



AIM INTERMEDIATE PRACTICAL EXAMINATION (IPE) 2026

The IPE has been updated. It is now a formative assessment of the clinical skills required to proceed onto the Advanced Practical Examination (APE). All candidates will receive feedback. Some candidates may need to complete a specified number of additional mentorship hours with focus on developing targeted skills with an FCAMPT mentor.

The IPE is designed to evaluate candidates' procedural knowledge and reasoning. Procedural knowledge refers to candidates' ability to perform an assessment task or intervention with precision, while procedural reasoning pertains to making decisions about what procedures or interventions to perform, when to perform it, justifying choices, anticipating complications, and adapting techniques in real time. The IPE process results in formative feedback to candidates about their procedural knowledge and reasoning, ensuring readiness to proceed to the Advanced Practical Exam. Formative feedback offers candidates constructive, skills-focused and specific input to help candidates identify opportunities for growth, emphasizing what was done well and what needs refinement to support ongoing learning for developing advanced musculoskeletal knowledge and skills.

Exam Format

There will be four stations: Upper Quadrant (spinal), Upper Quadrant (peripheral), Lower Quadrant (spinal), and Lower Quadrant (peripheral). Each station will evaluate approximately ten to twelve practical skills across a comprehensive range of competencies, including manual therapy assessment and treatment techniques, muscle length and strength testing, region-specific special tests, neural conduction and mechanosensitivity, spinal and peripheral manipulation techniques covered in levels 2 and 3 and exercise prescription.

A rubric-based marking system has been developed for these examinations and will be shared with candidates and mentors to support exam preparation. Sample questions will also be provided. These documents will be available (*add link to website*).

Whenever feasible, we will offer the examination within the province where the candidate practices.

Candidates seeking additional information are encouraged to contact **Jennifer Van Bussell**, Examination Chair, at exams@orthodiv.ca. Jennifer will ensure inquiries are directed to the appropriate individual.

Kind regards,

Roland Lavallée: **Chair Examination Advisory Committee (EAC)**

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