



NATIONAL COLLEGEIATE LIVESTOCK COACHES' ASSOCIATION

Principles of Livestock Selection & Evaluation

CERTIFICATION



CERTIFICATION BLUEPRINT

ABOUT NCLCA

The National Collegiate Livestock Coaches' Association provides unique opportunities to develop student knowledge of the livestock industry through educational settings beyond traditional classrooms. The association is comprised of coaches from various universities throughout the United States

Learn more at: <https://livestockcoaches.org/certification/>.

CERTIFICATION EXAM OVERVIEW

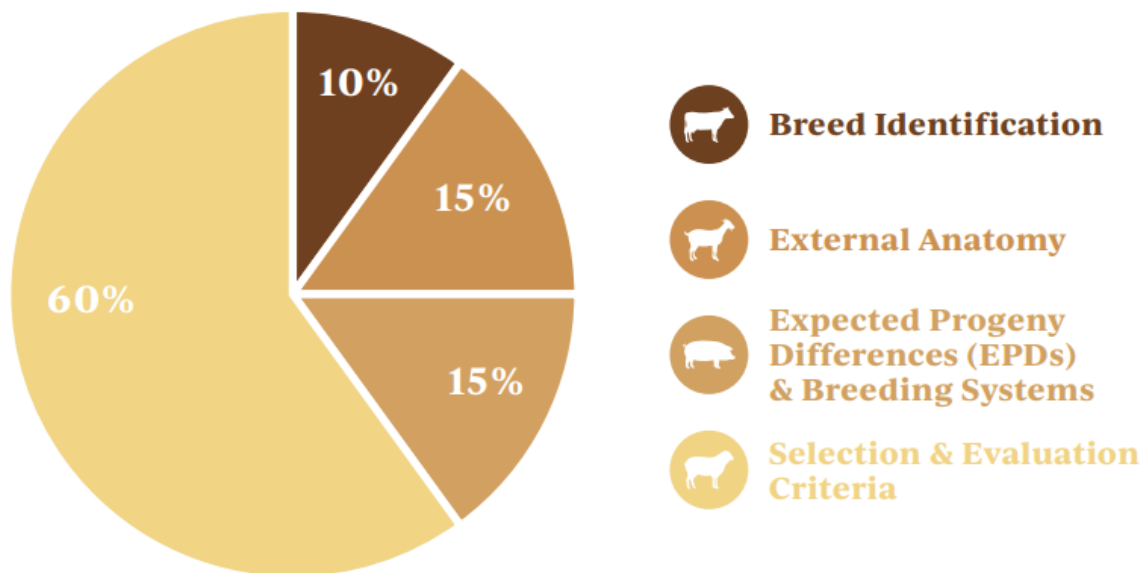
The NCLCA Principles of Livestock Selection & Evaluation Certification confirms that individuals have the essential knowledge and skills to excel in the livestock industry. This certification is available to anyone, regardless of their stage in education or career, and is designed to validate expertise for students and professionals alike. The exam consists of 100 questions and evaluates understanding of livestock breeds, external anatomy, breeding and evaluation criteria.

TESTING PLATFORM

NCLCA utilizes iCEV as the certification testing platform. As the testing platform, iCEV fulfills the following responsibilities:

- Provides secure testing technology for certification exams
- Regulates testing environment
 - The [proctoring guidelines](#) are designed to protect the integrity of the certification exam. Testing must be proctored, and referencing any study material is strictly prohibited. Re-tests, if needed, are available with remediation and remuneration.
- Works with Secondary and Post-Secondary academic institutions, workforce development associations, and the public at large to offer certification options for career advancement.
- Provides certification verification to employers for potential job applicants
- Offers certification exam preparation materials

INDUSTRY STANDARD OVERVIEW



LEARNING OBJECTIVES & INDUSTRY STANDARDS

1. Breed Identification

- 1.1 Livestock Breed Identification: Cattle, Goats, Sheep and Swine
 - 1.1.1 To identify the breeds of cattle, goats, sheep and swine
 - 1.1.2 To understand the breeds origins and characteristics
 - 1.1.3 To analyze the breeds importance in livestock production

2. External Anatomy

- 2.1 External Anatomy of Livestock: Terms & Terminology
 - 2.1.1 To identify the external anatomy of livestock species
 - 2.1.2 To analyze the functions of the external anatomy of livestock species
 - 2.1.3 To compare the external anatomy of livestock species

3. Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) & Breeding Systems

- 3.1 Livestock Breeding Systems
 - 3.1.1 To learn how to set goals for a successful breeding program
 - 3.1.2 To learn about choosing and weighing traits in a breeding program
 - 3.1.3 To learn how to determine measurements in a breeding program
 - 3.1.4 To learn how to devise a strategy for selecting parents in a breeding program

4. Selection & Evaluation Criteria

4.1 Livestock Judging Fundamentals

- 4.1.1 To understand the selection criteria for the four different livestock species
- 4.1.2 To know how livestock judging is used in real world situations
- 4.1.3 To be able to place a class of livestock based on selection criteria

4.2 Livestock Judging: Breeding Heifer Evaluation

- 4.2.1 To identify and list the major factors considered in breeding heifer evaluation
- 4.2.2 To analyze and interpret a set of performance records

4.3 Livestock Judging: Market Steer Evaluation

- 4.3.1 To identify and list the major factors considered in market steer evaluation
- 4.3.2 To establish the ideal modern market steer, identifying three goals important for consumer preference
- 4.3.3 To evaluate and defend the placing of a market steer class

4.4 Livestock Judging: Breeding Gilt Evaluation

- 4.4.1 To define the major factors necessary to select replacement gilts in a commercial operation
- 4.4.2 To be able to analyze and interpret a set of performance records with specific reference to positive and negative numbers
- 4.4.3 To evaluate and defend the placing of a breeding gilt class

4.5 Livestock Judging: Market Hog Evaluation

- 4.5.1 To identify and list the major factors considered in market hog evaluation
- 4.5.2 To compare the modern type with the old-fashioned type market hog, recognizing at least three advantages of the modern hog for today's consumer
- 4.5.3 To evaluate and defend the placing of a market hog class

4.6 Livestock Judging: Breeding Sheep Evaluation

- 4.6.1 To identify and list the major factors considered in breeding sheep evaluation
- 4.6.2 To introduce performance records with specific reference to positive and negative numbers

4.7 Livestock Judging: Market Lamb Evaluation

- 4.7.1 To identify and list the major factors considered in market lamb evaluation
- 4.7.2 To establish the ideal modern market lamb

4.8 Livestock Grading: Slaughter Cattle

- 4.8.1 To evaluate slaughter cattle and beef carcasses
- 4.8.2 To learn to estimate quality grade for slaughter cattle at the 70 percent level of accuracy
- 4.8.3 To complete a practice class using his/her new skills