

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Agriculture and Forestry Board of Veterinary Medicine

Licensing Procedures (LAC 46:LXXXV.301, 801, & 1201)

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 et seq., the Louisiana Board (“Board”) of Veterinary Medicine has amended LAC 46:LXXXV. Sections 301, 801, and 1201 in Chapters 3, 8 and 12 – respectively – in an effort to provide greater uniformity and clarity to the application for licensure language for veterinarians (DVMs), registered veterinary technicians (RVTs), and certified animal euthanasia technicians (CAETs). The amendments to sections 301.F, 801.F, and 1201.E changed the length of time for which an application is valid from two years to one year from the initial application submission date. The Board determined that this amendment is reasonable due to several changes which have accelerated the application process including: the Board’s transition to an online application process; the establishment of an online testing option for the required state jurisprudence exam; the repeal of the letters of recommendation requirement for licensure; the repeal of the eight-week preceptorship program requirement for DVM licensure; the addition of three total CAET trainings annually; and, the addition of a third testing window annually for the national exam (NAVLE) for DVMs.

Title 46

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part LXXXV. Veterinarians

Chapter 3. Licensure Procedures

§301. Applications for Licensure

A. The application for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Louisiana shall contain the information set forth in R.S. 37:1520.A, and shall include certification that the applicant has not practiced veterinary medicine in this state without a license, temporary permit, or exception from licensure as provided by R.S. 37:1514.

B. In addition to the above requirements, the board may also require that any applicant furnish the following information or documentation:

1. a current passport-type photograph of the applicant;
2. a copy of the applicant's diploma or official transcript from a veterinary medical school or college accredited or approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association;
3. prior to licensure in Louisiana, a graduate from a DVM program not accredited by the AVMA must provide to the board proof of completion of the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) program offered through the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or

the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) program offered through the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB).

4. the certified score on any national examinations previously taken by the applicant;

5. a list of all licenses in a state, territory, or district of the United States or Canada that the applicant currently holds and has previously held;

6. certification from the applicant stating that he has not been convicted, pled guilty, or pled nolo contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor other than minor traffic violations, and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board may require the applicant to explain in full and/or provide further documentation;

7. certification from the applicant stating that he has not been arrested or indicted for or been convicted, pled guilty, or pled nolo contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor, other than minor traffic violations; and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board may require the applicant to explain in full and/or provide further documentation;

8. certification from the applicant stating that he has never had his or her license to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended or denied in any state, territory, or district of the United States; and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board may request or require full explanation and/or documentation concerning such revocation, suspension, or denial;

C. The board may require such application to be sworn to by the applicant, notarized, or attested to by the applicant under penalty of perjury.

D. The board may reject any applications which do not contain full and complete answers or information as requested, and may reject any application, or take action against the license of any licensee, if any of the information furnished in the application is fabricated, false, misleading or incorrect.

E. The board shall reject the application of an applicant who has practiced veterinary medicine in this state without a license, temporary permit, or exception from licensure as provided by R.S. 37:1514, during the one-year period immediately prior to the initial application submission date.

F. An application shall become expired if not completed by the issuance of a license within one year from the initial application submission date. Once expired, the entire application process, including the payment of all applicable fees, shall begin anew.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1518 et seq.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 8:66 (February 1982), amended LR 10:464 (June 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 16:223 (March 1990), LR 19:343 (March 1993); LR 23:964 (August 1997), LR 25:2231 (November 1999), LR 28:1982 (September 2002), LR 40:308 (February 2014), LR 49:2074 (December 2023), amended by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 50:

Chapter 8. Registered Veterinary Technicians

§801. Applications for Certificate of Approval

A. The application for a certificate of approval for a registered veterinary technician in the state of Louisiana shall contain the information set forth in R.S. 37:1543 and shall include certification that the applicant has not practiced veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in this state without a certificate of approval.

B. In addition to the above requirements, the board may also require that any applicant furnish all of the following information or documentation:

1. a current passport-type photograph of the applicant;

2. a copy of the applicant's diploma or official transcript from the veterinary technology school of graduation;

3. the certified score on any national examinations previously taken by the applicant;

4. a list of all certificates or licenses in a state, territory, or district of the United States or Canada that the applicant currently holds and has previously held;

5. certification from the applicant stating that he has not been arrested or indicted for or been convicted, pled guilty, or pled nolo contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor, other than minor traffic violations; and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board may require the applicant to explain in full and/or provide further documentation;

6. certification from the applicant stating that he has never had his or her certificate as a registered veterinary technician in veterinary medicine revoked, suspended or denied and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board may request or require full explanation and/or documentation concerning such revocation, suspension, or denial;

7. certification from the applicant stating that he has not violated or been subject to any of the grounds for denial of a certificate of approval as listed in R.S. 37:1544;

C. The board may require such application to be sworn to by the applicant, notarized, or attested to by the applicant under penalty of perjury.

D. The board may reject any applications which do not contain full and complete answers or information as requested and may reject any application, or take action against the certificate of approval of any registered veterinary technician, if any information furnished in the application is fabricated, false, misleading, or incorrect.

E. The board shall reject the application of an applicant who has practiced veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in this state without a certificate of approval during the one-year period immediately prior to the initial application submission date.

F. An application shall become expired if not completed by issuance of a certificate within one year from the initial application submission date. Once expired, the entire application process, including the payment of all applicable fees, shall begin anew.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1549.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 16:226 (March 1990), amended LR 40:309 (February 2014), LR 49:2074 (December 2023), amended by the Department

Chapter 12. Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians

§1201. Applications for Certificate of Approval

A. The application for a certificate of approval to perform euthanasia in the state of Louisiana shall contain the information set forth in R.S. 37:1553, and shall include certification that the applicant has not performed euthanasia in this state without a certificate of approval.

B. In addition to the above requirements, the board may also require that any applicant furnish the following information or documentation:

1. a current passport-type photograph of the applicant;

2. a copy of an official birth certificate or a copy of a current driver's license as proof of attaining the age of 18 years in order to commence the application process, attend the required training course, sit for the certification examination and receive certification as a CAET or Lead CAET;

3. an official transcript of the applicant's high school records or photocopy of the applicant's high school diploma or GED or an official transcript or copy of a diploma indicating attendance at an institution of higher learning;

4. unless otherwise already in possession of the board, evidence that the applicant has successfully completed a board-approved program in animal euthanasia, which shall include instruction in the proper methods of humanely euthanizing animals by injecting legal drugs in accordance with rules adopted by the board, in proper security precautions, in proper record keeping, and related skills identified by the board.

5. a list of all professional certificates or licenses that the applicant currently holds and has previously held;

6. certification by the applicant that he has never been convicted, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor, other than a minor traffic violation. In the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board shall require the applicant to explain in full and/or provide further documentation;

7. certification by the applicant that he has never had certification as a certified animal euthanasia technician revoked, suspended, or denied. In the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the board shall require the applicant to explain in full and/or provide further documentation;

8. a release waiver form to authorize a background check regarding the applicant's history with dangerous and/or controlled substances to be performed by the Drug Enforcement Administration or other law enforcement agency at the board's request. A photostatic copy of the applicant's authorization is accepted with the same authorization as the original. The background check must be successfully passed, which means that the Drug Enforcement Administration or other law enforcement agency has indicated to the board that the applicant has no previous criminal convictions involving dangerous and/or controlled substances;

9. certification by the applicant that he has not violated or been subject to any of the grounds for denial of a certificate of approval as listed in R.S. 37:1554;

C. The board may require such application to be sworn to by the applicant, notarized, or attested to by the applicant under penalty of perjury.

D. The board may reject any applications which do not contain full and complete answers and/or information as requested and may reject any application, or take action against the certificate of approval of any certified animal euthanasia technician, if any information furnished in the application is fabricated, false, misleading, or incorrect.

E. The board shall reject the application of an applicant who has practiced veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, or euthanasia technology with sodium pentobarbital in this state without a certificate of approval during the one-year period immediately prior to the initial application submission date.

F. An application shall become expired if not completed by issuance of a certificate within one year from the initial application submission date. Once expired, the entire application process, including the payment of all applicable fees and completion of a board-approved course in animal euthanasia, shall begin anew.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1558.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 19:1424 (November 1993), amended LR 26:317 (February 2000), LR 29:1479 (August 2003), LR 38:357 (February 2012), LR 40:310 (February 2014), amended by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Board of Veterinary Medicine, LR 50:

Family Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy. In particular, the proposed Rule has no known or foreseeable impact on:

1. the stability of the family;

2. the authority and rights of persons regarding the education and supervision of their children;
3. the functioning of the family;
4. family earnings and family budget;
5. the behavior and personal responsibility of children;
6. the ability of the family or a local government to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule.

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on any child, individual or family as defined by R.S. 49:973(B). In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on household income, assets, and financial security;
2. the effect on early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development;
3. the effect on employment and workforce development;
4. the effect on taxes and tax credits;
5. the effect on child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance.

Small Business Analysis and Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should have no adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;
2. the total direct and indirect effect on the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or
3. the overall effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

Public Comments

Interested parties may submit written comments to the Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine, Attention: Jared B. Granier, Executive Director, via U.S Mail at 5825 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 or via e-mail attachment to director@lsbvm.org or via hand delivery. Comments will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2025. All written comments must be dated and must include the first and last name, email address, mailing address, phone number, and the original signature of the person submitting the comments.

Public Hearing

Interested parties may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing to the Louisiana Board of

Veterinary Medicine, Attention: Jared B. Granier, Executive Director, via U.S Mail at 5825 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 or via e-mail attachment to director@lsbvm.org or via hand delivery; however, such request must be received by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2025. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, a public hearing will be conducted at 1:00p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025 at 5825 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested parties should visit www.lsbvm.org/rulemaking-projects after Friday, January 10, 2025. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested parties are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in front of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry Building at 5825 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

Jared B. Granier
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLE: LAC 46:LXXXV.301, 801, 1201

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

There will be no costs or savings to state or local governmental units resulting from the proposed rule change, except for the cost associated with publishing, which is included in the annual operating budget of the Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board).

The proposed rule change provides greater uniformity and clarity to the application process for licensure language for veterinarians (DVMs), registered veterinary technicians (RVTs), and certified animal euthanasia technicians (CAETs) and changes the application lifespan from two years to one year.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

The proposed rule change will not affect revenue collections for state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

The proposed rule change will help expedite the application review process and the issuance of licenses by the Board by ensuring all necessary supplemental documentation is submitted from the applicants in a more timely manner. The change in the application lifespan from two years to one year is possible due to

several changes which have accelerated the overall application process including: the Board's transition to an online application process; the establishment of an online testing option for the required state jurisprudence exam; the repeal of the letters of recommendation requirement for licensure; the repeal of the eight-week preceptorship program requirement for DVM licensure; the addition of three total Board-offered CAET trainings annually; and, the addition of a third testing window annually for the national exam (NAVLE) for DVMs.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

The proposed rule change is anticipated to have no effect on competition or employment.