



MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 5, 2023
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Jeffrey Olguin, Lead Administrative & Policy Analyst
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 7.A. Status Update on Pending Regulations

The Board currently has six rulemaking packages that were approved by the Board pending in the rulemaking process as described below. All six packages are in various stages of the pre-review or initial phase of the rulemaking process and one package has been approved.

Updates or changes in the status of rulemaking packages since July 2023 are provided below:

RVT Equivalent Experience and Education—CCR, Title 16, Section 2068.5

Update: This package has been approved by DCA Legal, DCA Director, and Agency. It was submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for publishing and is currently in the 45-day comment period. To date, the Board has received one comment, which was a letter of support from the California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association (CaRVTA).

Summary of Proposed Changes: At the April 2023 Board meeting, the Board approved Board Counsel and Regulatory Counsel’s proposed revisions to the language. The approved language removed the deadline of July 1, 2024 for Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) applicants to complete their combined practical experience and education and allowed RVT education programs to expand their coursework to be beyond the minimum units or instructional time required for the required RVT education component. The amendments to section 2068.5 will remove barriers to licensure by: (1) removing the requirement that an RVT applicant must complete all the education requirements within five years prior to the date of the examination for registration and (2) removing the 24-month timeframe for when RVT students to complete the required 4,416 hours of direct clinical practice.

Uniform Standards for Substance-Abusing Licensees—CCR, Title 16, Sections 2006, 2006.5–2006.56

Update: This package has been approved by DCA Legal and DCA Director. To date, the package is pending approval from Agency. If approved, it will be submitted to OAL for publishing to initiate the 45-day comment period.

Summary of Proposed Changes: This proposal would establish standards adopted by DCA's Substance Abuse Coordination Committee (SACC). The SACC was established to develop consistent and uniform standards for dealing with substance-abusing licensees. The Board has adopted standards to implement [Business and Professions Code Article 3.6 \(315–315.4\) Uniform Standards Regarding Substance-Abusing Healing Arts Licensees](#).

VCPR, Definitions, and RVT Tasks Updates (RVT Vaccine Administration)—CCR, Title 16, Sections 2032.1, 2034, and 2036

Update: This package has been approved by DCA Budgets and the Board's Regulatory Counsel. The regulation package was submitted to the Director and Agency for review and approval on October 5, 2023.

Summary of Proposed Changes: This proposal would expand the scope of RVTs to act as an agent of the supervising veterinarian to perform animal health care tasks related to vaccine administration or medications for the control or eradication of parasites for animal patients. RVTs must examine the animal patient, obtain and evaluate the animal patient's history, and administer the medication in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and document the animal patient's information. The RVT would be required to be under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian as further specified in this proposal. The supervising veterinarian would remain responsible for the acts of the RVT.

Minimum Standards for Alternate Veterinary Premises—CCR, Title 16, Sections 2030, 2030.05, 2030.1, 2030.15, 2030.2, and 2030.3

Update: In August, this package has been approved by DCA Budget Office and sent to DCA's Regulations Unit for review. The review was completed on August 28, 2023 and at that time Regulations Counsel identified further issues that will need to be addressed. The Board's Regulatory Counsel is working with the Alternative Premises Subcommittee on potential revisions to the text to be discussed at a future meeting.

Summary of Proposed Changes: The amendments will standardize language utilized in modern veterinary practice and update the requirements for: fixed veterinary premises, mobile veterinary premises, and vaccination veterinary premise. The proposed language: (1) takes into consideration the needs of large animal practitioners and limitations they have for equipment or animal movement of large animals, (2) the various mobile veterinary premises types, including house calls, and services for equines or food animals/livestock, and (3) helps clarify personnel authorized to provide vaccinations at a veterinary premises and the veterinarian's responsibilities.

Veterinary Graduate Student Exemption / RVT Examination Eligibility—CCR, Title 16, Sections 2027 & 2027.5

Update: Board staff have reviewed its internal processes for licensure and are in the process of developing proposed regulatory language for licensure requirements to be brought to the MDC for its input and consideration.

Summary of Proposed Changes: This proposal would permit veterinarian graduates who have earned a veterinary medical degree to apply for the Veterinary Technician National Examination and earn an RVT registration. The proposal also clarifies that veterinarian students in their junior and senior years, and not graduates, may perform RVT animal health care tasks.

Drug Compounding—CCR, Title 16, Sections 2036.5, 2090, 2091, 2092, & 2094

Update: Since the July 2023 meeting, the legislature has passed SB 669, which only permitted RVTs and not Veterinary Assistant Controlled Substance Permit (VACSP) holders with the ability to drug compound. As a result, the Board is asked to review attachments B, B.1, B.2, B.3, and B.4 for its consideration under Item 7.B.

Summary of Proposed Changes: The current proposal would allow RVTs to perform drug compounding, under the supervision of a veterinarian in a registered veterinary premises. In addition, it would create requirements for formula documentation, intravenous fluid preparation, and office stock.

Attachment

1. Attachment No. 1: Status of Pending VMB Regulations – Updated October 5, 2023