

CMA (AAMA) Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

200 Scored questions	2h 40m Time limit	405 (scaled) Passing score
\$125 Exam fee	AAMA Governing body	

CMA (AAMA) Exam — Fast Facts

- 200 multiple-choice questions
- 160 minutes total testing time
- Passing score: 405 (scaled)

Pacing Math

With 200 questions in 160 minutes, you have roughly 48 seconds per question. Flag hard items and move on — don't let one question eat your buffer.

- Quarter-check: ~50 questions by the 40-minute mark
- Halfway: ~100 questions by the 80-minute mark
- Leave a few minutes at the end for flagged items

Scoring — Must Remember

- The 405 figure is a scaled score, not a raw count or a percentage. You cannot compute it directly from "X of 200 correct."
- Because it's scaled, focus on maximizing correct answers across all content areas rather than targeting a specific raw number.
- There is no documented penalty for guessing in these facts — answer every question; a blank is a guaranteed miss.

Test-Day Rules of Thumb

- Budget time in blocks (use the ~48s/question anchor) so you finish all 200 items within 160 minutes.
- First-pass: answer what you know, flag the rest. Second-pass: return to flagged items with remaining time.
- Trust the scaled-score design — steady accuracy across the whole exam beats overinvesting in any single tough question.

Official sources

- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2025 — Medical Assistants (SOC 31-9092): <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes319092.htm>
- AAMA — CMA (AAMA) Recertification: <https://www.aama-ntl.org/certification/recertification>
- AAMA — CMA (AAMA) Exam Scheduling: <https://www.aama-ntl.org/certification/scheduling>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/healthcare/cma-aama