



MEMORANDUM

DATE	July 16, 2020
TO	Veterinary Medical Board
FROM	Timothy Rodda, Administration/Licensing Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 14B. Examination Report

Examination Development Workshops

The Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) completed the Veterinarian Occupational Analysis (OA) and has reviewed North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) information. The OPES linkage study workshop was completed remotely between May 28 and June 11, 2020, and compared content of the NAVLE with the results of the California OA. Below are the current workshop dates for the remainder of this year.

Veterinarian Examination	
July 29-30, 2020	Item Writing/Item Review
August 19-21, 2020	Exam Construction
September 16-17, 2020	Passing Score

However, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, OPES is revising plans for examination development workshops, such as utilizing videoconferencing and transferring tasks, in the hopes of transitioning to remote work.

Registered Veterinary Technician School Statistics

California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section [2065.8](#), subsection (a)(2), authorizes the Board to place an approved registered veterinary technician (RVT) school or degree program on probation for a period of time not to exceed two years if, for a period of two years, the program's yearly average pass rate for first time candidates falls below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates who have tested during the same period. Pursuant to CCR, title 16, section [2065.8.1](#), subsection (b), failure of the RVT school or degree program to eliminate the cause(s) for its probation may lead to withdrawal of the Board's approval of the program.

These sections apply to all Board-approved RVT schools and programs, including those accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). This could lead to a conflict where the Board would be required to withdraw an approval of an AVMA school program.

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) develops the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) to evaluate the competency of entry-level veterinary technicians and require a passing score for a veterinary technician to be credentialed. Currently, Board staff manually analyze VTNE pass rates for RVT schools/programs through reports

provided by the AAVSB. However, those reports do not show the first time versus repeat candidate breakdown for each school, which would be necessary in order to enforce the regulations.

In an effort to be more efficient, staff have reached out to AAVSB to obtain more detailed statistical data regarding pass rates for RVT schools/programs. AAVSB stated that pulling data from each individual school into one report is a manual process that would require the creation of a custom report, which would cost the Board \$5,000 annually to receive. Additionally, AAVSB indicated the report would be created on an academic year annual basis, based upon summary reports provided by their examination vendor. Staff have continued dialogue with AAVSB regarding the report but are still awaiting the additional data. (Strategic Plan Objective 2.5)

CA Alternate Route Schools - VTNE Pass Rates			
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FY 18/19			
School	# Tested	PASS	FAIL
Allan Hancock College	5	3 (60%)	2 (40%)
Bakersfield College	6	2 (33%)	4 (67%)
Banfield	15	6 (40%)	9 (60%)
Heritage College	7	5 (71%)	2 (29%)
Modesto Junior College	13	4 (31%)	9 (69%)
Platt College - Alhambra	39	16 (41%)	23 (59%)
San Diego Community College District (Mesa)	19	13 (68%)	6 (32%)
Santa Rosa Junior College	21	16 (76%)	5 (24%)
Shasta College	0	0	0
Veterinary Allied Staff Education	84	44 (52%)	40 (48%)
Other	47	28 (60%)	19 (40%)

FY 19/20			
School	# Tested	PASS	FAIL
Allan Hancock College	6	4 (67%)	2 (33%)
Bakersfield College	6	0 (0%)	6 (100%)
Banfield	18	8 (44%)	10 (56%)
Heritage College	4	0 (0%)	4 (100%)
Modesto Junior College	11	2 (18%)	9 (82%)
Platt College - Alhambra	63	32 (51%)	31 (49%)
San Diego Community College District (Mesa)	25	22 (92%)	3 (12%)
Santa Rosa Junior College	33	24 (73%)	9 (27%)
Shasta College	0	0	0
Veterinary Allied Staff Education	116	53 (46%)	63 (54%)
Other	29	17 (59%)	12 (41%)

Examination Statistics

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD EXAMINATION					
Nov. 2018 – Apr. 2019		May – Oct. 2019		Nov 2019 – Apr. 2020	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates
302	82%	208	72%	97%	273

NORTH AMERICAN VETERINARY LICENSING EXAMINATION					
Mar./Apr. 2019		Nov./Dec. 2019		Apr-June 2020	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %
88	59%	425	82%	48	83%

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN NATIONAL EXAMINATION					
Mar./Apr. 2019		Nov./Dec. 2019		Mar-June 2020	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %
213	67%	463	51%	305	57%

FY 2019/2020 Accomplishments

As noted above, in October 2019, OPES successfully completed an OA of the NAVLE, administered by the ICVA.

Over the last several months, the Board and OPES held multiple workshops to perform a linkage study and identify any gaps in testing and/or potential overlap with the state examination.

Board staff began auditing the examination application process to identify and eliminate inefficiencies. (Strategic Plan Objectives 2.1, 3.7, 3.8, and 3.10)

In October 2019, the Board successfully combined the RVT examination eligibility application and the registration application into one transaction.

FY 2019/2020 Goals

Board staff are reviewing the requirements for reciprocal RVT registration and identifying areas of improvement that may necessitate regulatory changes. Board staff also will review all applications and the requirements for alternate route RVT applicants to address any inequalities that may be present. (Strategic Plan Objectives 2.2, 4.9, and 4.14)

Over the next year, Board staff will continue to audit Board examination processes and, if necessary, bring any statutory/regulatory amendment recommendations to the Board for consideration.

Board staff will also continue working with AAVSB to receive examination results through an automated process, which will significantly reduce staff time and the current manual process for adding scores to a candidate record. (Strategic Plan Objective 2.1 and 2.5)

In October 2020, OPES will present its findings from the OA and linkage study. Based on their findings and recommendations, the Board may make additional changes to statutes and/or regulations in order to improve the examination process.