

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS
DIVISION 20. VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD

Proposed Regulatory Text to amend California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16,
Division 20, Article 6, Section 2068.5 and Repeal CCR, Title 16, Division 20, Article 6,
Section 2068.6 Regarding **RVT PATHWAYS**

Proposed amendments to the regulatory language are shown in single underline for proposed additions and ~~single strikethrough~~ for proposed deletions.

Amend section 2068.5 and repeal section 2068.6 of article 6 of division 20 of title 16 of the CCR to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6.

§ 2068.5. ~~Practical Experience and Education and Clinical Practice Experience as Equivalent Curriculum.~~

~~In lieu of a two year curriculum in animal health technology, completion of a “A combination of practical education and clinical practice experience, and education in compliance with the following criteria is deemed to be “the equivalent thereof as determined by the board” pursuant to Section 4841.5(a)(4)(B) of the code means the following:~~

(a) The education shall consist of a minimum of 20 semester units, 30 quarter units, or 300 hours of instruction. The education shall be provided by a postsecondary academic institution ~~or a qualified instructor, who satisfies the qualification requirements of subsection (e)(1).~~ The education shall be accumulated in the fundamentals and principles of all of the following subjects:

- (1) Dental prophylaxis and extraction.
- (2) Anesthetic instrumentation, induction, and monitoring.
- (3) Surgical nursing and assisting, including instrumentation, suturing techniques, intravascular catheter placement and application of casts and splints.
- (4) Radiography and radiation safety.
- (5) Diseases and nursing of animals, including zoonotic diseases and emergency veterinary care.

(b) The education shall include instruction in chemistry, mathematics, biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, and medical terminology, or these subjects may be obtained as separate courses.

(c) Interactive distance-learning shall be accepted if the course meets all the criteria listed in this section and the candidate achieves a documented passing score on the course final examination.

~~(d) The candidate shall provide the board with a syllabus or an outline for each course. The candidate shall provide documentation of attendance for each course in the form of one of the following:~~

~~(1) a certificate of attendance,~~

~~(2) an official transcript, or~~

~~(3) a letter on official stationery signed by the course instructor documenting that the candidate attended a particular course. Proof of completion of education specified under subsections (a) and (b) shall be submitted directly to the board by the postsecondary institution, or American Association of Veterinary State Boards, as applicable.~~

~~(e) (1) In order for an instructor to be approved for qualification, the instructor must meet at least two of the following minimum requirements:~~

~~(A) A license, registration, or certificate in an area related to the subject matter of the course. The license, registration, or certificate shall be current, valid, and free from restrictions due to disciplinary action by this board or any other health care regulatory agency;~~

~~(B) A master's or higher degree from an educational institution in an area related to the subject matter of the course;~~

~~(C) Training, certification, or experience in teaching the subject matter of the course; or~~

~~(D) At least two years' experience in an area related to the subject matter of the course.~~

~~(2) The instructor shall provide each participant with a course syllabus or detailed outline which includes a description of the material covered.~~

~~(fe) The directed clinical practice shall consist of at least 4,416 2,500 hours of directed clinical practice in any state or territory of the United States or Canadian provinces under the direct supervision of a California-licensed veterinarian(s) licensed in any state or territory of the United States or Canadian province who shall attest to the completion of that experience at the time the application is made to the board for the registered veterinary technician examination.~~

~~(gf) The directed clinical practice required in subsection (fe) shall have provided the applicant with knowledge, skills, and abilities in each of 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.~~following categories:

(1) Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication.

(A) Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations.

(B) Communicate in a professional manner in all formats – written, oral, nonverbal, and electronic.

(2) Pharmacy and Pharmacology.

(A) Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

(B) Accurately dispense and explain prescribed drugs to clients.

(3) Nursing.

(A) Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

(B) Understand and demonstrate husbandry, nutrition, therapeutic, and dentistry techniques appropriate to various animal species.

(4) Anesthesia.

(A) Safely and effectively manage and maintain patients in all phases of anesthesia.

(B) Safely and effectively select, utilize, and maintain anesthetic delivery and monitoring instruments and equipment.

(5) Surgical Nursing.

(A) Understand and integrate all aspects of patient management for common surgical procedures in a variety of animal species.

(B) Understand and provide the appropriate instruments, supplies, and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures.

(6) Laboratory Procedures.

(A) Recognize proper handling, packaging, and storage of specimens for laboratory analysis to ensure safety of patients, clients, and staff.

(B) Properly perform analysis of laboratory specimens.

(7) Diagnostic Imaging.

(A) Safely and effectively produce diagnostic radiographic and non-radiographic images.

(g) The supervising veterinarian(s) shall complete a check-list attesting to the applicant's proficiency in performing the supervised specific skill(s) areas within the preceding categories. The checklist shall also include the applicant's name and contact information, as well as the supervising veterinarian(s) name, license number, state, territory, or province the license was issued, and contact information.

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

~~§ 2068.6. Out of State Registration as Equivalent.~~

~~An applicant shall be eligible for the California veterinary technician registration provided such applicant meets the following requirements:~~

~~(a) The applicant is licensed, certified, or registered as a veterinary technician in the United States, Canada or U.S. territory in good standing, as defined in Section 4848(b)(1)(A) and (B) of Business and Professions Code, in which the board has determined that he or she has passed the national veterinary technician examination or an examination equivalent to the written examination last required in California.~~

~~(b) The applicant has obtained at least 4,416 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.~~

Note: Authority cited: Section 4808, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 4841.5 and 4848, Business and Professions Code.