



European Veterinary Dental College EVDC Information Document

**Entry Examination Document
Updated September 2023**

EVDC Certifying Examination

- 1. Description of the examination and requirements for entry to the EVDC examination**
 - a. Entry to the European Veterinary Dental College (EVDC, the College) is by successful completion of the College certifying examination.
 - b. Applicants will only be admitted to the EVDC certifying examination after they have produced satisfactory evidence that they meet the College's credentials requirements. Thereafter they are referred to as candidates.
 - c. Candidates are allowed a first attempt plus three retakes at each part of the examination within eight years of their credentials having been accepted. Exemptions or extensions will be considered by the Board on an ad hoc basis (e.g. pregnancy, major change in family circumstances, etc.). Any candidate who has not successfully completed all parts of the examination within eight years will be permitted to re-apply. These candidates will be required to satisfy all current credential requirements, repeat the credential review process and to submit a new application and pay all application and examination fees. The repeat applicant whose new credentials have been accepted will be required to take the entire examination and complete all three parts successfully within eight years. Those re-applying for College membership are required to re-take the whole examination as the results of those parts of the examination that were previously passed will lapse.
 - d. Examinations will be offered annually provided there are sufficient candidates to justify the expense. Circumstances that are beyond the control of EVDC, i.e., global pandemics or other circumstances which restrict travelling etc. may also have impact of the organization of the exam. However, if there are candidates awaiting an examination, they will not normally be required to wait longer than two years before being examined.
 - e. Fees are charged for reviewing applications and for sitting the examinations. (https://www.evdc.org/evdc_fees_and_payments)

2. Examination format

The College certifying examination is composed of two main sections, Part 1 and Part 2.

Part 1 contains two separate sub-sections. Part 1a: Theory and Part 1b: Case Oriented Multiple Choice (COMC). Part 2 is the Practical Exam.

Part 1 (a & b) will normally be held in May/June and usually in conjunction with EVDF. Parts 1 a and b must both be passed for a Candidate to be eligible to sit Part 2 (practical exam). Part 2 will normally be held in September.

The stated passing grade for each part is 70%. The practical examination includes a wide range of dental procedures typically performed in specialist practice. They are assigned to four core disciplines (endodontics, periodontics, oral surgery and orthodontics/restorative/prostodontics), and the scores are calculated to determine whether a candidate has an overall pass score in each of the core disciplines.

A candidate must pass each core discipline (with a minimum of 70%) in addition to the overall pass score of 70% to succeed in the practical examination.

All three sections must be passed before a candidate will be admitted to the College.

Part 1 a: Theory: 150 multiple choice questions

The theory examination is intended to be an objective test of the range and depth of knowledge based on the scientific literature in the field of general and veterinary dentistry, oral medicine, and surgery.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the Examination room.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring and consume refreshments during the examination, provided that this is done discreetly to avoid distracting other candidates.
- e. Candidates are permitted 4.5 hours to complete all 150 questions.
- f. Each question has four possible answers, of which only one is correct.
- g. The examination is taken on the Exemplify platform.

Part 1b: Case-oriented multiple choice (COMC): 100 multiple choice questions based on 1-2 images

The case-oriented multiple-choice examination is intended to evaluate familiarity with anatomy, materials, supplies, instruments and equipment as well as skills in oral diagnosis, treatment planning and therapeutic judgement.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the examination.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring and consume refreshments during the examination if this is done discreetly to avoid distracting other candidates.
- e. Candidates are permitted 4 hours to complete all 100 questions.
- f. Each question is accompanied by 1-2 images or videos.
- g. Each question has four possible answers, of which only one is correct.
- h. The examination is taken on the Exemplify platform.

The theory and case-oriented multiple-choice examinations will include questions on any aspect of veterinary medicine and surgery which have any relevance to dentistry, oral medicine and surgery. Questions may be expected in the following discipline and species categories:

Disciplines: - Equipment, materials, - Anatomy, development & histology - Diagnosis, diagnostic imaging - Oral pathology - Oral medicine, pharmacology, anaesthetics - Periodontology - Endodontics - Restorative dentistry, prosthodontics - Orthodontics - Oral surgery

Species: - Dog and cat - Horse & farm animals - Rabbit & rodents - Other species - Non-species (questions not species specific)

An EVDC reading list is available to assist in preparation for the examination. See the Recommended Reading list online [here](#).

Part 2: Practical examination: 10 to 12 treatments or procedures performed under laboratory conditions

The practical examination is designed to test manual dexterity and technical skills as well as knowledge of appropriate treatment procedures and techniques. The practical examination will be comprised of four sessions of three to three and a half hours each. Each session will

comprise 2-3 procedures and will be dedicated to one of the four core disciplines. The sessions will be held on three consecutive days with session 1 on the first afternoon, sessions 2 and 3 on the second morning and afternoon and session 4 on the third morning. The sequence of the core disciplines within these sessions will be announced at the introductory session on the first morning.

Examples of procedures which may be examined are listed in the document "List of Standard Practical Procedures", and may be found on the EVDC website

https://www.evdc.org/resources/media/Residents/List_of_practical_procedures_2021.pdf

A candidate must pass each core discipline (with a minimum of 70%) in addition to the overall pass score of 70% to succeed in the practical examination.

If a candidate fails one or more of the core disciplines they only need to retake the failed parts. They will keep the passing grade of the already passed core disciplines. Even when retaking only one core discipline session, candidates are required to take part in the introductory session on the first day and can only break down their working place at the end of the entire exam.

Candidates who take the practical exam for the first time are required to sit all four sessions as one exam. Candidates who fail all four core disciplines will have to re-sit them all at the same time. Splitting the core disciplines over different exams is not allowed. Each time a candidate re-sits one or more core disciplines, it will be counted as one "attempt" at passing part 2 of the examination. A candidate therefore has a total of four attempts at successfully passing the practical examination in its entirety.

- a. Candidates are permitted to take translation dictionaries into the examination.
- b. Candidates may not take any other books into the examination.
- c. Candidates should provide their own pens, pencils, erasers.
- d. Candidates may bring refreshments for consumption during the practical examination but, for health reasons, they must not be taken into or consumed in the operating area. A supervised refreshment area will be provided.
- e. Candidates are expected to arrive for the practical examination with sufficient instruments, equipment, and materials to perform several procedures in each core discipline of veterinary dentistry and oral surgery.
- f. Each candidate will be provided with an individual work area equipped

with air and water sources for conventional 4-hole hand-pieces. Indirect digital dental radiography units with phosphor plates will be provided for candidates to share. Candidates with preferences for specific equipment are allowed to bring their own provided it does not interfere with the work of other candidates or the Examination Committee.

- g. Instruments and materials such as restorative material, curing lights, impression materials, etc. are not supplied by the EVDC.

Candidates are reminded that laboratory specimens may be cold and that this may affect their choice of materials. The use of surgical adhesives for closure is not permitted because this prevents evaluation of surgical technique. Due to safety regulations, use of two-part, liquid-powder methyl methacrylate products are not encouraged. Candidates must find an alternate material for procedures that might call for the use of such products.

To summarise, all materials necessary to complete the practical examination sessions, and which were not mentioned above as being supplied by the EVDC, are the responsibility of the candidate. No reading materials associated with dental techniques, equipment or supplies may be brought into the examination room or accessed on computer, except product information sheets that were originally packaged with the equipment or material.

When using any electrical instrument, the candidate is responsible for checking for voltage compatibility. Provision of plugs, adaptors and electric cords is the candidate's responsibility. Candidates are expected to work independently, and no candidate is allowed to receive help from any other candidate or other person on any phase of the practical examination. Candidates are instructed not to discuss the examination with each other or engage in conversation during the examination. Minimal conversation directed toward the use of shared materials and equipment which has been provided by the EVDC is permissible. If a candidate has a question, he or she should ask the proctor. Pets, family members, friends, staff, and personal belongings not related to the examination, will not be allowed in the examination area.

Any candidate found to be dishonest during the examination will be reported to the Executive Committee by the Examination Committee and may be excluded from that and subsequent qualifying examinations. Admittance to subsequent examinations will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Examination questions are the copyright of the EVDC and may not be divulged to third parties. No examination material or written notes may be removed from the examination venue. Candidates guilty of such an offence may be excluded from that and subsequent certifying examinations.

3. Passing grades, examination results, repeat-examinations and appeals

3.1. Passing grades

Part 1 a & b must be passed to be eligible to sit Part 2. All three sections must be completed satisfactorily to pass the certifying examination.

Candidates are expected to obtain a minimum of 70% of available marks in all parts of the examination (written, case-oriented multiple choice and practical), AND in the practical examination, 70% in each of the core discipline components of Oral Surgery, Periodontics, Endodontics and Orthodontics/Restorative/Prosthodontics.

The examinations are marked anonymously. An anonymity process has been designed and will be explained to candidates prior to the start of the examination. Each part of the examination is marked anonymously and independently.

3.2. Disclosure of examination results

Candidates will receive written notification of whether they passed the examination within thirty days of the date of the examination. Examination results will be sent to all candidates on the same day.

Candidates who are not successful in the examination, including the practical examination, will be provided with their percentage scores in each section.

- For the written and the case-oriented multiple-choice examinations, information will be made available on whether the candidate passed or failed each discipline category of the examinations.
- For the practical examination, information will be made available on whether the candidate passed or failed each procedure within each core category of the examination. A short narrative will be provided for failed procedures.

Candidates will not be allowed to review their examination papers or specimens after the examination.

3.3 Repeat examinations

The EVDC certifying examination has three parts: a written, a case-oriented multiple choice and a practical part. Candidates will have eight years, with a maximum of 4 attempts at each part, to successfully complete the three parts of the examination. Part 1 a & b must be passed before proceeding to Part 2. Any candidate who has not successfully completed all parts of the examination within eight years will be permitted to re-apply. These applicants will be required to satisfy all current credential requirements and repeat the credential review process; submit a new application and pay all application and examination fees. The candidate whose new credentials have been accepted will be required to take the entire examination and complete all three parts successfully.

3.4 Appeal procedure

Please see the EVDC By-laws Article 10 Appeals against Adverse Decisions

https://www.evdc.org/resources/media/About_EVDC/EVDC-Bylaws_AGM_June_2022_FINAL_approved.pdf

1. A person, or persons adversely affected by a College decision may petition for reconsideration on the grounds that the decision was:
 - a. not based on established College criteria applicable to such decision
 - b. unsupported by the evidence available, or
 - c. arbitrary or capricious.
2. A written petition must include a statement of the grounds for reconsideration with documentation sent to the Chair of the Board of Regents of the College via the Secretary. Such a petition must be sent electronically to the College Secretary within 90 days of the date on which the College's decision was made known to the petitioner.
3. The affected party(s) may be invited to appear before the Executive Committee.
4. The Executive Committee will meet in an executive session to reach a final decision. The decision of the Executive Committee will be sent electronically to the affected person(s) not more than 30 days after it is made.
5. If a meeting is requested by either party to the dispute, and if one of the

parties will accept the responsibility for the expenses of the meeting and provide a deposit of 1000 Euro towards these expenses, the Chair of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS) shall call a meeting of the parties in dispute or their representatives. The meeting may be held at the EBVS headquarters and may be chaired by the Chair of the EBVS. The parties in dispute would be guided to seek equitable solutions. The College will not provide travel funds to the parties in dispute.