



COLLEGE OF ACUPUNCTURISTS OF ALBERTA

Alberta Acupuncture Registration Examinations – Frequently Asked Questions

Pan-Canadian Examinations

- 1.) Can I use the washroom during the Pan-Canadian online exam?

Yes. All candidates can take a 5-minute washroom break and their exam timer will not stop. The proctor will re-secure the room upon your return.

- 2.) What size of whiteboard can I use?

Candidates can use a double-sided whiteboard that is approximately 8.5" x 11" (equivalent to a regular piece of paper).

- 3.) Can I use scrap paper and pencil during the Pan-Canadian online exam?

No. Whiteboards will replace the use of scrap paper and pencils.

- 4.) If I do not pass the Pan-Canadian Exams, can I retake the component I failed?

If a candidate does not pass the exam, they are required to retake the entire exam including the MCQ and CCQ components.

- 5.) Will I need to download software to my computer for the online proctored exam?

Yardstick provides a detailed overview and important information that will allow candidates to better understand the online proctored exam process: [YAS-Online Proctored-Candidate-Handbook](#)

- 6.) What happens if I encounter technical difficulties during the exam?

If there is a power outage, YAS/the proctor will be able to see this in live time, review it, and report it as an incident together with any chat logs between the candidate and proctor. If the exam disconnects, candidates may use their phone to contact ProctorU for support.

If the exam drops due to a connection issue, the candidate has a maximum of 5 minutes to reconnect. If the candidate reconnects within that 5-minute time frame, their exam will resume from where they left off.

In the event they are unable to reconnect within those 5 minutes, they will be required to reschedule and start over. If there is a momentary connection loss, the timer will automatically be paused during that time. Proctors are trained to recognize when time has been lost and they can request to have this time added back to the candidate's exam.

During the exam, candidates are required to use the chat function to communicate with the proctor/live technician. If needed, the proctor may call the candidate at which time they will be able to retrieve their phone from where they have placed it and speak directly with the proctor.

- 7.) Will questions related to herbology be included in the Pan-Canadian Entry-level Examinations for Acupuncturists?

Great resources can be found on our website, www.acupuncturealberta.ca that will help assist you with preparing for the Pan-Canadian examination. A few examples include but are not limited to the following, [2021 Pan-Canadian Examination Candidate Handbook](#) and [Competency Profile 2019](#).

- 8.) When will I have access to the sample test?

You should receive access shortly. Ensure to also check your spam folder/junk mail. Please contact Jenney White at admin@acupuncturealberta.ca if you do not receive access by Sept 24, 2021.

- 9.) What extra points should I study for the Pan-Canadian Examinations?

You are responsible to know the extra points listed in the Pan-Canadian Exam Candidate Handbook page 70-71. Please note that the extra points you need to know for the Acupuncture Points Clinical Evaluation will be different.

COVID-19 Adaptations and Protocols

- 1.) Can I attend the exams if I am presenting symptoms of COVID-19?

No, you are legally required to isolate if you are presenting symptoms of COVID-19.

Modalities Clinical Evaluation

- 1.) How much time do I have to complete the Modalities Clinical Evaluation?

You have 16 minutes to complete the Modalities Clinical Evaluation.

- 2.) How do I extinguish the flame used for fire cupping?

A cup of water will be provided in the exam room. You should extinguish the flame by placing it into the water. Please do not remove your mask to blow out the flame.

- 3.) Can I move the high-density pad?

Yes, you should move the high-density pad to the general area of the point that you are demonstrating the technique.

- 4.) Can I use two heat shields that overlap for the demonstration of moxa on a needle?

Yes, you may use two heat shields that overlap as long as the overall diameter is at least 3 inches in diameter and the diameter of the inner area that is not covered by the heat shields is smaller than 0.5 cm.

- 5.) Should I light the top or bottom of the moxa cone for the demonstration of moxa on a needle?

Lighting the moxa cone from both the top and bottom are acceptable. Please only verbalize the step and do *not* actually light the moxa cone.

- 6.) What kind of clean field should I use?

You do not need to purchase an actual sterilized clean field. You may use a paper towel to represent a clean field and indicate to the examiner that it is a sterilized clean field. Please pack your paper towel in a clean sealed bag as you need to demonstrate appropriate techniques to set up your clean field.

- 7.) If I have lesions, infection, cuts, rashes, blisters, etc. present on my hands, do I need to wear gloves?

You must either use gloves (if you feel comfortable for exam-purposes), or CLEARLY STATE "I will use gloves". Whether you use the former or latter method, you must state every instance of glove changing. You must still state your hand-washing as well.

- 8.) What is the layout of the exam room?

An illustration of the exam room layout is provided below. Please note that each exam room will have a slightly different layout.



- 9.) Should I demonstrate fire cupping over a needle on the foam-mannequin or the high-density pad?

You must demonstrate fire cupping over a needle on the high-density pad as your cup will not achieve suction on the foam-mannequin.

- 10.) If I made a mistake, can I verbalize to correct my mistake and get score back?

If you made a mistake, you are encouraged to correct your mistake by verbalization. You may receive some score back depending on the mistake you make and the timepoint you make verbalization to correct your mistake.

11.) If moxa cone falls on the heat shield, is it still considered as critical error?

No. However, it is considered a critical error if moxa cone falls on the patient directly (i.e., foam mannequin or high-density pad not covered by the heat shield).

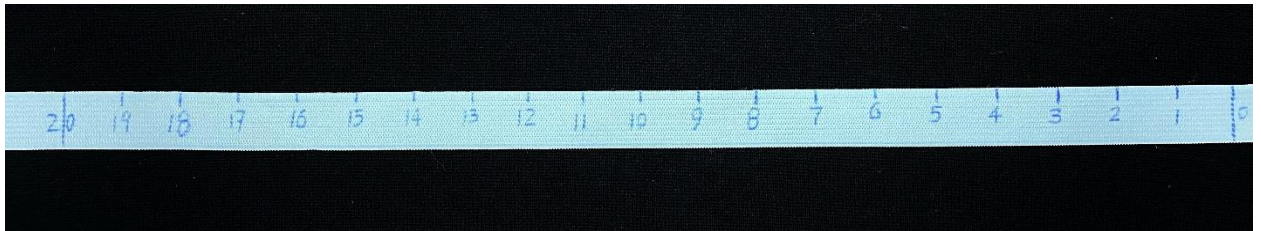
Acupuncture Points Clinical Evaluation

1.) How much time do I have to complete the Modalities Clinical Evaluation?

You have 16 minutes to complete the Acupuncture Points Clinical Evaluation.

2.) Will you provide measurement elastics and strings in the exam rooms?

Yes, disposable measurement elastics and strings will be provided in the exam rooms. A disposable measurement elastic (as shown in picture below for illustration purpose only) is approximately 40cm in length, each unit/mark is approximately 2cm. You will be able to measure up to 20 cun with a measurement elastic.



A disposable string will also be provided, which is approximately 1m in length. There are no marks on the disposable string.

3.) Will I be provided with adhesive dots/stickers?

Yes, adhesive dots/stickers will be provided and are available in the exam rooms.

4.) Can I use quick measurements such as handbreadth or fingerbreadth to locate a point?

No, it is not accurate to use quick measurements to locate a point. It is strongly recommended that you use proportional cun measurements to find the most accurate point location.

5.) Do I need to let the examiner know which acupuncture point I am locating and verbalize my locating procedures?

It is strongly recommended that you let the examiner know which acupuncture point you are locating and verbalize your locating procedures.

6.) What acupuncture points are not tested due to COVID-19?

You will *not* be asked to locate acupuncture points around the mouth, nose, eyes, genitals and anus, as the virus is found in saliva, fecal matter and mucosa.

7.) What extraordinary points should I study for the Acupuncture Points Clinical Evaluation?

You are responsible to know the extra points listed on page E-22 and E-23 of the AARE Candidate Handbook, except the extra points that *cannot* be found in A Manual of Acupuncture by Peter

Deadman (i.e., you are not required to know the extra points that cannot be found in A Manual of Acupuncture by Peter Deadman.) Please note that the extra points you need to know for the Pan-Canadian Examinations will be different.

8.) What is the size of the adhesive dot/sticker?

The adhesive dot/stick is ½" in diameter.

9.) How do I study for the Acupuncture Points Clinical Evaluation?

It is strongly recommended that you use A Manual of Acupuncture by Peter Deadman and its videos to study for this exam. The videos demonstrate best/essential body position for needling and proper techniques on how to locate a specific acupuncture point, including the correct proportional cun measurement you should use.

10.) Can I use chest cun measurements for abdomen points?

No, you cannot use chest cun measurements for abdomen points. For example, you must use the lateral border of the rectus abdominis as landmark to locate ST25.

11.) If I have lesions, infection, cuts, rashes, blisters, etc. present on my hands, do I need to wear gloves?

Yes, according to the [Safety Handbook](#) (pg. 20), you should wear gloves if you have skin lesions on your hands.