1. Section 2068.7 is added to the California Code of Regulations, Article 6:

Section 2068.7. Limited Term RVT Examination Eligibility Window

1. In lieu of a two-year curriculum in animal health technology, completion of practical experience is deemed to be “the equivalent thereof as determined by the board” pursuant to Section 4841.5 of the code

   (a) The applicant has at least 7360 hours of directed clinical practice, completed in no less than five years within the six years immediately preceding application. The directed clinical practice shall have been under the direct supervision of a California-licensed veterinarian who shall attest to the completion of that experience and the competency of the applicant at the time of application to the Board for the registered veterinary technician examination.

   (b) The directed clinical practice required in subsection a 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 checklist, approved by the Board, attesting to proficiency in specific skill areas within the preceding categories.

2. This provision provides for a limited term, 12-month eligibility window from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, during which candidates, meeting the above mentioned criteria may apply for the RVT State Board Exam.

3. This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2010.