



AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY
GENERAL SURGERY: CONTENT OUTLINE FOR THE
CONTINUOUS CERTIFICATION READMISSION EXAMINATION

*The General Surgery Continuous Certification Readmission Examination is a one-day exam, with about 300 multiple-choice questions and lasting approximately 8 hours. The exam is administered in four 115-minute sessions, with optional 10-minute breaks after sessions one and three, and one longer 40-minute break offered between the second and third session. **Once a session has concluded, you will not be able to revisit those questions.***

TOPIC	WEIGHT*
Patient Care	80%
A. Abdomen	12%
a. General	
b. Hernia	
c. Biliary	
d. Liver	
e. Pancreas	
f. Spleen	
B. Alimentary Tract	15%
a. Esophagus	
b. Stomach	
c. Small Intestine	
d. Large Intestine	
e. Anorectal	
C. Endoscopy	2%
D. Breast	7%
E. Endocrine	5%
F. Skin and Soft Tissue	2%
G. Surgical Critical Care	10%
H. Trauma	8%
I. Vascular	7%
a. Arterial Disease	
b. Venous	
c. Access	
J. Transplantation	2%
K. Thoracic Surgery	2%
L. Pediatric Surgery	2%
M. Head and Neck	2%

N. Surgical Specialties	4%
a. Plastic Surgery	
b. Genitourinary	
c. Gynecology	
d. Nervous System	
<i>Surgical/Medical Knowledge</i>	20%
A. Applied Science	13%
a. Fluids, Electrolytes and Acid-Base Balance	
b. Immunology	
c. Infection and Antimicrobial Therapy	
d. Nutrition and Metabolism	
e. Oncology and Tumor Biology	
f. Pharmacology	
g. Transfusion and Disorders of Coagulation	
h. Wound Healing	
B. Preoperative Evaluation and Perioperative Care	2%
C. Miscellaneous Topics	5%
a. Anesthesia	
b. Biostatistics and Evaluation of Evidence	
c. Geriatric Surgery and End-of-Life Care	
d. Minimally Invasive Surgery - Principles	
e. Ethics	
f. Outcomes	
g. Radiology	

*Approximate percentage of questions to be included. Actual percentages may vary slightly from year to year.

The topic categories listed above are aligned with those of the [SCORE® Curriculum Outline for General Surgery](#). Please refer to the outline for further details on what is covered in each category.