

Title 16. Professional and Vocational Regulations
Division 20. Veterinary Medical Board

*Changes to the modified language are shown in
double strikeout for deleted text and double underline for new text.*

2065. Criteria for Evaluation of Equivalent Programs Minimum Requirements for Approved Schools or Degree Programs.

Schools or degree programs seeking approval from the board shall meet all of the following minimum requirements: ~~In lieu of a two (2) year curriculum in animal health technology, completion of a program or curriculum in compliance with the following criteria is deemed to be "the equivalent thereof as determined by the board," pursuant to Section 4841.5 of the code:~~

(a) The academic instruction shall consist of:

(1) a minimum of 600 hours of classroom instruction, ~~and~~

(2) a minimum of 200 hours of clinical instruction, ~~and~~

(3) an externship consisting of at least 200 hours.

(b) The curriculum shall ~~include the following coursework~~ cover applicable safety training in all coursework. Coursework shall include the following:

(1) Principals of anatomy and physiology,

(2) Biology and chemistry,

(3) Applied mathematics,

(4) Orientation to the vocation of veterinary technology,

(5) Ethics and jurisprudence in veterinary medicine including applicable regulatory requirements,

(6) Anesthetic nursing and monitoring including anesthetic evaluation, induction, and maintenance. It shall also include care and use of anesthetic and monitoring equipment,

(7) Animal husbandry, including restraint, species and breed identification, sex determination and sanitation,

(8) Animal nutrition and feeding,

(9) Client communication,

(10) Dental care of companion and laboratory animals including prophylaxis and extractions,

(11) Diseases and nursing management of companion, food, and laboratory animals including zoonoses,

(12) Emergency and critical care nursing,

(13) Laboratory procedures to include clinical biochemistry, cytology, hematology, immunology, basic microbiology, parasitology, and urine analysis testing,-

(14) Imaging to include radiography, basic endoscopy, ~~and~~ ultrasound principles, and radiation safety principles,

(15) Medical terminology,

(16) Medical office management including medical record keeping and drug control,
(17) Basic necropsy techniques including specimen collection and handling,
(18) Pharmacology, and
(19) Surgical nursing and assisting including instrumentation, suturing, bandaging and splinting.

(c) Each student shall be supervised during the externship or clinical rotation by a veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who is located at the site of the externship or clinical rotation. The school or ~~institution~~ degree program shall have a written agreement with the site that specifies the expectations and responsibility of the parties. A staff member of the school or ~~institution~~ degree program shall visit the site prior to beginning the externship or clinical rotation relationship and at least once annually following the initial inspection.

(d) The library facilities of the ~~institution~~ school or degree program must be adequate for the conducting of the educational program.

(e) The physical plant and equipment used for instruction in the academic teaching shall be adequate for the purposes intended.

(f)(1) The faculty shall include a California licensed veterinarian employed by the ~~institution~~ school or degree program as an advisor, administrator, or instructor. Instructors shall include, but need not be limited to, a California registered veterinary technician. If there is any change in the faculty, the board must be immediately notified.

(2) Instructors shall be knowledgeable, current, skillful, and possess at least two years of experience in performing or teaching in the specialized area in which they are teaching. Each instructor shall have or currently be receiving training in current teaching methods. ~~Each instructor shall have a daily lesson plan, which correlates the theory and practice of the subject~~ School or degree programs shall effectively evaluate the teaching ability of each instructor.

(3) An approved ~~program~~ school or degree program shall have a director who meets the requirements of subdivision (f)(2) and who shall hold a current active California license as a veterinarian or registration as an RVT. The director shall have a minimum of three years' experience as a veterinarian or RVT. This shall include one year of experience in teaching, administration, or clinical supervision or a combination thereof within the last five years. The director shall have completed or be receiving course work in administration.

(4) In the absence of a director an approved ~~program~~ school or degree program may appoint an interim director. The interim director shall meet the requirements of (f)(3), except that the interim director may have applied for, but not yet have received licensure or registration. An approved ~~program~~ school or degree program shall not have an interim director for a period exceeding eighteen months.

(g) The number of students enrolled shall be at a ratio to the number of faculty and size of the facilities which is not detrimental to the quality of education, ~~at the institution school or degree program~~, but in any event, a maximum ratio of 15 students per teacher shall be allowed in lab classes in which procedures are performed on live animals and, w ~~When animal patients are used as part of the curriculum the ratio shall be adequate to, which adequately protects the~~

health and safety of the animal patients and the students, taking into consideration the species of animal being treated.

~~(1) A maximum ratio of 30 students per teacher shall be allowed for all lab classes other than those classes involving live animals.~~

(h) All students admitted shall possess a high school diploma or its equivalent.

~~(i) The program or curriculum school or degree program shall be part of an institution which is approved by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education, unless otherwise exempted from Education Code section 94800 et seq. or the State of California Department of Education, or in the case of an institution located outside of this state, accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of Education.~~

(j) ~~†~~ Every school or degree program shall be in compliance with the laws regulating the practice of veterinary medicine and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(k) Any instruction covered under subsection (a)(3) shall be in a facility ~~registered possessing a current and unrestricted premise permit issued by the board or in any facility that is otherwise exempt.~~

(l) ~~The program schools or degree programs shall provide all prospective students, prior to enrollment, with literature which discloses the school's or degree program's pass rate for first time candidates and the state average pass rate for first time candidates on the board's registered veterinary technician examination during the two-year period immediately preceding the student's proposed enrollment and a description of the requirements for registration as a registered veterinary technician.~~

(m) All ~~programs~~ schools or degree programs shall provide each prospective veterinary technology student prior to enrollment written information regarding transferability of the units they receive in the courses that they take. Said information shall be posted at all times in a conspicuous location at the school or degree program facility so that there is ample opportunity for it to be read by the veterinary technology students.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4841.5 and 4843, Business and Professions Code.

2065.6. School and Degree Program Approval Process

The following procedures shall be applicable to ~~an institution~~ a school or degree program applying to the board for initial approval of its registered veterinary technician curriculum in accordance with section 2065 of these rules:

(a) The board shall conduct a qualitative review and assessment of the ~~institution's~~ school's or degree program's registered veterinary technician curriculum through a comprehensive onsite review process, performed by an inspection team impaneled by the board for that purpose.

(b) After reviewing the inspection team's evaluation report and recommendations, the board shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Grant provisional approval for a period not to exceed two years. An additional two-year provisional approval may be granted by the board for good cause

(2) Disapprove the application.

~~(c) Full approval of a school or degree program offering a registered veterinary technician curriculum in accordance with section 2065 shall not be granted until the curriculum has been in operation under provisional approval for at least two years and the board has determined that the curriculum is in full compliance with the provisions of section 2065.~~

~~(d) If the board approves a school or degree program possessing full accreditation by the AVMA, such approval shall be full approval. Schools or degree programs possessing provisional or probationary accreditation by the AVMA shall be granted provisional approval on the same terms as all other schools or degree programs until such time as the AVMA grants full accreditation, at which time the school or degree program shall be granted full approval by the board.~~

~~(c) For a school or degree program that does not have AVMA accreditation, but offers a registered veterinary technician curriculum in accordance with section 2065, the board shall not grant full approval until the curriculum has been in operation under provisional approval for at least two years and the board has determined that the curriculum is in full compliance with the provisions of section 2065.~~

~~(d) For a school or degree program that has AVMA accreditation, if the board grants approval, it shall be full approval.~~

~~(e) For a school or degree program that has provisional or probationary AVMA accreditation, the board shall grant provisional approval on the same terms as all other schools or degree programs until such time as the AVMA grants full accreditation, at which time the board may grant the school or degree program full approval subject to compliance with section 2064.~~

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4841.5 and 4843, Business and Professions Code.

2066. Out of State Schools

~~(a) Candidates who have completed a course of study at a school or a degree program located outside of California and approved accredited by the AVMA shall be deemed to have completed the equivalent of a two-year curriculum in veterinary technology.~~

~~(b) Candidates seeking to apply to the board to take the Registered Veterinary Technician exam and who have obtained their minimum educational requirements from a school or degree program located outside of California and not approved by the board shall demonstrate to the board, (1) that the education they have received is equivalent to educational requirements of~~

section 2065(a) and (b), and, (2) that the school or degree program has been approved by a licensing body in the U.S. state, Canadian province or U.S. or Canadian territory. The burden to demonstrate educational equivalency is upon the candidate.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 4841.5 and 4843, Business and Professions Code.