



NCVMB Facility Naming Rules

General Statute 90-181.1(a) requires a veterinary practice facility use in its name a descriptive term to accurately reflect the level of service being offered to the public. The following descriptive terms are applicable:

Mobile Facility: A veterinary practice conducted from a vehicle with special medical or surgical facilities or from a vehicle suitable only for making house or farm calls -- provided the veterinary medical practice shall have a permanent base of operation with a published address and telephone availability for making appointments or responding to emergency situations.

Veterinary/Animal Clinic: A veterinary practice facility in which the practice conducted is essentially an out-patient practice.

Veterinary/Animal Hospital: A veterinary practice facility in which the practice conducted includes the confinement as well as the treatment of patients.

Office: A veterinary practice facility where a limited or consultative practice is conducted and which provides no facilities for the housing of patients.

Emergency Facility: A veterinary medical facility whose primary function is the receiving, treatment and monitoring of emergency patients during its specified hours of operation. At this facility, a veterinarian is in attendance at all hours of operation and sufficient staff is available to provide timely and appropriate emergency care. An emergency facility may be an independent veterinary medical after-hours facility, an independent veterinary medical 24-hour facility or part of a full-service hospital or large teaching institution.

On-Call Emergency Service: A veterinary medical service at a practice facility, including a mobile facility, where veterinarians and staff are not on the premises during all hours of operation or where veterinarians leave after a patient is treated. A veterinarian shall be available to be reached by telephone for after-hours emergencies.

Animal Health Center/Animal Medical Center: A veterinary practice facility in which consultative, clinical and hospital services are rendered and in which a large staff of basic and applied veterinary scientist perform significant research and conduct advanced professional educational programs.