

North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board

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Regulatory Bulletin

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Legislative Updates

The Board has approved several legislative proposals to amend the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act (the “Practice Act”). These proposals, if approved by the North Carolina General Assembly, would include the following:

- Establish a pathway to registration as a veterinary technician for foreign graduates of non-accredited programs through the completion of the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE).
- Create a registration option for credentialed Veterinary Technician Specialists (VTS).
- Change the status for individuals who fail to renew from “revoked” to “expired.”
- Grant the Board summary emergency powers to suspend the license or registration of any licensee or registrant upon a determination that the individual is endangering, or may endanger, the public health or safety or the welfare and safety of animals.
- Clarify the application requirements for individuals licensed or registered in other states.
- Authorize the issuance of temporary permits to nonresident veterinarians and veterinary technicians during a declared state of emergency.

The complete text of these proposed statutory changes is available on the Board’s website ([NCVMB](#)) under the “**Important to Know**” column.

Responsiveness to the Board

The Board routinely contacts licensees, registrants, facility permit holders, and corporate entities to ensure continued compliance with the Practice Act. Board staff may reach out by telephone, email, and mail (including certified mail).

Board rules require that contact information- telephone numbers, email address, and mailing address- be kept current in the Board’s records. Updates should be made through the Licensure Gateway system or reported directly to Board staff via email.

Prompt responses to Board communications help maintain efficient and effective operations. Recent compliance efforts have revealed instances of certified mail being returned as “Unclaimed” or “Refused” and there were unanswered calls and emails. Timely and responsive communication supports the Board’s mission to promote, preserve, and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people and animals of North Carolina.

Contact information for Board staff is available on the Board website under **About Us → Contact**.

New Board Member- Krissie Newman

Krissie Newman has been appointed by the Governor to serve as the public member of the Board. Ms. Newman is the President and Founding Board Member of Rescue Ranch, a 501c3 non-profit animal welfare organization in Statesville, North Carolina. Rescue Ranch provides humane education programs and offers lifelong sanctuary to more than 80 rescued animals. In addition, Ms. Newman deploys on missions with ASAR (Animal Search and Rescue), Code 3 Associates, and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), assisting in global efforts to rescue animals affected by natural disasters and ensure their safety and care during times of crisis.

NC Controlled Substance Reporting System

The NC Department of Health and Human Services- Controlled Substance Reporting System and Drug Control Unit have added new user resources to their website. The new video series provides quick guidance and tips for common user topics and role specific functions. The topics include:

- How to Register with NC CSRS
- How to Update Your NC CSRS User Profile and Settings
- Monitoring Your Prescribing Trends in the NC CSRS
- Registration Guidance for Licensed Delegates
- NC CSRS Tips for Medical Residents
- NC CSRS Features for Dispensers

The video series and other resources can be found on the [NCDHHS CSRS webpage](#). If you have additional questions or need assistance, please contact NCDHHS at nccsrs@dhhs.nc.gov.

SAVE Verification

Under Federal law (8 USC 1621), the Board is prohibited from issuing a professional license or registration to any individual who is not a U.S. citizen unless the applicant qualifies as one of the following:

- A qualified alien as defined in 8 USC 1641,
- A nonimmigrant under the Immigration and Nationality Act, or
- An alien who is paroled in the United States under Section 212(d)(5).

Effective immediately, the Board will use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, administered by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), to verify immigration status for all license or registration issuances and renewals.

Applicants who are not U.S. citizens will be required to provide documentation verifying their immigration or citizenship status. Acceptable documents include, but are not limited to:

- Permanent Resident Card (Green Card)
- Alien Registration Number (A-Number)

- Form I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record)
- Form I-766 (Employment Authorization Document)
- Valid foreign passport

Additional documentation may be requested as needed. Please contact the Board office if you any questions.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Veterinary Medicine

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an emerging tool in veterinary medicine and its use is becoming more widespread. The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) published a white paper that examines regulatory considerations for the use of AI in veterinary medicine [AAVSB- Use of AI in Veterinary Medicine](#). The five regulatory principles considered in this paper include the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine, standards of practice, medical record keeping, data storage and client confidentiality, and appropriate informed consent. The paper concludes that “Artificial Intelligence has the potential to enhance the practice of veterinary medicine by supporting clinical decision-making, aiding in diagnostics, and reducing licensee time spent on non-clinical tasks. However, this potential must be carefully balanced with the associated risks.”

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) also has numerous journal and news articles regarding the use of AI in veterinary medicine. It is important that while exploring the usefulness in modern practice that the pitfalls are not overlooked. In a November 2025 article published on the AVMA website, “Building a Framework for Responsible AI in Veterinary Medicine,” Dr. Jeremy Redmond, director of clinical skills and assistant professor of equine medicine at Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, states “AI can help us be more efficient, but it can’t replace compassion or critical thinking.”