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Chapter VE 10

CONTINUING VETERINARY EDUCATION FOR VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

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VE 10.01 Authority and purpose. The rules in this chapter are adopted by the veterinary examining board pursuant to the authority delegated by ss. 15.08 (5), 227.11 (2), 453.03 (1), 453.03 (2) and 453.07 (1) (fm), Stats., and shall govern the biennial continuing education, training and certification requirements for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1992, No. 434, eff. 3-1-92; am. Register, December, 1998, No. 516, eff. 1-1-99; CR 04-125: am. Register August 2005 No. 596, eff. 9-1-05.

VE 10.02 Continuing education. (1) (a) Except as provided in subs. (3) and (4), a veterinarian shall complete at least 30 hours of continuing education pertinent to veterinary medicine in each biennial renewal period. The 30 hours of continuing education shall include all of the following:

1. Except as provided in s. VE 10.04 (1), at least one hour of continuing education that relates to the use, handling, distribution and disposal of pesticides.

2. At least 25 hours of continuing education that relates to scientific topics pertinent to veterinary medicine.

(b) All 30 continuing education hours in this subsection shall be documented. A minimum of 25 hours of continuing education shall be documented by an approved continuing education provider.

(c) A continuing education hour shall consist of 50 minutes of contact time.

(2) (a) Except as provided in subs. (3) and (4), a veterinary technician shall complete at least 15 hours of continuing education pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in each biennial renewal period. The 15 hours of continuing education shall include all of the following:

1. Except as provided in s. VE 10.04 (1), at least one hour of continuing education that relates to the use, handling, distribution and disposal of pesticides.

2. At least 10 hours of continuing education that relates to scientific topics pertinent to veterinary medicine.

(b) All 15 continuing education hours required in this subsection shall be documented. A minimum of 12 hours of continuing education shall be documented by an approved continuing education provider.

(c) A continuing education hour shall consist of 50 minutes of contact time.

Note: A list of approved program providers is contained in s. VE 10.03 (4).

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to an applicant who applies to renew a license or certificate that expires on the first expiration date after initial issuance of the license or certificate.

(4) The board may waive the requirements under subs. (1) and (2) if it finds that exceptional circumstances, such as prolonged illness, disability, or other similar circumstances, have prevented an applicant from meeting the requirements.

(5) Continuing education hours shall be completed during the preceding 2-year licensure or certification period.

(6) To obtain credit for completion of continuing education hours, a licensee or certificate holder shall, at the time of each renewal, sign a statement certifying that he or she has completed,

during the preceding 2-year licensure or certification period, the continuing education programs required under sub. (1) or (2), as appropriate.

(7) A veterinarian or veterinary technician who fails to complete the continuing education requirements by the renewal date shall not practice as a veterinarian or veterinary technician, as appropriate, until his or her license or certificate is renewed.

(8) For auditing purposes, every veterinarian and veterinary technician shall maintain records of continuing education hours for at least 5 years from the date the certification statement required under sub. (6) is signed. The board may audit for compliance by requiring a veterinarian or veterinary technician to submit evidence of compliance to the board for the biennium immediately preceding the biennium in which the audit is performed. Documentation of completion of continuing education hours shall include one of the following:

(a) A certificate of attendance from an approved course provider.

(b) Complete references from journal articles read.

(c) A grade report or transcript from an accredited college or university.

(d) A copy of a published work authored or co-authored by the licensee or certificate holder.

(e) A copy of a meeting syllabus, announcement, abstract or proceeding for a presentation.

(f) A signed document from an internship or residency institution certifying enrollment in a program.

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VE 10.03 Continuing education programs and courses. (1) CRITERIA FOR PROGRAM AND COURSE APPROVAL. To be approved, a continuing education program or course shall meet the following criteria:

(a) The subject matter of the program or course shall be pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.

(b) The program or course sponsor agrees to record registration and furnish a certificate of attendance to each participant.

(2) UNRELATED SUBJECT MATTER. If a continuing education course includes subject matter that is not pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology, only those portions of the course that relate to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology will qualify as continuing education under this chapter.

(3) MODALITIES AND METHODS OF DELIVERY. Modalities and methods of delivery of continuing education programs acceptable to the board include one or more of the following:

(a) Attendance at a scientific workshop, seminar, or laboratory demonstration pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.

(b) Self-study of veterinary medical or other pertinent scientific journals.

(c) Enrollment in graduate or other college level courses pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology. Credit for

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qualified courses will be approved on the basis of multiplying each college credit hour by 10.

(d) Enrollment in an internship, residency or certification program approved by a veterinary specialty organization recognized by the AVMA or in an AVMA accredited veterinary school.

(e) Authorship or co-authorship of a published work, such as review articles, abstracts, presentations, proceedings, book chapters, and web-based continuing education materials shall be approved for 5 hours each.

(f) A peer reviewed publication shall be approved for 5 hours.

(g) Development and presentation of research findings, scientific workshops, seminars or laboratory demonstrations pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology shall be approved for 5 contact hours each.

(h) Up to 15 hours per biennium for veterinarians and up to 8 hours per biennium for veterinary technicians shall be granted for a combination of continuing education hours completed under pars. (e) to (g), provided the continuing education is published or presented under the auspices of a provider approved under sub. (4).

(i) Preparation and successful completion of the examination required for certification to use, handle, distribute and dispose of pesticides shall be approved for one hour.

(j) On-line, video, audio, correspondence courses, or other interactive distance learning courses pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology, or to employment as a veterinarian or veterinary technician, as appropriate.

(4) APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS. Subject to compliance with the requirements set forth in subs. (1) to (3), the board shall approve attendance at and completion of one or more continuing education programs approved by any one of the following approved program providers as fulfilling the continuing education hours required under this chapter:

(a) A national, regional, state, or local veterinary medical or veterinary technician association.

(b) A federal or state agency.

(c) An accredited college or university.

(d) An association listed in the AVMA or the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America directory.

(e) An AVMA accredited veterinary school or veterinary technician program.

(f) A program approved by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards through its Registry of Approved Continuing Education approval program.

(g) A foreign veterinary medical or veterinary technician association, an accredited college or university, or a governmental agency that is, as determined by the board, comparable to a program provider listed under pars. (a) to (f).

History: Cr. Register, February, 1992, No. 434, eff. 3-1-92; am. Register, December, 1998, No. 516, eff. 1-1-99; CR 04-125: r. and recr. Register August 2005 No. 596, eff. 9-1-05; **CR 07-051: cr. (4) (g) Register October 2008 No. 634, eff. 11-1-08.**

VE 10.04 Continuing education and training in the use, handling, distribution and disposal of pesticides required. (1)

Each veterinarian and each veterinary technician shall at the end of the second renewal period following initial renewal, and at the end of each following renewal period, sign a statement on his or her application for renewal certifying to one of the following:

(a) That the veterinarian or veterinary technician does not personally use or direct the use of pesticides and does not repackage pesticides for use by others.

(b) That the veterinarian or veterinary technician is currently certified by a certification program acceptable to the board in the use, handling, distribution and disposal of pesticides, and that the veterinarian or veterinary technician intends to maintain his or her certification instead of completing the biennial continuing veterinary education requirement.

(c) That the veterinarian or veterinary technician has satisfactorily completed one hour of acceptable continuing education in the use, handling, distribution and disposal of pesticides during the preceding 2-year licensure or certification period.

(2) Each veterinarian and each veterinary technician who signs a certification under sub. (1) (a) and who is associated with or employed by a clinic holding a veterinary clinic permit issued under s. 94.702, Stats., shall include the permit number with the certification.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1992, No. 434, eff. 3-1-92; am. Register, December, 1998, No. 516, eff. 1-1-99; CR 04-125: r. and recr. Register August 2005 No. 596, eff. 9-1-05.