

PGC Study Guide



Helpful Reminders and links:

- The PGC Exam is a computerized exam with a total testing time of 3 hours. The exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions and 20 unscored pre-test questions. The content of the Exam is described in the Content Outline below.
- The passing score is 79% or higher.
- You can test in-person or remotely. Please visit [this page](#) for info.
- [PGC Application](#), [free practice test](#), [PGC website](#).
- Please contact Pete Risano (973)722-4810 pete.risano@wpamail.org w/questions.

PGC Study Guide



Exam Knowledge Areas and % of exam

- I. Consultation/Check-in Prior to Service – 15%
- II. Bathing – 17%
- III. Drying – 18%
- IV. Finishing Grooming – 18%
- V. Client Communication Post Service – 16%
- VI. Facility/Personnel Issues – 16%

Exam Knowledge Area

I



I. Consultation/Check-in Prior to Service Exam

- A. Basic Info. from Owner
- B. Basic Info. about Pet
- C. Pet General Condition Assessment
- D. Pet Behavior Assessment

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

AKC Safety in the Salon Course

AKC Safe Handling Course

Book: [Cesar's Way by Cesar Millan](#)

Book: [Groomer's Guide to Pet First Aid & Health by Dr. Boyd Harrell, DVM](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Book: [The Complete AKC Dog Book, 22nd Edition](#)

Vlog: [Be a Better Groomer by Melissa Verplank: Title – What Does the Client Want?](#)

Skin and Coat Health – Dr. Cliff Faver

Exam Knowledge Area II



II. Bathing

- A. Pet Care
- B. Bathing Areas
- C. Products
- D. Equipment

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

[AKC Safe Handling Course](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Book: [The All Breed Dog Grooming Guide by Sam Kohl](#)

Book: [Poodle Clipping and Grooming: The International Reference by Shirlee Kalstone](#)

[PetTech Pet Saver Course](#)

Skin and Coat Health Course – Dr. Cliff Faver

Shampoo Science Course by Dale Sanson, Ph.D.

Groomer Ergonomics Course by Chris Anthony

Bather Brusher Course by Teri DiMarino

Sanitation Course by Chris Quinlan

Salon Sanitation Course by Corina Stammworthy

Blog: [GroomPod by Barbara Bird](#)

Exam Knowledge Area III



III. Drying

- A. Pet Care
- B. Equipment and Drying Areas

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

[AKC Safe Handling Course](#)

[PetTech Pet Saver Course](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Book: [Groomer's Guide to Pet First Aid & Health by Dr. Boyd Harrell, DVM](#)

Bather Brusher Course by Teri DiMarino

Sanitation Course by Chris Quinlan

Salon Sanitation Course by Corina Stammworthy

Exam Knowledge Area IV



IV. Finish Grooming

- A. Pet Care and Grooming Areas
- B. Products
- C. Equipment

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

[AKC Safe Handling Course](#)

[PetTech Pet Saver Course](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Bather Brusher Course by Teri DiMarino

Sanitation Course by Chris Quinlan

Salon Sanitation Course by Corina Stammworthy

Dr. Cliff Faver

[The 15 Coat Types and How to Groom Them Course by Jennifer Bishop-Jenkins](#)

Vlog: [Salon Sanitation by Mary Oquendo](#)

Ergonomics by Chris Anthony

Exam Knowledge Area V



V. Client Communications Post Service

- A. Client Communication
- B. Documentation

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

[AKC Safe Handling Course](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Nutrition for Groomers by Dr. Micah Kohles

Hair and Skin Certificate Course by Dr. Cliff Faver

Blog: [Be a Better Groomer by Melissa Verplank: Title – Dealing with Trouble Areas in Fur](#)

Exam Knowledge Area VI



VI. Facility/Personnel Issues

- A. Facility Safety for Personnel
- B. Facility Safety for Pets
- C. Holding Areas
- D. Pet Professional

Study/Reference Material:

[PPGSA Standards of Care](#)

AKC Safety in the Salon Course

AKC Safe Handling Course

[PetTech Pet Saver Course](#)

Book: [Notes from the Grooming Table by Melissa Verplank](#)

Blog: [Be a Better Groomer by Melissa Verplank: Title – Dealing with Trouble Areas in Fur](#)

Blog: [The Secret to Handling Challenging Dogs by Melissa Verplank](#)

Ergonomics Course by Chris Anthony

Everything Shears Course by Chris Anthony