



## PART 1 EXAM BLUEPRINT

### **Purpose of the Part 1 Examination**

The Part 1 Examination is a summative exam designed to assess an examinee’s mastery of the educational objectives of the continuum of education in anesthesiology. The continuum of education in anesthesiology consists of four years of full-time training subsequent to the date that the medical or osteopathic degree has been conferred. The continuum consists of a clinical base year and 36 months of approved training in anesthesia (CA-1, CA-2 and CA-3 years).

### **Exam Content**

The Part 1 Exam covers topics in the following five content categories:

- Basic Sciences
- Clinical Sciences
- Organ-based Basic & Clinical Sciences
- Clinical Subspecialties
- Special Problems or Issues in Anesthesiology

Each Part 1 Examination form is built to the same content specifications, known as an exam blueprint. The examination blueprint is used to ensure that every form of the Part 1 Examination measures the same depth and breadth of content knowledge. The data below shows the number and relative percentage of questions from each of the three content categories shown above that will appear on each form of the Part 1 Examination.

Content Category (Relative Percentage)	Number of Questions
Basic Sciences (9%)	16 – 24
Clinical Sciences (9%)	16 – 20
Organ-Based Basic & Clinical Sciences (28%)	49 – 65
Clinical Subspecialties (48%)	88 – 112
Special Problems or Issues in Anesthesiology (6%)	8 – 16

### **Exam Specifications**

The Part 1 Examination consists of 200 questions, and examinees have four hours to complete the examination. The Part 1 Examination includes A-type items only. A-type questions are single-best-answer multiple-choice questions that require the application of knowledge rather than simple recall of factual information. These questions often include a brief clinical vignette followed by a lead-in question and four response options.

The examination includes questions that reference static images. A small number of questions may include short video clips.

### **Exam Administration**

The Part 1 Examination is administered twice each year to physicians that have successfully completed an ACGME-accredited anesthesiology residency training program. The Part 1 Examination is a computer- based examination that is administered through Pearson VUE centers nationwide.

<b>Content Category (Relative Percentage)</b>	<b>Number of Questions</b>
<b>BASIC SCIENCES (9%)</b>	<b>16-24</b>
Anatomy	4 – 6
Physics, Monitoring & Anesthesia Delivery Devices	4 – 6
Mathematics	4 – 6
Pharmacology	4 – 6
<b>CLINICAL SCIENCES (9%)</b>	<b>16 – 20</b>
Regional Anesthesia	9 – 11
Special Techniques	7 – 9
<b>ORGAN-BASED BASIC &amp; CLINICAL SCIENCES (28%)</b>	<b>49 – 65</b>
Central & Peripheral Nervous System	7 – 9
Respiratory System	9 – 11
Cardiovascular System	9 – 11
Gastrointestinal/Hepatic Systems	4 – 6
Renal & Urinary Systems/Electrolyte Balance	5 – 7
Hematologic System	5 – 7
Endocrine & Metabolic Systems	5 – 7
Neuromuscular Diseases & Disorders	5 – 7
<b>CLINICAL SUBSPECIALTIES (48%)</b>	<b>88 – 112</b>
Painful Disease States	17 – 19
Pediatric Anesthesia	17 – 19
Obstetric Anesthesia	17 – 19
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) Anesthesia	2 – 4
Anesthesia for Plastic Surgery, Liposuction	2 – 4
Anesthesia for Laparoscopic Surgery	2 – 4
Ophthalmologic Anesthesia	2 – 4
Orthopedic Anesthesia	2 – 4
Trauma, Burn Management, Mass Casualty, Biological Warfare	2 – 4

Anesthesia for Ambulatory Surgery	2 – 4
Geriatric Anesthesia/Aging	2 – 4
Critical Care	21 – 23
<b>SPECIAL PROBLEMS OR ISSUES IN ANESTHESIOLOGY (6%)</b>	<b>8 – 16</b>
Electroconvulsive Therapy	2 – 4
Organ Donors	2 – 4
Radiologic Procedures	2 – 4
Ethics, Practice Management, & Medicolegal Issues	2 – 4