DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 4, 2021
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Timothy Rodda, Administration/Licensing Manager
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item 18.B. Examination/Licensing Report**

International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

The ICVA is the examination developer and vendor for veterinary assessments, including the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE), and functions similar to the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES). They produce a quarterly newsletter that provides updates to stakeholders, the most recent of which can be found here. The newsletter has updates from their Chief Executive Officer, Heather Case, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CAE, information about the ICVA Chair, NAVLE updates, award winners, program updates, and a recap from the June 2021 ICVA Board meeting.

Examination Statistics

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD EXAMINATION (CSBE)					
Nov 2020 – Feb 2021		Mar 2021 – Jun 2021		Jul 2021 – Sep 2021	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %
147	88%	318	80%	78	73%

NORTH AMERICAN VETERINARY LICENSING EXAMINATION (NAVLE)					
Apr – Aug 2020		Sep – Dec 2020		Jan – May 2021	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %
61	74%	390	83%	85	55%

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN NATIONAL EXAMINATION (VTNE)					
Oct – Dec 2020		Mar – May 2021		Jun – Sep 2021	
Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %	Candidates	Pass %
392	53%	388	55%	376	53%

Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) Statistics

Board staff continue to compile RVT candidate pass rates on the VTNE from data provided by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). With this information, the Board is able to accurately enforce the RVT school pass rates as

required under California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, sections 2065.7 Inspections, and 2065.8 Probation.

RVT School Probation

The Board may place a school or degree program on probation for a period of time not to exceed two years if "for a period of two years the approved school's or degree program's yearly average pass rate for first time candidates who have taken the registration examination falls below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates who have taken the registered veterinary technician examination during the same time period." (CCR, tit. 16, § 2065.8, subs. (a)(2).) The process for placing an approved program on probation is outlined in CCR, title 16, section 2065.8.2.

Prior to taking any action to place an RVT school or degree program on probation or withdraw the Board's approval, the Board must provide the school or degree program notice of the pending action and an opportunity to be heard. To satisfy the regulatory requirement, the Board would need to select a date during a scheduled board meeting for which the Board's approval of the school or degree program would be agendized for discussion, send notice to the school or degree program of the pending Board action, and advise the school or degree program of the Board meeting date.

Below are the pass rates for RVT school or degree programs whose students took the registration examination for the first time in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018/19, FY 2019/20, and FY 2020/21. Schools and degree programs that are below 10% of the state average pass rate for first time candidates appear in bold, red text.

Currently, the school that falls into that category is San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC). During the April 2021 Board meeting, the Board heard from SJVC, which submitted a report and explained measures they are taking to improve the program. Following review of the measures taken by SJVC to improve the RVT pass rates, the Board voted to not place the program on probation. The Board will continue to monitor the pass rates.

CA VTNE Pass Rates of First Time Test Takers						
	FY 18/19		FY 19/20		FY 20/21 [Through May]	
	# Tested	PASS	# Tested	PASS	# Tested	PASS
California Candidates (First Time) – Average Pass Rate	823	554 (67%)	832	562 (68%)	648	402 (62%)
School Name						
California Polytechnic University-Pomona	32	30 (94%)	23	21 (91%)	28	24 (86%)
Carrington College – Citrus Heights	26	21 (81%)	30	25 (83%)	**22**	**9 (41%)**
Carrington College – Pleasant Hill	33	21 (64%)	**26**	**11 (42%)**	17	13 (76%)
Carrington College – Pomona	49	31 (63%)	40	27 (68%)	37	21 (57%)
Carrington College – Sacramento	32	20 (63%)	**27**	**14 (52%)**	28	17 (61%)
Carrington College – San Jose	29	24 (83%)	36	32 (89%)	20	13 (65%)
Carrington College – San Leandro	-	-	23	15 (65%)	**12**	**5 (42%)**
Carrington College – Stockton	**31**	**9 (29%)**	27	16 (59%)	**18**	**4 (22%)**
Central Coast College	**8**	**0 (0%)**	-	-	-	-
Cosumnes River College	11	11 (100%)	8	8 (100%)	12	10 (83%)
Foothill College	-	-	24	23 (96%)	25	24 (96%)
Los Angeles Pierce College	25	21 (84%)	31	26 (84%)	23	20 (87%)
Mount San Antonio College	32	30 (94%)	38	36 (95%)	12	9 (75%)
Pima Medical Institute – Chula Vista	70	51 (73%)	62	40 (65%)	36	21 (58%)
Platt College – Alhambra	31	19 (61%)	43	27 (63%)	20	12 (60%)
Platt College – Anaheim	16	12 (75%)	-	-	-	-
Platt College – Ontario	**10**	**5 (50%)**	8	7 (88%)	13	8 (62%)
Platt College – Riverside	22	20 (90%)	18	15 (83%)	17	12 (71%)
San Joaquin Valley College	**41**	**15 (37%)**	**19**	**3 (16%)**	**16**	**5 (31%)**
Stanbridge University	49	44 (90%)	33	30 (91%)	42	27 (64%)
Yuba College	**13**	**5 (38%)**	13	12 (92%)	10	8 (80%)

RVT School Inspection

The Board is required to conduct inspections of approved schools every four years, pursuant to CCR, title 16, section 2065.7, subsection (a). Additionally, the Board may conduct inspections of these programs if, "for a period of two years the approved school's or degree program's yearly average pass rate on the registration examination falls below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates for the registered veterinary technician examination." (CCR, tit. 16, § 2065.7, subs. (b).)

Below are the yearly pass rates for schools and degree programs that include first time test takers and candidates retaking the VTNE. Schools and degree programs whose candidates tested below 10% of the state average pass rate for first time candidates

appear in bold and red text. Schools and degree programs whose yearly pass rates fell below 10% of the state average for two years are subject to Board inspection pursuant to CCR, title 16, section 2065.7, subsection (b)(2).

The Board reached out to these schools previously regarding the low pass rates for their schools and discussed the responses at its July 2021 meeting. The schools provided information and speculation as to why the pass rates were low and indicated measures were being taken to improve their programs and, consequently, their pass rates.

CA VTNE Yearly Pass Rates						
	FY 18/19		FY 19/20		FY 20/21 [Through May]	
	# Tested	PASS	# Tested	PASS	# Tested	PASS
California Candidates (First Time) – Average Pass Rate	823	554 (67%)	832	562 (68%)	648	402 (62%)
School Name						
California Polytechnic University-Pomona	34	32 (94%)	25	22 (88%)	28	24 (83%)
Carrington College – Citrus Heights	38	24 (63%)	43	27 (63%)	**31**	**11 (35%)**
Carrington College – Pleasant Hill	**53**	**27 (51%)**	**38**	**14 (37%)**	28	17 (61%)
Carrington College – Pomona	**83**	**43 (52%)**	**68**	**38 (56%)**	**58**	**27 (47%)**
Carrington College – Sacramento	**55**	**24 (44%)**	**48**	**24 (44%)**	**49**	**19 (39%)**
Carrington College – San Jose	38	29 (76%)	**48**	**18 (38%)**	32	21 (66%)
Carrington College – San Leandro	-	-	**31**	**17 (55%)**	**25**	**10 (40%)**
Carrington College – Stockton	**45**	**12 (27%)**	**49**	**21 (43%)**	**28**	**6 (21%)**
Central Coast College	**10**	**0 (0%)**	-	-	-	-
Cosumnes River College	11	11 (100%)	8	8 (100%)	14	11 (79%)
Foothill College	-	-	25	24 (96%)	25	24 (96%)
Los Angeles Pierce College	29	23 (79%)	36	30 (83%)	29	25 (86%)
Mount San Antonio College	35	33 (94%)	46	38 (83%)	22	14 (64%)
Pima Medical Institute – Chula Vista	97	60 (62%)	**92**	**49 (53%)**	59	32 (54%)
Platt College – Alhambra	**52**	**23 (44%)**	**65**	**32 (49%)**	**39**	**17 (44%)**
Platt College – Anaheim	17	12 (71%)	-	-	-	-
Platt College – Ontario	**17**	**5 (29%)**	13	9 (69%)	21	11 (52%)
Platt College – Riverside	28	23 (82%)	24	17 (71%)	19	12 (63%)
San Joaquin Valley College	**70**	**24 (34%)**	**42**	**10 (24%)**	**41**	**8 (20%)**
Stanbridge University	67	51 (76%)	42	33 (79%)	50	30 (60%)
Yuba College	**17**	**5 (29%)**	21	14 (67%)	15	9 (60%)

Alternate Route

Below are the pass rates for first time test takers and the yearly average VTNE pass rates for alternate route schools.

CA VTNE Pass Rates – Alternate Route Schools						
School Name	**FY 18/19**		**FY 19/20**		**FY 20/21 [Through December]**	
	# Tested	**PASS**	**# Tested**	**PASS**	**# Tested**	**PASS**
California Candidates (First Time) – Average Pass Rate	823	554 (67%)	832	562 (68%)	648	402 (62%)
School Name						
First Time Test Takers - Alternate Route						
Allan Hancock College	5	3 (60%)	4	3 (75%)	4	2 (50%)
Bakersfield College	4	1 (25%)	3	0 (0%)	0	N/A
Banfield	14	5 (36%)	11	6 (55%)	29	13 (45%)
Heritage College	2	1 (50%)	3	0 (0%)	2	1 (50%)
Modesto Junior College	10	4 (40%)	8	2 (25%)	9	1 (11%)
Platt College - Alhambra	30	14 (47%)	55	31 (56%)	74	46 (62%)
San Diego Community College District (Mesa)	16	12 (75%)	24	21 (88%)	11	11 (100%)
Santa Rosa Junior College	17	12 (71%)	31	23 (74%)	23	15 (65%)
Veterinary Allied Staff Education	-	-	94	46 (49%)	88	51 (58%)
Yearly Pass Rate - Alternate Route						
Allan Hancock College	5	3 (60%)	6	4 (67%)	7	3 (43%)
Bakersfield College	6	2 (33%)	6	0 (0%)	1	0 (0%)
Banfield	15	6 (40%)	18	8 (44%)	37	16 (43%)
Heritage College	7	5 (71%)	4	0 (0%)	5	1 (20%)
Modesto Junior College	13	4 (31%)	11	2 (18%)	16	5 (31%)
Platt College - Alhambra	39	16 (41%)	63	32 (51%)	95	52 (55%)
San Diego Community College District (Mesa)	19	13 (68%)	25	22 (92%)	14	13 (93%)
Santa Rosa Junior College	21	16 (76%)	33	24 (73%)	35	25 (71%)
Veterinary Allied Staff Education	84	44 (52%)	116	53 (46%)	118	64 (54%)

Renewal Requirements (Strategic Plan Objective 2.4)
The Board continues to receive inquiries regarding continuing education (CE) requirements for licensure renewal and how to obtain a waiver from those requirements due to COVID-19 impacts. In response to these inquiries, Board staff explain the license renewal waivers issued by the DCA Director. The most recent DCA Director waiver, issued on September 28, 2021, applies to individuals whose active licenses expire between October 1, 2021, and October 31, 2021.

Staff have begun working with the DCA, Office of Information Systems (OIS) to have BreEZe automatically notify licensees via email of missing fingerprints on renewals that have been paid. This automation will allow staff to be more efficient by removing the manual email notifications.

California State Board Examination (CSBE) (Strategic Plan Objectives 2.3)
Board staff are currently informing stakeholders that the CSBE and California Licensing Curriculum are still required for licensure in California.

Board staff attended the 3-day California Licensing Curriculum held by the California Veterinary Medical Association on September 13, 2021 and explained the Board's role in veterinary medicine.

Increased BreEZe Usage (Strategic Plan Object 2.3)
As demonstrated in the attached Monthly Application Statistics report, the licensing population has primarily converted to online applications. All applicants and licensees are encouraged to use BreEZe when applying for and renewing licenses. Paper applications have been removed from the Board's website. Additionally, staff are working with OIS to make improvements to BreEZe and automate applications to reduce delays in licensure and license/permit updates.

Licensing Unit Performance Measures
Applications
Through September 30, 2021, the Board has seen a decrease from the prior quarter in the number of applications received. The Licensing Unit received 40% fewer veterinarian applications, 14% more RVT applications, 16% fewer veterinary premises applications, and 12% fewer VACSP applications compared to last quarter. The Board received 17 university license applications, the same as last quarter. This decrease in applications, specifically for veterinarians, can be attributed to the standard fluctuation from school graduations - specifically students having to wait until they are within eight months of graduation.

Consequently, the number of licenses issued as compared to last quarter has decreased overall. The licenses issued for veterinarians decreased by 40%, RVT registrations decreased 44%, premises registrations decreased 23%, and VACSP registrations decreased by 63%. Additionally, there were 12 university licenses issued, an increase of one from last quarter. Again, this decrease in licenses issued corresponds to licensure requirements.

Compared to the prior Fiscal Year quarter one totals, the Board has seen a decrease of 4% in the total number of applications received and 30% decrease in the number of licenses and permits issued. Board staff are making progress working on pending applications, with a majority of the pending applications decreasing from the last report. The pending VACSP applications have increased slightly.

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 nine days, which exceeds the 28-day goal.

Licensee Population			
	as of October 2019	*as of October 2020*	*as of October 1, 2021*
Veterinarian Licenses*/**	14,845/12,639	15,168/12,538	15,410/12,605
Veterinarian Licenses – California**	11,881	11,330	11,536
University Veterinarian*/**	119/118	144/125	165/124
Veterinarian – Internship**	25	17	30
Veterinarian – Reciprocity**	40	59	67
RVT Registrations*/**	9,243/7,074	9,795/7,350	10,113/7,613
RVT Registrations – California**	7,040	8,533	8,702
Premises Registrations*/**	4,053/3,624	4,177/3,649	4,218/3,665
Premises Registrations – Exempt**	96	91	103
VACSPs*/**	5,893/4,377	7,268/4,775	8,691/5,207
*includes delinquent, inactive, and clear licensees; **clear licensees*			

Attachments:
1. VMB Monthly Application Statistics – Individual Transactions Report

Veterinarian CA Graduate Application for Exam Eligibility

	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	0	0	2	2
Received Online	2	1	5	8
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	0	0	1	1
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	6	7	11	11
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	3	3

Veterinarian Non-CA Grad Application for Exam Eligibility

	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	2	0	0	2
Received Online	25	15	18	58
Approved Paper	2	0	0	2
Approved Online	23	5	23	51
Pending Paper	1	0	0	0
Pending Online	29	39	28	28
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	0	N/A	N/A	0
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	25	30	27	26

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BREEZE SYSTEM
VMB Monthly Application Statistics – Individual
Transactions
From Jul 1, 2021 to Sep 30, 2021

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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Veterinarian Reciprocity Application

	2021 Quarter 1			FY
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	1	0	4	5
Received Online	13	17	15	45
Approved Paper	1	0	3	4
Approved Online	14	12	42	68
Pending Paper	2	2	2	2
Pending Online	77	82	52	52
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	0	N/A	0	0
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	63	42	32	40

Final License Application

	2021 Quarter 1			FY
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	55	38	55	148
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	61	25	68	154
Pending Paper	1	0	0	0
Pending Online	26	38	24	24
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	10	6	9	9

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RVT Licensure Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	2	3	2	7
Received Online	50	146	84	280
Approved Paper	1	1	0	2
Approved Online	12	52	27	91
Pending Paper	5	7	8	8
Pending Online	330	393	427	427
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	1	0	N/A	0
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	72	24	12	27

Premises Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	18	17	10	45
Received Online	19	11	14	44
Approved Paper	14	13	13	40
Approved Online	12	8	13	33
Pending Paper	23	27	15	15
Pending Online	19	22	21	21
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	8	8	31	15
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	9	25	12	14

Temporary License Initial Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	1	0	0	1
Received Online	12	5	7	24
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	7	11	7	25
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	21	15	15	15
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	33	24	22	26

Temporary License Licensure Application

	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	8	14	8	30
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	9	12	9	30
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	2	4	2	2
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	4	3	1	3

VACSP Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	8	8	4	20
Received Online	164	159	147	470
Approved Paper	8	3	0	11
Approved Online	108	47	19	174
Pending Paper	17	21	23	23
Pending Online	539	635	733	733
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	2	12	N/A	5
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	19	26	33	23

University License Initial Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	2	3	0	5
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	5	0	1	6
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	2	5	4	4
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	35	N/A	75	42

University License Licensure Application	2021			FY
	Quarter 1			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Received Paper	0	0	0	0
Received Online	9	2	1	12
Approved Paper	0	0	0	0
Approved Online	9	2	1	12
Pending Paper	0	0	0	0
Pending Online	2	2	2	2
Average Paper Cycle Time (In Days)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Online Cycle Time (In Days)	2	30	0	7