MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 7, 2021
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Timothy Rodda, Administration/Licensing Manager
SUBJECT	**15.C. Licensing Report**

Licensing Unit Staff Update
On January 12, 2021, the Board promoted Marlenne Gonzalez from the receptionist position to fill the Veterinary Assistant Controlled Substance Permit (VACSP) licensing technician position vacated by enforcement analyst Melissa Caudillo. On March 2, 2021, the Board hired Dustin Garcia to fill the vacant veterinarian licensing technician position, and on March 15, 2021, the Board hired Rachel Adversalo to fill the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) licensing technician position vacated by enforcement analyst Jennifer Tarrant.

Renewal Requirements (Strategic Plan Objective 2.4)
The Board continues to receive inquiries regarding the fingerprint and continuing education (CE) requirements for licensure renewal. Inquiries generally vary between how to complete the fingerprint requirement and how to obtain the necessary CE.

The Board continues to send monthly informational email blasts to all stakeholders. The information includes important information regarding Board actions and programmatic and waiver updates. Stakeholders who contact the Board also are encouraged to sign up for the Board's email blasts, and licensees are encouraged to update their email contact information with the Board.

California State Board Examination (CSBE) (Strategic Plan Objectives 2.3)
The Board approved a legislative proposal eliminating the CSBE as a requirement for licensure. The Board is requesting the California State Legislature include the proposal in the Board's Sunset bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 1535 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2021). Board staff will monitor the Sunset bill throughout this session, and work with the Department of Consumers Affairs, Office of Information Services to update BreEZe.

Once the proposal is enacted, Board staff will run a report to identify all applicants, whose only remaining requirement was passing the CSBE, and issue licenses accordingly. Board staff also will provide outreach through ListServ, the Board's website, and social media platforms. In addition, the Board will provide outreach to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) and American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to notify them of the eliminated requirement.

Licensing Unit Performance Measures
Applications
Through April 1, 2021, the Board has seen an increase from the prior quarter in the number of applications received, primarily attributed to VACSP and veterinary premises applications. The Licensing Unit received 1% more veterinarian applications, 3% fewer RVT applications, 40% more veterinary premises applications, and 53% more VACSP applications compared to last quarter. The Board received two university license applications, down from the eight received last quarter.

Additionally, the number of licenses issued as compared to last quarter has decreased overall. The licenses issued for veterinarians decreased by 17%, RVT registrations decreased 44%, and premises registrations decreased 24%. Additionally, university licenses issued decreased from eight to one. However, there was a 3% increase in VACSPs issued.

Board staff are making progress working on pending applications, with a majority of the pending applications decreasing from the last report. The pending veterinarian applications have increased due to staffing shortages and work done to improve BreEZe systems.

Processing Times and Pending Applications (Strategic Plan Objective 2.1)
Strategic Plan Objective 2.1 intends to "[d]ecrease licensure processing times by issuing a license to any candidate who completes the licensure requirements within 4 weeks to increase consumer access to veterinary care and to increase candidate access to licensure." As demonstrated in the attached statistics, the average cycle time to process veterinarian license applications is 17 days, which exceeds the 28-day goal.

Increased BreEZe Usage (Strategic Plan Object 2.3)
As demonstrated in the attached Monthly Application Statistics report, paper applications for most license types have dramatically decreased. Over the last year, all applicants and licensees have been encouraged to use BreEZe when applying for and renewing licenses. All veterinarian, university license, RVT, and temporary license paper applications have been removed from the Board's website. Premises registration and VACSP paper applications will be removed shortly. This transition to electronic application submission and processing not only streamlines the process for applicants, licensees, and licensing staff, but it significantly reduces physical mail received and processed through cashiering and front office staff.

Licensee Population			
	as of March 2019	*as of May 2020*	*as of April 2021*
Veterinarian Licenses*/**	14,545/12,685	14,820/12,275	15,142/12,344
Veterinarian Licenses – California**	11,882	11,068	11,318
University Veterinarian*/**	83/83	130/115	152/122
Veterinarian – Internship**	30	26	15
Veterinarian – Reciprocity**	41	42	63
RVT Registrations*/**	8,886/7,074	9,552/7,214	10,000/7,540
RVT Registrations – California**	7,047	8,376	8,635
Premises Registrations*/**	4,103/3,748	4,138/3,704	4,236/3,728
Premises Registrations – Exempt**	161	104	99
VACSPs*/**	5,158/4,136	6,661/4,816	7,987/4,927
*includes delinquent, inactive, and clear licensees; **clear licensees			

The number of active veterinarian licenses and premises registrations decreased between March 2019 and May 2020. There were multiple contributing factors that could have led to this, including implementation of the Board's fingerprint requirement for renewals, the fee increase,

and the COVID-19 pandemic. Since May 2020, the Board has seen an increase in the number of veterinarian licenses and premises registrations. Additionally, during this same time period, the Board has continued to see growth in RVT registration.

Attachment:
1. VMB Monthly Application Statistics – Individual Transactions Report (Jan 1, 2021 to Mar 31, 2021)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

dca

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Veterinarian CA Graduate Application for Exam Eligibility

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	1	0	1
Received Online	25	8	7	40
Approved Paper	0	1	0	1
Approved Online	31	15	21	67
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	41	33	19	19
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	0	N/A	0
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	48	53	73	57

Veterinarian Non-CA Grad Application for Exam Eligibility

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	1	1	2
Received Online	72	40	66	178
Approved Paper	1	1	1	3
Approved Online	26	15	51	92
Pending Paper	5	4	1	1
Pending Online	75	96	110	110
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	1,001	0	0	334
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	32	20	50	40

Veterinarian Reciprocity Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	1	1	0	2
Received Online	19	20	20	59
Approved Paper	0	1	0	1
Approved Online	11	1	1	13
Pending Paper	11	11	9	9
Pending Online	47	65	82	82
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	231	N/A	231
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	92	21	117	88

Final License Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	31	32	38	101
Approved Paper	1	0	0	1
Approved Online	32	22	15	69
Pending Paper	1	1	1	1
Pending Online	19	29	52	52
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	612	N/A	N/A	612
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	22	6	22	17

RVT Licensure Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	92	73	51	216
Approved Paper	2	0	0	2
Approved Online	58	36	21	115
Pending Paper	8	7	6	6
Pending Online	277	297	302	302
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	204	N/A	N/A	204
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	57	64	75	63

Premises Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	19	22	5	46
Received Online	15	11	21	47
Approved Paper	7	24	8	39
Approved Online	13	9	10	32
Pending Paper	22	19	15	15
Pending Online	6	7	15	15
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	18	21	50	27
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	7	8	15	10

Temporary License Initial Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	9	5	2	16
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	5	3	1	9
Pending Paper	3	2	0	0
Pending Online	16	18	17	17
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	35	77	35	49

Temporary License Licensure Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	5	3	1	9
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	7	2	2	11
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	0	1	0	0
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	7	2	7	6

VACSP Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	12	12	17	41
Received Online	154	166	189	509
Approved Paper	26	6	14	46
Approved Online	75	65	180	320
Pending Paper	33	35	36	36
Pending Online	429	502	498	498
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	80	162	75	90
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	66	57	81	73

University License Initial Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	0	1	0	1
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	0	0	0	0
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	0	1	1	1
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

University License Licensure Application	2021 Quarter 3			FY
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	1	0	0	1
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	1	0	0	1
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	0	0	0	0
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	0	N/A	N/A	0