

1 **.0206 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION**

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3 Each person holding a veterinary license, limited license, a faculty certificate, or a zoo veterinary certificate
4 (collectively referred to herein as “veterinarian”) or a veterinary technician registration issued by the Board shall
5 comply with the standards in this Rule. The standards shall be a condition precedent to the renewal of a license,
6 certificate, or registration respectively. The standards are as follows:

7 ~~(1) Continuing education credit hours shall relate to veterinary medicine.~~

8 ~~(2)~~ (1) A veterinarian shall earn ~~20~~ **15** continuing education credit hours for the calendar year license renewal
9 period. **A maximum of 5 hours may be obtained pursuant to courses described in item 4.**

10 ~~(3)~~ (2) A **registered** veterinary technician shall earn 12 continuing education credit hours for the two-calendar
11 year registration renewal period. **A maximum of 4 hours may be obtained pursuant to course described**
12 **in item 4.**

13 ~~(4)~~ (3) **One continuing education hour may be earned for each hour of independent self-study courses,**
14 **prerecorded webinars, audio conferences, and non-interactive on-line presentations approved by**
15 **approved continuing education credit providers.**

16 ~~(5)~~ (4) **One continuing education credit hour may be earned for each hour of in-person attendance or live**
17 **interactive attendance at courses presented or approved by approved continuing education credit**
18 **providers.**

19 ~~(6)~~ (5) **A live interactive presentation shall:**

20 **(a) include instant or synchronous two-way communication:**

21 **(b) provide access to both technical personnel and professional faculty, as well as interactivity**
22 **among participants for the exchange of questions and answers via instant messaging or a**
23 **moderated teleconference, and**

24 **(c) document the level of participation by keeping a record of the participant’s activity in asking or**
25 **answering questions during the presentation and the score of any examination administered at**
26 **the end or the presentation.**

27 ~~(7)~~ (6) A veterinarian or **registered** veterinary technician may request and be granted an extension of time,
28 not to exceed six months, to satisfy the continuing education requirement if the veterinarian or
29 **registered** veterinary technician provides evidence of a ~~debilitating injury or illness or~~ circumstance
30 that prevents the veterinarian or veterinary technician from being able to obtain continuing education.
31 **The Board shall consider any evidence submitted of a circumstance preventing the veterinarian or**
32 **veterinary technician from being able to obtain continuing education on a case-by-case basis.** ~~If the~~
33 ~~veterinarian or veterinary technician submits evidence of failure to complete continuing education~~
34 ~~due to debilitating injury or illness or hardship, the Board shall consider the evidence submitted on a~~
35 ~~case-by-case basis. If the board finds that the debilitating injury or illness or hardship was the basis~~
36 ~~for non-compliance with the continuing education requirement, the Board shall exempt that~~
37 ~~individual from completing the unearned portion of the continuing education for that renewal period.~~

~~(8) (7) If the Board finds that the circumstance that was the basis for non-compliance with the continuing education requirement justified the non-compliance, the Board may exempt that individual from completing the unearned portion of the continuing education for that renewal period.~~

~~(9) (8) Continuing education credits hours may be earned from courses, programs, or materials presented or approved by the following providers:~~

~~(a) the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA);~~

~~(b) the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA);~~

~~(c) the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA);~~

~~(d) the United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service;~~

~~(e) the American Association of Veterinary State Boards' (AAVSB) Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE); and~~

~~(f) academies, schools, or colleges of veterinary medicine.~~

These providers are designated herein as "approved continuing education credit providers." The Board shall consider additional courses, presentations, or materials eligible for approval for continuing education credit hours, provided that the individual seeking the credit furnishes the Board with information to establish that the content of the course, presentation, or material are of an education level reflective of the audience (veterinarians or veterinary technicians). sufficiently educational for veterinarians or veterinary technicians. Board approval for continuing education credits for such additional courses, presentations, or materials shall be obtained prior to attendance or participation; however, the Board shall waive the requirement of prior approval if illness, injury, or natural disaster prevented the individual from obtaining the prior approval.

~~(6) Subject to the limitations in this Rule, continuing education credit hours may be earned by:~~

~~(a) attendance at in person courses or presentations;~~

~~(b) completion of independent self study courses;~~

~~(c) non interactive on line presentations, courses, or materials; or~~

~~(d) completion of live interactive on line presentations or courses.~~

~~(7) One continuing education credit hour, up to 100% of the CE requirement for renewal, may be earned for each hour of in person attendance at courses presented or approved by approved continuing education credit providers. Up to 25% of the CE requirement for renewal may be obtained from independent self study courses, videos, DVDs, CDs, prerecorded webinars, audio conferences, and non interactive on line presentations approved by approved continuing education credit providers. Up to 50% of the CE requirement for renewal may be obtained from live interactive on line presentations or courses approved by approved continuing education credit providers. However, the number of credit hours earned from live interactive on line presentations or courses shall be reduced by the number of credit hours earned from independent self study courses or materials and non interactive on line presentations or courses. A live interactive on line presentation or course shall:~~

~~(a) include instant or asynchronous two way communication;~~

1 ~~(b) provide access to both technical personnel and professional faculty, as well as interactivity~~
2 ~~among participants for the exchange of questions and answers via instant messaging or a~~
3 ~~moderated teleconference; and~~

4 ~~(c) document the level of participation by keeping a record of the participant's activity in asking or~~
5 ~~answering questions during the presentation and the score of any examination administered at~~
6 ~~the end or the presentation.~~

7 (8) (9) Each veterinarian and veterinary technician shall keep a record file containing ~~for~~ the three most
8 recent renewal periods of the content of courses submitted to the Board for continuing education
9 credit hours.

10 (9) (10) A veterinarian licensed in the year of graduation from a veterinary medical college is not required to
11 earn continuing education credit hours to be eligible for license renewal for the next renewal period.

12 (10) (11) A veterinary technician registered in the year of graduation from a veterinary medical technology
13 program is not required to earn continuing education credit hours to be eligible for registration
14 renewal for the next renewal period.

15 (11) (12) A veterinarian or veterinary technician serving in the armed forces of the United States and to whom
16 an extension of time to file a tax return is granted pursuant to G.S. § 105-249.2 is granted the same
17 extension of time to comply with the continuing education requirement of this Rule.

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19 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-185(6); 90-186(1); 93B-15;*

20 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

21 *Readopted Eff. September 30, 1977;*

22 *Amended Eff. (TBD); February 1, 2018; June 1, 2003; May 1, 1996; May 1, 1989; January 1, 1987.*

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