Understanding the Exam Structure

The Board of Governors Exam in Healthcare Management is designed to assess a broad-based body of knowledge across 10 core areas:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- Quality & Performance Improvement
- Technology & Information Management
- Laws & Regulations
- Ethics
- Governance
- Strategy & Marketing
- Supply Chain
- Clinical Leadership

Each question on the exam presents multiple correct answers, and your task is to select the most correct option. This nuance is critical to success and requires a strategic approach to studying. The national ACHE page does a decent job helping with this. (https://www.ache.org/fache/prepare-for-my-exam)

Recommended Approach to Preparation

Many successful candidates have found the following steps helpful:

1. **Review the Exam Content Outline**
   This provides a detailed breakdown of the knowledge areas and the percentage of questions allocated to each.
   Board of Governors Exam Outline

2. **Complete the Competencies Assessment Tool**
   This self-evaluation helps identify your strengths and areas for development across five domains: Leadership, Communication, Professionalism, Healthcare Environment, and Business Skills.
   ACHE Competencies Assessment Tool (PDF)

3. **Use Practice Exams Strategically**
   Practice exams are invaluable for identifying weak areas. Focus your study on the

domains where you consistently miss questions.
A link to the practice exam can be found here.

4. **Explore ACHE's Study Resources**
   ACHE offers a range of tools including:
   a. Virtual Review Courses
   b. Flashcards
   c. Study Bundles

   Prepare for My Exam

5. **Consider Review Courses Offered Through Other Chapters**
   These structured programs include virtual sessions, peer support, and access to study materials.
   - ACHE Virtual Board of Governors Exam Review Courses
   - ACHE of Georgia – On Demand
   - ACHE Minnesota
   - ACHE Southeast Chapter of Texas
   - ACHE of Southern California
   - California Association of Healthcare Leaders
   - CHEF U BOG
   - Washington State Chapter

Preparing for the FACHE exam is not just about memorizing facts—it's about understanding the context and applying judgment. That said, many have stated that repeated use of the practice exams, with and without the prep course offered the best ability to think in the way that the exam is asking the questions, and helps to get used to providing the most right answer consistently.