

Retirement Design and Pricing Exam Syllabus

Fall 2008

Canada, Segment B

The Canada Segment B examination will be given on Thursday, October 30 from 2:00pm to 3:45pm and will consist of one and a half hours of written-answer questions. A read-through time will be given prior to the start of the exam—15 minutes. Information regarding registering for exams is available on the [Exam Registration](#) page. **Please note that the fall 2008 exam administration will be the last administration of Canada Segment A and B. In the fall of 2009 there will be one comprehensive 6 hour exam for Retirement Design and Pricing, Canada.**

Study notes are part of the required Course of Reading and are not available electronically. The [Introductory Study Note](#) has a complete listing of all study notes. Candidates must order the Complete or Revision study notes from the Society of Actuaries using the [Study Note Order Form](#).

Past exams are available on the Exam Archives page of the SOA web site under [Multiple Choice/Essay Examinations](#).

Candidates should be sure to check the [Updates](#) page of the web site periodically for additional corrections or notices.

The candidate should be very familiar with the Learning Objectives as described in the Basic Education Catalog. These Learning Objectives are the first ingredient in developing the syllabus and also guide the examination committee when writing questions. The Learning Objectives set out the cognitive level needed to pass this exam. You will notice that the candidates are expected to “analyze,” “explain,” “calculate,” “describe,” “apply,” etc. While studying the syllabus material, candidates may want to refer back to the Learning Objectives to remain focused on the goals of the exam.

Exam
Instructional Objectives
1. The candidate will be able to apply/synthesize the various methods used to value a pension plan for the purposes of the valuation.
Learning Outcomes
<p>The candidate will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Perform periodic valuations of ongoing plans, calculating normal cost and actuarial liability, using the variety of cost methods for budgeting, funding, accounting and measuring economic value. b) Analyze and communicate the pattern of cost recognition that arises under a variety of funding and asset valuation methods. c) Assess the impact of using various cost methods in a given context <p><i>Pension Mathematics for Actuaries</i>, Anderson , Third Edition, 2006, Ch, 1-4, 6, 7</p>

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Exam
Instructional Objectives
2. The candidate will be able to analyze/synthesize the factors that go into selection of actuarial assumptions.
Learning Outcomes
Given a context and/or data, the candidate will be able to: a) Evaluate actual experience, including comparisons to assumptions R-D609-07: Pension Funding Exercises (background only)

Exam
Instructional Objectives
3. The candidate will be able to evaluate the actuarial considerations in plan options and administrations.
Learning Outcomes
The candidate will be able to: a) Assess the gain/loss from options offered, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Postponed retirement▪ Early retirement▪ Option factors R-D119-07: Actuarial Equivalent Benefits