GH DP

Syllabus Changes and Exam Restructuring

FALL 2025 EXAM RESTRUCTURING

FSA Exam Restructuring for Fall 2025

The SOA announced a significant restructuring of the FSA exam tracks for the Fall 2025 sittings and onwards. There is still more detail to be released by the SOA as we get closer to the Fall 2025 timeframe. The key ideas are to provide a flexible pathway to FSA (potentially allowing candidates to take exams in multiple FSA tracks), a regulatory material shift, improved syllabus and source materials, availability of exam feedback, and more frequent exams (for certain exams) and faster grading. More details can be found on the SOA's website:

https://fsa2025.soa.org/

We will provide more details and summary of the changes as the SOA releases more information as the Fall 2025 sitting gets closer.

Exam Strategy with Upcoming Changes

At this point, there is still some uncertainty around the details of the exam changes and new syllabi. We don't believe there are any huge differences that would result in a specific strategy regarding the timing and order of exams. We would simply advise current students to continue with the standard FSA pathway as it is provided now. Focusing your time on studying for the exam at hand will be much more valuable than trying to predict and plan for various scenarios in the future at this point. Given the likely transitions, we recommend sticking to the standard pathway recommended on the SOA's website for the current exam tracks.

Syllabus Change Timing

The syllabi for Exams DP and Risk Mitigation change during the winter and will be valid for Spring 2025 sessions. Exam VR typically changes during the summer, and the current syllabus is valid for Fall 2024 and Spring 2025.

SPRING 2025 SYLLABUS CHANGES

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.

GH DP EXAM

Key changes – minor changes overall, as there will be larger changes with the Fall 2025 restructuring. A couple of new readings for Objective 1, including a reading with a companion Excel file that will be helpful in illustrating the numerical concepts. Disability readings were removed from Objective 2, as those topics will likely be moved to the GH 301 exam in the future.

Objective 1 – Plan Provisions and Government Programs

- **New Material**
  - Insuring Long-Term Care, Ch. 4: Hybrid Life and Long-Term Care Products
  - GHDP-146-25: A Hard Pill to Swallow: Appreciating the Mathematical Dynamics of the Affordable Care Act *[formerly on the GH VR syllabus]*
  - GHDP-147-25: Attempting to Boil the Ocean: A High-Level Overview of Medicaid and its Risk-Based Managed Care Programs
    - Includes Excel file: Medicaid Tables
- **Revised Material**
  - None
- **Removed Material**
  - Eaton – Combination products: An Accelerated Education
  - GHDP-142-23: Medicaid A Primer, pp. 1-33

Objective 2 – Manual Rates

- **New Material**
  - Group Life Waiver Study Based on 2009 – 2015 Canadian Group LTD Termination Experience Report, CIA Study, Jan 2020, pp. 4 – 25, Appendix G (background only)
- **Revised Material**
  - Insuring Long-Term Care, Ch. 9: LTCI Experience Monitoring *[previously Ch. 6 in prior textbook edition]*
  - Insuring Long-Term Care, Ch. 10: LTCI Premium Rate Increases *[previously Ch. 7 in prior textbook edition]*
- **Removed Material**
  - GHDP-101-13: Group Disability Insurance (sections 4 & 7)
  - GHDP-127-19: Chapters 16 and 19 of Disability Income Insurance: The Unique Risk, 5th Edition, Soule
  - Timing's Everything: The Impact of Benefit Rush, Health Watch, May 2008
  - 2019 Group Long-Term Disability Experience Study Preliminary Report, Sep 2020 (excluding Appendices)

Objective 3 – Underwriting

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

GH DP UPDATE TIMING – SPRING 2025

- **Detailed Outline**
    - Objective 1 – Completed by November 30, 2024
    - Objective 2 – Completed by November 30, 2024
    - Objective 3 – Already Completed
- **Video Lessons**
    - Objective 1 – Completed by December 18, 2024
    - Objective 2 – Completed by December 18, 2024
    - Objective 3 – Already Completed
- **Condensed Outline and Flashcards**
    - Objective 1 – Completed by January 10, 2025
    - Objective 2 – Completed by January 10, 2025
    - Objective 3 – Already Completed
- **Prior Exam Analysis of SOA Exams**
    - Updated for Spring 2025 following release of SOA Fall 2024 solutions – February 2025