



## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE** February 26, 2013

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**TO** RVT Task Force – March 12, 2013  
Kim Williams, RVT; Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM; Dave Johnson, RVT; and  
Oscar Chavez, DVM.

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**FROM** Sue Geranen Executive Officer  
Veterinary Medical Board

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**SUBJECT** VTNE Transition including Reciprocity Proposed Regulations

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**Background:**

The Board is in the process of transitioning from a state board exam for RVTs to using the national exam, the Veterinary Technician National Exam. As a part of that transition, the Board adopted the Veterinary Technician National Examination transition language at its meeting in January 2013 along with directing staff to work with its RVT Committee to insert language to address reciprocity provisions.

**Issue:**

The issue up for discussion is the language in Sections 2015.1(f), 2068.6 and 2068.6(a) that was added since the January meeting to include provisions for licensure reciprocity into the transition language.

**Action Requested:**

Discussion of the proposed language addressing reciprocity for RVTs and consideration of adoption of the language.

**Proposed Regulatory Changes Excerpts -10/2012**

**➡§ 2015.1. Substantially Similar Examinations; Conditional Credit.**

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(f) In lieu of passing the national veterinary technician examination and the California law examination within a 60 month period, an RVT applicant shall be eligible for the registered veterinary technician law examination provided such applicant meets the requirements outlined in Section 2068.6.

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**➡§ 2068.6. Practical Experience-Out of State Registration As Equivalent Curriculum (added since January 2013).**

In lieu of a two-year curriculum in registered veterinary technology, an applicant shall be eligible for the registered veterinary technician law examination provided such applicant meets the following requirements:

(a) The applicant is licensed, certified, or registered as a registered veterinary technician in one or more states in which the board has determined that he or she has taken a licensing examination(s) equivalent to the written examination last ~~given~~ required in California and has achieved a score on the examination(s) at least equal to the score required to pass the California examination.

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**Proposed Regulatory Changes -10/2012**

**➡§ 2002. Definitions.**

For the purposes of the rules and regulations contained in this chapter, the term "board" means the Veterinary Medical Board; ~~the term "committee" means the Registered Veterinary Technician Committee;~~ the term "code" means the Business and Professions Code, and the term "client" means any person for whom veterinary medical services are performed or to whom veterinary medical products or services are sold or provided.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4800 and 4832, Business and Professions Code.

**➡§ 2010. Application.**

(a) An application for eligibility evaluation for the California State Board examination shall be submitted to the board at its principal place of business on an application form and pursuant to instructions prescribed and provided by the board, (Veterinary Application, Form No. 25A-1, Rev. 9/2010; Veterinary Application Instructions, Rev. 9/2010), accompanied by such evidence, statements, or documents as therein required. The Board shall complete the eligibility evaluation and notify the candidate of eligibility and/or status.

Once eligibility is established, the candidate will be authorized to take the computer based examination. If an applicant fails their first scheduled examination, the applicant must reapply by submitting to the board required application forms and fees.

(b) An application for the registered veterinary technician examination shall be submitted on an application form and pursuant to instructions prescribed and provided by the board, (Registered Veterinary Technician Application, Form No. 26A-1, Rev. 9/2010; Registered Veterinary Technician Application Instructions, Rev. 9/2010), accompanied by such evidence, statements, or documents as therein required. The Board shall complete the eligibility evaluation and notify the candidate of eligibility and/or status.

Once eligibility is established, the candidate will be authorized to take the computer based registered veterinary technician national examination (VTNE) and the California RVT Law Exam. If an applicant fails their first scheduled examination, the applicant must reapply by submitting to the board required application forms and fees.

**➡§ 2010.1. Eligibility Evaluation - National Examination.**

All applicants applying for eligibility evaluation for the national examination for licensure as a veterinarian shall submit an application and required supporting documents to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB).

(a) Applicants from an AVMA accredited college of veterinary medicine must submit proof of senior status and of being within eight months of graduation.

(b) Applicants from a veterinary college not recognized by the Board shall submit supporting documents to substantiate either:

1. certificate of completion of the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates program (ECFVG) or
2. certificate of completion of the Program for Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE).

(c) Upon the determination of an applicant's eligibility for the national examination, the AAVSB shall notify the applicant of his or her eligibility to take the national examination and transmit the applicant's eligibility information to the National Board Examination Committee or its authorized representative.

(d) All applicants with current and valid eligibility on file with the AAVSB may make proper application to the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners or its authorized representative for the national examination.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4846.1 and 4848, Business and Professions Code.

**➡§ 2010.4 2. Eligibility Evaluation - National Veterinary Technician Examination.**

(a) Upon the determination of an applicant's eligibility for the national veterinary technician examination, the California Veterinary Medical Board (CVMB) shall notify the candidate and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) of the applicant's eligibility to take the national examination and transmit the applicant's eligibility information to the AAVSB or its authorized representative.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4846.1 and 4848, Business and Professions Code.

**➡§ 2014.1 Veterinary Technician Licensing Examination.**

(a) The registered veterinary technician licensing examination shall consist of a national veterinary technician examination and a California law examination.

(b) Subject to the provisions of section 2015, every applicant who obtains a passing score determined by the Angoff criterion-referenced method of establishing the pass point in the national examination shall be deemed to have passed the national veterinary technician examination. Such a passing score may vary moderately with changes in test composition.

(c) Every applicant who obtains a passing score determined by the Angoff criterion-referenced method of establishing the pass point on the national veterinary technician examination and on the California law examination shall be deemed to have passed the California state board veterinary technician examination. Such a passing score may vary moderately with changes in test composition.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 4848, Business and Professions Code.

**➡§ 2015. Examinations Credit.**

(a) An applicant for licensure as a veterinarian who passes the national examination, the California state board examination and the veterinary law examination within the sixty month period immediately following the date of the administration of the initial examination receiving a passing score shall be deemed to have met the examination requirements for licensure.

(b) Where an applicant for licensure as a veterinarian fails to pass the national examination, the California state board examination, and the veterinary law examination within the specified sixty month period, the applicant shall be required to retake and pass all those examinations.

(c) An applicant for registration as a registered veterinary technician (RVT) who passes the national veterinary technician examination, the ~~California state board law~~ examination for RVTs within the sixty month period immediately following the date of the administration of the initial examination receiving a passing score shall be deemed to have met the examination requirements for registration.

~~(e)~~ (d) An Any applicant who has failed an examination or who has failed to pass all required examinations within the specified 60 month period may apply to be re-examined at a subsequent examination.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 135 and 4848, Business and Professions Code.

**➡§ 2015.1. Substantially Similar Examinations; Conditional Credit.**

a) An applicant who has taken the national examination out of state and has achieved a score on such examination at least equal to the score required to pass the national examination under Section 2014, shall receive conditional credit for that examination.

(b) Applicants receiving conditional examination credit in accordance with this section shall complete the national examination, the California state board examination, and the veterinary law examination within the sixty month period immediately following the date of the examination for which conditional credit has been granted. Where the remaining examinations are passed within the specified time, the applicant shall be deemed to have met the examination requirements for licensure.

(c) Where an applicant, specified in this section, fails to pass the national examination, the California state board examination, and the veterinary law examination within the specified time, the board shall withdraw all conditional examination credit granted during this period and the applicant shall be required to retake and pass all those examinations.

(d) RVT applicants receiving conditional examination credit in accordance with this section shall complete the national veterinary technician examination, and the California RVT law examination within the sixty month period immediately following the date of the examination for which conditional credit has been granted. Where the remaining examinations are passed within the specified time, the applicant shall be deemed to have met the examination requirements for registration.

(e) Where an RVT applicant, specified in this section, fails to pass the national veterinary technician examination, and the California law examination examination within the specified time, the board shall withdraw all conditional examination credit granted during this period and the applicant shall be required to retake and pass all those examinations.

(f) In lieu of passing the national veterinary technician examination and the California law examination within a 60 month period, an RVT applicant shall be eligible for the registered veterinary technician law examination provided such applicant meets the requirements outlined in Section 2068.6.

➡§ 2015.2 **3. Veterinary Technician Law Examination.**

- (a) The veterinary technician law examination shall be administered by the California Veterinary Medical Board via the computer.
- (b) Notwithstanding section 2010, an application to take the veterinary technician law examination may be submitted at any time the applicant has met the requirements, in accordance with these regulations, to take such examination.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 4848, Business and Professions Code.

➡§ 2068.6. **Practical Experience-Out of State Registration As Equivalent Curriculum (added since January 2013).**

In lieu of a two-year curriculum in registered veterinary technology, an applicant shall be eligible for the registered veterinary technician law examination provided such applicant meets the following requirements:

- (a) The applicant is licensed, certified, or registered as a registered veterinary technician in one or more states in which the board has determined that he or she has taken a licensing examination(s) equivalent to the written examination last ~~given~~ required in California and has achieved a score on the examination(s) at least equal to the score required to pass the California examination.
- (b) The applicant has obtained at least 4416 hours, completed in no less than 24 months, of directed clinical practice, under the direct supervision of a veterinarian licensed in the United States, Canada or U.S. territory.
- (c) The directed clinical practice shall have provided the applicant with knowledge, skills and abilities in the areas of communication with clients, patient examinations, emergency procedures, laboratory procedures, diagnostic imaging, surgical assisting, anesthesia, animal nursing, nutrition, dentistry, animal behavior and pharmacology. The supervising veterinarian(s) shall complete a check list attesting to proficiency in specific skill areas within the preceding categories.
- (d) The board determines that no disciplinary action has been taken against the applicant by any public agency concerned with the practice of animal health care and that the applicant has not been the subject of adverse civil or criminal judgments resulting from the practice of animal health care which the board determines constitutes evidence of a pattern of incompetency or negligence.

➡§ 2071. **Application, Registration and Renewal Fees for Registered Veterinary Technicians.**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 4842.5 of the code, the following fees are fixed by the board for licensing periods beginning on or after March 1, 2012:

- (a) The application eligibility review fee for the ~~registered~~ veterinary technician examination shall be \$125.00.
- ~~(b) The fee for the registered veterinary technician examination shall be \$175.00.~~
- (b) The fee for the veterinary technician law examination shall be \$50.
- (c) The initial registration fee for registrations issued for one year or more from the date on which it will expire shall be \$140.00. The initial registration fee for registrations issued for less than one year shall be \$70.00.
- (d) The biennial renewal fee shall be \$140.00.
- (e) The delinquency fee shall be \$25.00.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 4842.5, Business and Professions Code.