



2021-2022
CCEB Examinations Report

The CCEB

The Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board, CCEB, is a national not-for-profit organization, incorporated in Canada. The members of the CCEB are the regulators (registrars) responsible for licensure of chiropractors in their respective provinces/territories. The CCEB serves our members by assessing the competency of chiropractors for entry-to-practice in Canada, providing a gateway that supports public protection and professional integrity.

More information about the history of CCEB and the examination process may be found at www.cceb.ca.

The CCEB mission is to develop, administer and validate an entry-to-practice examination through competency-based assessment for the practice of chiropractic in Canada.

Ideal entry-to-practice examinations include both written/multiple-choice and practical components.

The CCEB develops and administers the written multiple-choice exams and clinical exam, the objective structured clinical examination (OSCE), which form part of licensing requirements for chiropractors in Canada. These exams are delivered several times per year at various centres across Canada. The test specifications for these examinations are based on a national job analysis. The job analysis provided evidence of the frequency and criticality of patient presentations seen in practice across Canada. This information was used to identify the knowledge, skills and aptitudes required in daily practice. The test specifications identify the behaviours, patient presentations, and weighting within the examinations. Further information regarding the CCEB Blueprint may be found here: <https://cceb.ca/docs/Exam-Content-CCEB.pdf>

Throughout the examination process, the CCEB is committed to ensuring the highest quality testing standards are upheld. The CCEB works closely with Martek Assessments Ltd., led by Psychometrician Dr. Anthony Marini, to ensure psychometric validity and best practice. The CCEB also engages committees of subject matter experts (SME's), experienced chiropractors from across Canada, to assist with all areas of the examination under the guidance of Dr. Marini. Chiropractic program faculty members are not involved in committees to avoid any real or perceived risk to item security or educational bias.

Current Statistics

The following charts present information on the fall 2021 through spring 2022 examination year. All information provided in the charts is based only on first-time examination takers. Repeat examination takers are not included because they are more likely to remain unsuccessful in further attempts. Any candidates exempted by a provincial regulator from taking a component (i.e. those deemed to have sufficient experience from another regulated jurisdiction or those repeating sections of the examination as a consequence of other regulatory requirements) are not included in this report.

Pass/Fail decisions for examinations are most reliably made when all valid items of an exam are included. The use of Pass/Fail designations for subsections of an exam are problematic, as many exam subsections involve too few items to reliably report a Pass/Fail status or to make changes to educational curricula. Rather than focus on Pass/Fail outcomes for exam subsections, this report provides the average percent performance for each subsection of the exam across all first-time candidates. This form of reporting presents a profile of relative strengths and weaknesses and is a more authentic method of addressing subsection performance.

Table 1 Shows overall candidate pass rates based on all first-time examination takers.

Table 2 Shows overall candidate pass rates by GPA for Canada and USA based on all first-time examination takers.

Table 3 Shows average percent performance by individual behaviour category based on all first-time examination takers.

Table 4 Shows average percent performance by individual patient presentation based on all first-time examination takers.

Please note that *Average Percent Performance* in tables 3 and 4 means the average percent of the total available items achieved for each reported category. For example, suppose a particular reported category had 100 items on the examination. If the average number of these items answered correctly was 80, the reported average percent performance for this category would be 80%.

It is critical to bear in mind that not all categories are equally weighted on the examinations. For example, in Component A, 22% of the examination items relate to the Patient Presentation area of “Low back” while 3% of the examination items relate to “Hand”. This means that for lower-weighted categories such as “Hand”, a small change in the number of items answered correctly will have a very large impact on the average percent performance.

The International category represents chiropractic programs outside North America.

Written Component A Exam

Table 1a: General Statistics

Written Component A	Total Candidates			First-Time Candidates			Repeat Candidates		
	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful
Canada	240	221	92%	219	202	92%	21	19	90%
USA	225	162	72%	171	128	75%	54	34	63%
International	39	25	64%	31	18	58%	8	7	88%
Total	504	408	81%	421	348	83%	83	60	72%

Table 2a: Pass Rates by GPA

Written Component A	GPA 3.00 and Higher		GPA 2.50-2.99		GPA Less Than 2.50	
	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %
Canada	217	92%	2	100%	0	NA
USA	164	77%	7	29%	0	NA

Table 3a: Average Percent Performance by Behaviour – Based on first-time test takers

Written Component A	Number of Candidates	Anatomy	Neurology	Biomechanics	Physiology	Pathology	Nutrition	Biochemistry	Microbiology	Public Health & Health Promotion	Embryology / Histology / Immunology	Psychology	Toxicology & Pharmacology	Research Methods
Total Percentage of Exam		23%	16%	11%	10%	9%	7%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Canada	219	83%	81%	65%	74%	84%	77%	60%	82%	79%	70%	73%	90%	67%
USA	171	75%	73%	64%	69%	73%	78%	70%	70%	66%	74%	65%	84%	56%
International	31	72%	72%	60%	65%	67%	71%	63%	68%	69%	69%	67%	76%	40%
Total	421	79%	77%	64%	72%	78%	77%	64%	76%	73%	72%	69%	87%	60%

Table 4a: Average Percent Performance by Patient Presentation – Based on first-time test takers

Written Component A	Number of Candidates	Lowback	Neck	Midback	Head	Hip & Pelvis	Shoulder	Knee & Leg	Elbow & Arm	Foot	Chest & Abdomen	Face & Jaw	Hand	Other
Total Percentage of Exam		22%	16%	12%	10%	8%	8%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Canada	219	77%	75%	86%	79%	78%	84%	87%	77%	66%	45%	76%	67%	74%
USA	171	73%	73%	75%	71%	74%	73%	79%	66%	59%	67%	66%	61%	76%
International	31	67%	70%	68%	75%	68%	68%	75%	61%	65%	59%	59%	65%	68%
Total	421	75%	74%	80%	75%	75%	78%	83%	71%	63%	55%	71%	64%	74%

Written Component B Exam

Table 1b: General Statistics

Written Component B	Total Candidates			First-Time Candidates			Repeat Candidates		
	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful
Canada	227	216	95%	219	210	96%	8	6	75%
USA	215	159	74%	150	111	74%	65	48	74%
International	30	20	67%	22	15	68%	8	5	63%
Total	472	395	84%	391	336	86%	81	59	73%

Table 2b: Pass Rates by GPA

Written Component B	GPA 3.00 and Higher		GPA 2.50-2.99		GPA Less Than 2.50	
	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %
Canada	216	96%	3	100%	0	NA
USA	144	75%	5	60%	1	0%

Table 3b: Average Percent Performance by Behaviour – Based on first-time test takers

Written Component B	Number of Candidates	Clinical & Differential Diagnosis	Patient Assessment	Treatment & Technique	Radiology Images	Radiology Theory	Administration
Total Percentage of Exam		26%	24%	23%	14%	8%	5%
Canada	219	86%	84%	83%	85%	82%	87%
USA	150	80%	78%	80%	82%	76%	73%
International	22	82%	75%	77%	79%	74%	79%
Total	391	84%	81%	82%	83%	79%	81%

Table 4b: Average Percent Performance by Presentation – Based on first-time test takers

Written Component B	Number of Candidates	Lowback	Neck	Midback	Head	Hip & Pelvis	Shoulder	Knee & Leg	Elbow & Arm	Foot	Chest & Abdomen	Face & Jaw	Hand	Other
Total Percentage of Exam		22%	16%	12%	10%	8%	8%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Canada	219	87%	84%	85%	82%	87%	83%	85%	93%	74%	90%	73%	84%	69%
USA	150	82%	77%	81%	77%	78%	78%	79%	85%	72%	82%	70%	77%	86%
International	22	80%	76%	81%	80%	82%	75%	74%	78%	59%	80%	71%	77%	80%
Total	391	85%	81%	83%	80%	83%	81%	82%	89%	73%	86%	72%	81%	76%

Clinical Component C Exam

Table 1c: General Statistics

Clinical Component C	Total Candidates			First-Time Candidates			Repeat Candidates		
	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful	All Candidates	Successful	Percent Successful
Canada	226	219	97%	221	214	97%	5	5	100%
USA	183	171	93%	171	162	95%	12	9	75%
International	18	17	94%	15	14	93%	3	3	100%
Total	427	407	95%	407	390	96%	20	17	85%

Table 2c: Pass Rates by GPA

Clinical Component C	GPA 3.00 and Higher		GPA 2.50-2.99		GPA Less Than 2.50	
	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %	Number of Candidates	Pass %
Canada	218	97%	3	100%	0	NA
USA	158	96%	10	80%	3	67%

Table 3c: Average Percent Performance by Behaviour – Based on first-time test takers

Clinical Component C	Number of Candidates	Physical Exams	Management & Treatment	Communication	History	Diagnosis	Technique	Consideration of Legal & Ethical Obligations	Professionalism	Rationale & Processes
Total Percentage of Exam		21%	16%	14%	14%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%
Canada	221	83%	82%	89%	88%	89%	91%	86%	96%	73%
USA	171	79%	77%	85%	87%	83%	88%	89%	92%	73%
International	15	79%	78%	87%	85%	86%	84%	82%	88%	74%
Total	407	81%	80%	87%	87%	86%	90%	87%	94%	73%