

The Infinite Actuary - Group and Health Exam Restructuring - Syllabus Changes

FALL 2019 SYLLABUS CHANGES

Exam Restructuring as of Fall 2019

As announced earlier, the SOA restructured the Health track FSA exams beginning in Fall 2019. Moving from **Core, Advanced and Specialty**, the new exams are **DP, FV and Specialty**.

DP consists of **DP-C** (material formerly on the Core exam) and **DP-A** (material formerly on the Advanced exam).

FV consists of **FV-C** (material formerly on the Core exam) and **FV-A** (material formerly on the Advanced exam).

Students will be able to take various combinations of the DP and FV exams to suit their needs, depending on what current exam credit they have. Please see this post for more information:

http://theinfiniteactuary.com/blogs/exam_gh_dp/?p=14

For the former Core and Specialty exams, the syllabus changes occurred after the Spring exam session every year. It is my expectation that the DP exam will follow the same timing, but we will have to confirm this when we receive more information. For the former Advanced exam, syllabus changes occurred after the Fall session, so that timing remains to be seen following the Fall 2019 exams.

This document highlights material that is completely new to the syllabus, material that has been revised (i.e. new version of the textbook was released, typically with minor changes to those chapters), and material that has been removed from the syllabus.

DP EXAM – FALL 2019 SYLLABUS CHANGES

Objective 1 – Plan Provisions (Part of DP-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 1 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - GHDP 126-19: Product Design of Critical Illness in Canada *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - None

Objective 2 – Manual Rates (Part of DP-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 2 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - GHDP-127-19: Chapters 16 and 19 of Disability Income Insurance: The Unique Risk, 5th Edition, Soule *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
 - GHDP-128-19: Pricing Medicare Supplement Benefits, sections IV & V *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
 - GHDP-129-19: Pricing Critical Illness Insurance in Canada *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
 - ASOP 18: Long-Term Care Insurance *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
 - Report on the Proposed 2016 Cancer Claim Cost Valuation Tables *(formerly on Specialty syllabus)*
- **Revised Material**
 - ASOP 41: Actuarial Communications (now excludes appendix)
- **Removed Material**
 - None

Objective 3 – Employee Benefit Strategy (Part of DP-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 3 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - GHDP-130-19: Recommend an Employee Benefits Strategy
 - Consumers to the Rescue? A Primer on HDHPs and HSAs
- **Revised Material**
 - Handbook of Employee Benefits, Ch. 32: Employee Benefit Plans for Small Companies (pp. 869-874) *(formerly covered pp. 869-877)*
- **Removed Material**
 - Handbook of Employee Benefits, Ch. 7: Consumer Driven Health Plans

Objective 4 – Provider Reimbursement (Part of DP-A)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 1 of the Advanced exam

- **New Material**
 - None
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - None

Objective 5 – Underwriting (Part of DP-A)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 4 of the Advanced exam

- **New Material**
 - None
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - GHA-121-18: Assuris for Group Insurance in Canada (*moved to Specialty exam*)

FV EXAM – FALL 2019 SYLLABUS CHANGES

Objective 1 – Reserving (Part of FV-A)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 3 of the Advanced exam

- **New Material**
 - Individual Health Insurance, Ch. 8: Forecasting and Modeling (*formerly on Specialty syllabus*)
 - ASOP 7: Analysis of Life, Health or Property/Casualty Insurer Cash Flows (excluding Appendix) (*formerly on Specialty syllabus*)
 - ASOP 22: Statement of Opinion Based on Asset Adequacy Analysis by Actuaries for Life or Health Insurers (excluding Appendix) (*formerly on Specialty syllabus*)
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - Financial Reporting Implications Under the Affordable Care Act, Section IV

Objective 2 – Actuarial Appraisal (Part of FV-A)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 3 of the Specialty exam

- **New Material**
 - GHFV-131-19: Ch. 5 of Insurance Industry Mergers and Acquisitions, Toole and Herget, sections 5.1-5.2, 5.5 & 5.6.1-5.6.2
 - GHFV-132-19: 2017 Embedded Value Report for Manulife’s Insurance Businesses (*2015 report formerly on Specialty syllabus*)
 - GHFV-133-19: Simple Embedded Value example
- **Revised Material**
 - GHFV-130-19: Ch. 4 of Insurance Industry Mergers and Acquisitions, Toole and Herget, sections 4.1-4.5 & 4.7-4.8 (*Sect. 4.1-4.8 formerly on Specialty syllabus*)
- **Removed Material**
 - GHS-124-18: 2015 Embedded Value Report for Manulife’s Insurance and Other Wealth Business (*replaced with GHFV 132-19*)

Objective 3 – Government Programs (Part of FV-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 4 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - GHFV-825-19: Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefits
- **Revised Material**
 - GHFV-817-18: Section 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waivers (excluding Appendices B & C) (*formerly did not exclude Appendices*)
- **Removed Material**
 - Handbook of Employee Benefits, Ch. 21: Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefits (pp. 533-546)

Objective 4 – Financial Statements (Part of FV-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 5 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - GHFV-109-19 Health Insurance Accounting Basics for Actuaries (excluding Ch. 1 & section 2.2)
- **Revised Material**
 - Essentials of Managed Healthcare, Ch. 24: Health Plans and Medicare (pp. 499-513) (now only covers specific pages, instead of entire chapter)
- **Removed Material**
 - Group Insurance, Ch. 35: Group Insurance Financial Reporting
 - GHC-806-15: Financial Reporting Implications Under the Affordable Care Act
 - GHC-820-18: ACA’s Impact on Financial Statements
 - Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 60 (excluding Appendix B)
 - Impact of Codification on Health Reserves (pp. 1-11)

Objective 5 – Regulation and Taxation (Part of FV-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 6 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - None
- **Revised Material**
 - GHFV-821-18: Employer Guide for Compliance with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, pp. 1-19 (formerly covered all pages)
- **Removed Material**
 - Group Insurance, Ch. 19: Health Benefit Exchanges (pp. 307-319)
 - GHC-815-16: Kaiser Foundation: Examining Health Care Reform: Medical Loss Ratio
 - GHC-822-18: Understanding the Affordable Care Act’s State Innovation (“1332”) Waivers

Objective 6 – Retiree Benefits (Part of FV-C)

Overview – this was formerly Objective 7 of the Core exam

- **New Material**
 - None
- **Revised Material**
 - Group Insurance, Ch. 8: Retiree Group Benefits, pp. 118-129 (formerly covered entire chapter)
- **Removed Material**
 - None

SPECIALTY EXAM – FALL 2019 SYLLABUS CHANGES

Objective 1 – Claims and Disease Management

Overview – this was formerly Objective 2 of the Advanced exam

- **New Material**
 - None
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - None

Objective 2 – ERM

Overview – this was formerly Objective 2 of the Specialty exam (i.e. no change)

- **New Material**
 - GHS-126-19: Assuris for Group Insurance in Canada (*formerly on Advanced syllabus*)
 - GHS-127-19: The Risks of Pricing New Insurance Products: The Case of Long-Term Care (*also on ERM – Health Extension syllabus*)
 - GHS-128-19: RBC Calculation Examples
 - ASOP 23: Data Quality (excluding Appendices) (*formerly on Specialty, Objective 1*)
 - ASOP 41: Actuarial Communications (excluding Appendices) (*formerly on Specialty, Objective 1*)
- **Revised Material**
 - GHS-116-19: NAIC Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (ORSA) Guidance Manual, NAIC, Dec 2017 (excluding Appendix) (*formerly covered 2014 guide*)
 - ASOP 47: Risk Treatment in Enterprise Risk Management (excluding Appendices) (*formerly did not exclude Appendices*)
- **Removed Material**
 - None

Objective 3 – Risk Adjustment

Overview – this was formerly Objective 4 of the Specialty exam

- **New Material**
 - ASOP 45: The Use of Health Status Based Risk Adjustment Methodologies (excluding Appendices)
- **Revised Material**
 - None
- **Removed Material**
 - None