



NATIONAL EXAMINATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF VETERINARIANS

The Jamaica Veterinary Board's National Examination for the Registration of Veterinarians (NERV) has been in effect since 2000 and is a requirement for approved applicants for permanent registration in Jamaica.

Applicants are allowed to sit the examination based on the Jamaica Veterinary Board's approval of their institution of study or their attainment of licensure in a country whose veterinary teaching institutions are generally accepted by the Board.

It is offered in July and November of each year, but the Jamaica Veterinary Board may vary this at its discretion. The venue is normally the Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture in Kingston.

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The examination currently consists of two written parts:

Module One: 75 Multiple Choice Questions.

Of these, at least ten (10) cover local regulatory topics, public health or emergency animal disease situations. The remainder are mostly clinically-based with an approximate even weighting of companion animal and food-producing animal questions, plus some equine, "lab" animal, avian and other topics. There may be some general questions related to pharmacology, toxicology, anatomy/physiology, laboratory interpretation, radiographic interpretation etc.

This section is weighted at **60%** of the final mark.

Module Two: 7 Applications (Scenarios)

This section consists of seven scenarios each of which is followed by six (this may vary somewhat) short to medium answer questions.

The first two scenarios are compulsory and will generally cover emergency animal disease and public health/zoonotic disease occurrences and their management. Any species of animal may be involved. The attendant questions cover etiology/diagnosis, effects, significance, treatment/management procedures, and prevention.

Of the remaining five scenarios, the candidate must answer two of their choice. These are generally clinical scenarios from the major species – canine, feline, bovine, caprine, porcine, ovine, equine, poultry – and the attendant questions for each involve the working up, diagnosis, treatment/management, prevention, client education etc. of each case.

This part is weighted at **40%** of the final mark.

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On the day of the examination, Module 1 is written in the morning with a maximum of three (3) hours permitted, followed by a break for lunch, after which Module 2 will be written with a maximum of three and a half (3 ½) hours permitted.

The examination is marked by the Board of Examiners (BOE) which is appointed by the Jamaica Veterinary Board. The BOE consists of three Examiners who operate independently in marking the examination. Each candidate is assigned a number so the identity of the candidate for a given paper will be unknown to the Examiners. Each Examiner is unaware of the marks given by the other two until after marking is complete.

Once marking is complete, the marks are compiled and averaged, and matched to the candidates' names to give the final results which are submitted to the Board for its approval.