available from the NEB Candidate Portal. You can request and pay for the feedback summary after your CPE results are posted. Note that the NEB can only provide feedback for the CPE taken in Canada.



Post-Examination and Certificate of Qualification (CQ)

When will I receive my exam results?

Each NEB examination has a score reporting timeline:

- **BCSE** - candidates will receive test results approximately **twenty (20) business days** following the end of each test date. Test results will be released by the NEB via the NEB Candidate Portal.
- **NAVLE** - For each NAVLE testing window, scores are normally reported **approximately four to five weeks after the close of the testing window**. Candidates will receive their scores directly from the test vendor, and the NEB will upload results to the NEB Candidate Portal.
- **PSA** - PSA results will be released by the NEB to the candidate via the NEB Candidate Portal. Scores will be released no more than **twenty (20) business days** following the final day of any given PSA administration.
- **CPE** - Results from examinations administered at NEB-approved CPE sites will be reported by the NEB office via the NEB Candidate Portal. Scores will be released no more than **twenty (20) business days** following the final day of any given CPE administration.

What are my options to appeal examination results?

The NEB has appeal procedures listed on our website. You can review those procedures [here](#).

How can I get a copy of my CQ?

An electronic CQ is uploaded to your NEB Portal once you complete all requirements. You would be notified once the CQ is available for you to download from the NEB Candidate Portal.

If you don't have portal access (or your CQ was issued before 2019), contact the NEB by email.

Can NEB send my CQ to a provincial licensing board?

The provincial licensing bodies have direct access to the NEB Candidate Verification service and can retrieve your CQ from there. If you are being asked to send this to them, please guide them to check the NEB portal for your CQ. If your CQ was issued before 2019, email the NEB for assistance.

Can you share my scores/CQ with the AVMA-ECFVG?

Yes. The NEB can transfer BCSE and/or CPE scores to ECFVG upon your request.

Both the NEB and ECFVG use the same examinations as part of their certification programs, namely the Basic and Clinical Sciences Examination (BCSE) and the Clinical Proficiency Examination (CPE), and each agency accepts BCSE and CPE score transfers from the other agency.

The NEB will only share scores if you have completed Step 2 of the ECFVG program.

I just graduated from a Canadian Veterinary school. How do I get my CQ?

If you are a student of one of the five Canadian veterinary schools, have passed the NAVLE within 3 attempts, and have just graduated, you will need your NEB Certificate of Qualification (CQ) to get licensed in your province.

This is what happens once you graduate:

1. The NEB receives the graduation list from your school. This usually happens mid-May to mid-June. NEB will not issue the CQ until the degree has been conferred.
2. The NEB verifies if all students from the list have passed the NAVLE.
3. CQ numbers are assigned to all graduates that have passed the NAVLE and the CQs are uploaded to the NEB Candidate Portal usually between mid-May to mid-June.
4. The NEB will notify you once the CQ has been issued.

Please Note: Since June 2020, all provincial licensing bodies in Canada have access to an NEB Candidate Verification service that allows them to directly look up exam results and CQ numbers of candidates.

If you have a question that is not covered on our website or in this FAQs Guide, please contact the NEB at neb-bne@cvma-acmv.org or through the NEB Candidate Portal messaging function.



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