



MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 29, 2013
TO	RVT Task Force
FROM	Sue Geranen, Executive Officer DCA/Veterinary Medical Board
SUBJECT	RVT Student Exemption

Background:

AB 1980 (Hayashi), Chapter 538, effective January 1, 2011, created a provision in law (BPC Section 4841.1) for RVT students in the clinical portion of their final year of study in a board-approved California veterinary technology program to perform the job tasks for registered veterinary technicians as a part of their educational experience including students both on and off campus acting under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian in good standing.

The bill also required the Board to adopt regulations defining the parameters of supervision required for the students who were to perform such tasks. The consensus of the RVT Committee and its recommendation to the Board at its last meeting in June 2011 was that the level of supervision should be "immediate" supervision meaning the supervision was physically present and the supervision was one on one.

There was also discussion regarding students in structured two year programs verses alternate route candidates and the RVT Committee recommended that the Board include in the regulations the parameters under which all RVT students could have experience actually performing the RVT job tasks at some time toward the end of their clinical training.

The RVT Task Force discussed and proposed changes to student exemption regulations at their March and June 2013 meetings. Amendments to the proposed language were made based on the Task Force discussion at the June 2013 meeting.

Issue:

There are two issues before the committee at this meeting on this topic:

1. Defining the supervision under which RVT students are allowed to perform the restricted RVT job tasks;
2. Determining the parameters under which RVT students qualify to perform such tasks.

Action Requested:

The RVT Task Force is asked to discuss and consider:

- i. Define Level of Supervision
- ii. Discuss "Board Approved Programs"
- iii. Discuss Whether Alternate Route Approved Programs Should Include an Externship to Allow for Performing RVT Job Tasks Prior to Graduation

Business and Professions Code
DIVISION 2. HEALING ARTS
CHAPTER 11. Veterinary Medicine
ARTICLE 2.5. Registered Veterinary Technicians

4841.1.

(a) This article shall not apply to students in the clinical portion of their final year of study in a board-approved California veterinary technology program who perform the job tasks for registered veterinary technicians as part of their educational experience, including students both on and off campus acting under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian in good standing, as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 4848.

(b) The board shall adopt regulations defining the parameters of supervision required for the students described in subdivision (a).

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

**Draft Language for Discussion Purposes
6/2013**

2036.6. RVT Student Exemption.

(a) Students in a board-approved California veterinary technology program as defined under section 2065 [and 2065.6.1?] of these regulations may perform animal health care tasks for R.V.T. job tasks as a part of the clinical portion of their final year of study as defined by section 2065(a)(2) and (3) [and 2065.6.1(a)] of these regulations provided they are under supervision of a California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician..

(b) Students completing the board-approved California eligibility requirements as defined under section 2068.5 of these regulations who have completed the required directed clinical practice specified in section 2068.5(g) and (h) and general education specified in section 2068.5(b) may perform R.V.T. jobs tasks as a part of the clinical portion of their final year of study provided they are under supervision of a California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician..

(c)The supervisor of the student under subsections (a) and (b) shall:

(1) Possess and maintain a current, valid California license or registration as a veterinarian or veterinary technician that is in good standing as defined in Section 4848 (b)(1)(A)(B).

(2) Maintain a one to one relationship in the teaching situation, are directly engaged with the person treating the patient, and are physically in the presence of the animal patient and the person treating the patient.

(d) The supervisor under subsection (b) and the student shall furnish, on a form provided by the board, an agreement between the supervisor and student that testifies the student is in a board-approved program as defined under section 2068.5 of these regulations.

(d) The supervisor under subsection (b) and the student shall notify the board in writing within 10 days of the termination of his or her supervisory relationship.

(1) If the supervisory relationship between the supervisor and the student has been terminated, the student shall not perform any RVT job tasks for which registration is required until he or she has submitted to the board in writing the name and license number of another veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who is to be the student's supervisor accompanied by a signed acknowledgment from the new supervisor that he or she has read and agrees to comply with the provisions relating to the supervision of students and the supervisor has been approved by the board.

(2) If the supervisor will be unavailable to supervise the student at any time, the supervisor shall either discontinue allowing the student to perform the RVT job tasks or shall make arrangements for a California licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician in good standing to supervise the student in the supervisor's absence.

- (3) If the supervisor is unavailable to supervise the student for three (3) or more consecutive weeks shall be deemed to have terminated the supervisory relationship.
- (4) If the supervisor fails to comply with the laws and regulations relating to the supervision of a student under this section shall be subject to disciplinary action by the board for unprofessional conduct.

Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 4841.1 Business and Professions Code.