

Proposed amendments to the NC Veterinary Practice Act:

Adding PAVE Graduates and VTS for registration as a veterinary technician.

90-181. Definitions.

(10) Veterinary technician. - ~~Either~~ One of the following ~~persons~~ individuals:

a. An individual who has successfully completed a post-high school course in the care and treatment of animals that conforms to the standards required for accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.

b. An individual who is a graduate of an international veterinary technician program not accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA CVTEA) may not be considered by the Board until the applicant furnishes satisfactory proof of graduation and of successful completion of the certification program developed and administered by the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards. The certification program shall include examinations with respect to clinical proficiency and comprehension of and ability to communicate in the English language.

c. An individual who is a registered, certified, or licensed veterinary technician in good standing in another state and is a credentialed Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) who achieved certification from the National Association of Veterinary Technicians (NAVTA) or the Canadian Veterinary Technician Society (CVTS) approved specialty academy, and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.

~~b. d.~~ An individual who holds a degree in veterinary medicine from a college of veterinary medicine recognized by the Board for licensure of veterinarians and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.

Change the status of licensees and registrants that fail to renew their license or registration from revoked to expired.

90-187.5. License and registration renewal.

All licenses ~~and limited licenses~~ shall ~~expire~~ be renewed annually ~~or biennially~~, as determined by the Board, ~~on by~~ December ~~31~~ but 31. A license may be renewed ~~by application to the Board, if:~~

1. The applicants continuing education requirements are satisfied as stated in 21 NCAC 66 .0206;
2. The applicant has completed the application and paid the renewal fee established by the Board. ~~and payment of the renewal fee established and published by the Board. The executive director shall issue a new certificate of registration to all persons registering under this Article. Failure to apply for renewal within 60 days after expiration~~ December 31 shall result in automatic ~~revocation~~ expiration of the license ~~or limited license~~ and any person who shall practice veterinary medicine after such ~~revocation~~ expiration shall be practicing in violation of this Article. ~~Provided, that any~~ Any person may renew an expired license ~~or limited license~~ at any time within ~~two~~ three years following its expiration as long as the

continuing education requirements have been met for each calendar year the license has been expired and upon submitting a renewal application and compliance with Board requirements and the with payment of all applicable fees in amounts allowed by this Article or administrative rule of the Board; and further provided, that the applicant is otherwise eligible under this Article or administrative rules of the Board to have the license renewed.

Registrations shall be renewed biennially by December 31. A registration may be renewed if:

1) The registrants continuing education requirements are satisfied as stated in 21 NCAC 66 .0206;

2) The registrant has completed the registration and paid the renewal fee established by the Board.

Failure to apply for renewal within 60 days after December 31 shall result in automatic expiration of the registration and any person who shall practice as a registered veterinary technician after such expiration shall be practicing in violation of this Article. Any person may renew an expired registration at any time within three years following its expiration as long as the continuing education requirements, as stated in NCAC 66 .0206(2), have been met for each calendar year the license has been expired and upon submitting a renewal application with payment of all applicable fees in amounts allowed by this Article or administrative rule of the Board; and further provided, that the applicant is otherwise eligible under this Article or administrative rules of the Board to have the registration renewed.

90-187.9. Reinstatement.

~~(a) A person licensed or registered as a veterinary technician under this Article who has had his or her license or registration revoked for failure to apply for renewal may be reinstated at any time within three years following revocation upon filing an application for reinstatement and paying all accrued renewal fees and the reinstatement fee. As a condition of reinstatement, the applicant shall submit proof to the Board that the applicant has earned the continuing education credits required under this Article and rules adopted by the Board for each year the license or registration was revoked.~~

~~(b) (a) A person whose license has been ~~revoked~~ expired for ~~more than three years~~ or more for failure to apply for license renewal may qualify for licensure reinstatement upon filing an application with the Board and meeting the requirements of G.S. 90-187 or G.S. 90-187.3.~~

~~(c) (b) A person whose registration has been ~~revoked~~ expired for ~~more than three years~~ or more for failure to apply for registration renewal may qualify for registration reinstatement upon filing an application with the Board and meeting the requirements of G.S. 90-186(4) and any applicable rules adopted by the Board.~~

~~(d) (c) Subject to conditions as may be imposed by the Board, or a Committee on Investigations designated by the Board, any person whose license or registration is ~~revoked~~ or suspended for reasons other than failure to apply for renewal may, in the Board's discretion, be ~~relicensed or reregistered~~ reinstated at any time by majority vote of the Board upon submitting written application to the Board showing cause for justifying ~~relicensure or reregistration.~~ the reinstatement.~~

Adding summary emergency order (DVM and RVT)

§90-186 Special powers of the Board

In addition to the powers set forth in G.S. 90-185 above, the Board may:

(3a) Upon complaint or information received by the Board, through summary emergency order of the Board, prior to a hearing, suspend the license or registration of any licensee or registrant that the Board determines is endangering, or may endanger, the public health or safety or the welfare and safety of animals. Upon the issuance of any summary emergency order, the Board shall initiate, within 10 days, a notice of hearing under the administrative rules issued pursuant to this Article and Chapter 150B of the General Statutes for an administrative hearing on the alleged violation;

(4) Provide ~~special~~ registration for "veterinary technicians" and "veterinary student interns" and adopt rules concerning the training, registration, and service limits of these ~~assistants~~ veterinary technicians and veterinary student interns while employed by and acting under the supervision and responsibility of veterinarians. The Board has exclusive jurisdiction in determining eligibility and qualification requirements for these ~~assistants-~~ veterinary technicians and veterinary student interns. Renewals of registrations for veterinary technicians shall be required at least every 24 months, so long as the certificate of registration for the veterinary technician is otherwise eligible for renewal.

Requirements for out of state applicants

§90-187.3 Applicants licensed in other states

(a) The Board may issue a license without written examination, other than the written North Carolina license examination, to applicants already licensed in another state provided the applicant presents evidence satisfactory to the Board that:

(1) The applicant ~~is currently~~ holds an active license in another state ~~competent practitioner~~ and is in good standing.

(2) The applicant has practiced at least three of the five years immediately preceding filing the application. If the applicant has not practiced at least three of the five years immediately preceding the filing of the application, the applicant may submit proof, for a determination by the Board, that the applicant is competent to practice veterinary medicine and has earned the required continuing education credits in the year preceding the application.

~~(3) The applicant currently holds an active license in another state.~~

~~(4)~~(3) There is no disciplinary proceeding or unresolved complaint pending against the applicant at the time a license is to be issued by this State.

~~(4a)~~(4) Any disciplinary actions taken against the applicant or his or her license by the other state in which he or she is licensed will not affect the applicant's competency to practice veterinary medicine as provided in this Article or any rules adopted by the Board.

(5) The licensure requirements in the other state are substantially equivalent to those required by this ~~State.~~ State, including but not limited to the applicant being a graduate of an accredited American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) veterinary school and has passed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE). An applicant who is not a graduate of a program accredited by the AVMA

may not be considered by the Board until the applicant furnishes satisfactory proof of graduation from a college of veterinary medicine and of successful completion of the certification program developed and administered by (i) the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) of the American Veterinary Medical Association or (ii) the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards.

(6) The applicant has achieved a passing score on the written North Carolina license examination.

Allow temporary permits for veterinarians during state of emergency

§90-187.4 Temporary Permit.

(a) The Board may issue, without examination, a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in this State:

(4) To a nonresident veterinarian, during a state of emergency order issued in accordance with G.S. 166A-19.20, validly licensed in another state, territory, or district of the United States provided that such temporary permit shall be issued for a period of no more than 60 days. The temporary permit shall expire in 60 days, or when the state of emergency order has been lifted or allowed to expire, whichever is shorter.

Allow temporary permits for RVTs during state of emergency

§90-187.6 Veterinary technicians and staff

(a2) The Board may register veterinary technicians, during a state of emergency order issued in accordance with G.S. 166A-19.20, validly licensed in another state, territory, or district of the United States provided that such registration shall be issued for a period of no more than 60 days. The registration shall expire in 60 days, or when the state of emergency order has been lifted or allowed to expire, whichever is shorter.