

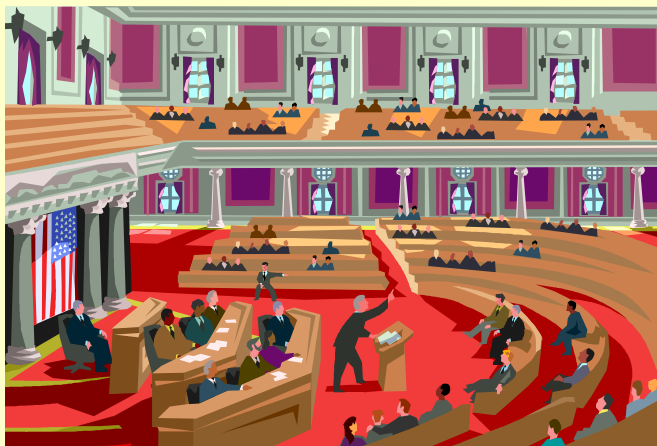
THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Happy Holidays from the WV Board of Veterinary Medicine



WV Board of Veterinary Medicine 5509 Big Tyler Road, Suite 3, Cross Lanes, WV 25313
E-mail address: wgoodwin@wvnet.edu Phone: 304.776.8032 FAX 304.776.8256 website: www.wvbvm.org

Proposed Changes to Your Rules and Regulations



As a result of our new veterinary practice act, which became effective June 11, 2010, we are proposing changes to all our rules and regulation in the 2011 WV Legislature.

The rules and regulations must comply with the veterinary practice act. If there is a disparity in the language between the practice act and our rules, the practice act always prevails. It doesn't matter if the practice act is fifty years old and the rules are effective yesterday- practice act language is dominant.

The rules and regulations are an extension of the practice act language. They cannot conflict. If by some chance, a rule is passed without discovering that the practice act language differs with the rule, the rule language will not be enforceable.

If you think of the practice act as the foundation of your home and the rules as the finishing work, you know you cannot plan out and build the structure until you have laid the foundation.

IN THIS ISSUE

Proposed Changes to Rules & Regs....	page 1,2
Newsletter Available on Website	page 2
Changes in Acceptable Submission of CE Attendance.....	3
Submitting a Program for CE Review.....	4
Board Actions and Their Reporting.....	4

We have seven series of rules. Our rules are under Title 26 of the Code of State regulations (CSR). They are:

- Series 1: Organization and Operation
- Series 2: Disciplinary and Complaint Procedures of The West Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine
- Series 2A: Contested Case Hearing Procedures
- Series 3: Registration of Veterinary Technicians
- Series 4: Standards of Practice
- Series 5: Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians
- Series 6: Schedule of Fees

{**Series 1**} deals with the procedures of the Board, veterinary application and examination requirements, licensing, renewals and disciplinary actions.

{**Series 2**} establishes causes for denial, probation, limitation, discipline, suspension or revocations and disposition of complaints.

{**Series 2A**} establishes hearing procedures, their transcription of testimony and evidence, conferences and informal disposition of cases, depositions, subpoenas, orders and appeals.

{**Series 3**} is the rule governing registered veterinary technicians, their registration requirements, approved schools, examinations, scope of practice,

Proposed Changes to Your Rules and Regulations


(cont'd from page 1)

restrictions, removal of registration, hearings, renewals and renewal requirements, continuing education and reinstatement of lapsed registration.

{Series 4} asserts the standards of practice, general professional ethics, minimum standards of practice, minimum veterinary facility standards, and definition and procedures regarding abandoned animals.

{Series 5} is the rule governing certified animal euthanasia technicians. It establishes the program, examinations, revocations, suspensions, continuing education requirement, annual renewal, record keeping, storage and minimum standards for this profession.

{Series 6} is the schedule of fees governing the Board of Veterinary

Medicine. 

Newsletter Available on the Board Website.



If you wish, in the future instead of receiving a mailed copy, we can send you an email notice when our latest semi-annual newsletter is available online and you can access it on our website. You may also print it out or save the file in your own computer.

We would discontinue sending you a mailed copy of our latest newsletter and you would instead opt in to receive a notice that the newsletter is accessible to you electronically on our website.

If you wish to be notified that future newsletters are available online, please send me an email to wgoodwin@wvnet.edu and state subject as "Email Newsletter Notice" indicating your preference to forego a written mailed copy and receive an email notice of availability.

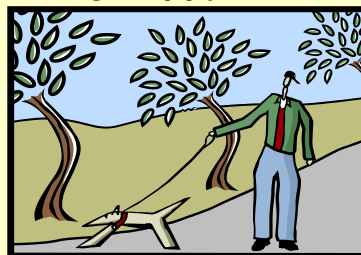
Please list your name as a licensee and we can mark your name so we will not mail our latest newsletter publication to you. Also indicate if you are a veterinarian or an RVT. If we receive an email from catdog@yahoo.com saying "I want to receive an email notice of the newsletter", we would still be sending a written copy to Dr. Jane Smith unless we know that she is catdog@yahoo.com.

You may cancel the email newsletter notification at any time and go back to a written copy of our semi-annual newsletter by sending an email to us listing in the subject heading "Cancel Emailed Newsletter Notice". We will then remove your email address from the notification of online availability and return to mailing you a copy of the next newsletter created after receipt of your notice. Again, let us know who the sender is as most of us don't use our real name in our email address.

Even if you choose to receive the newsletter via mail, you may still at any time go to our website www.wvbvm.org and go to newsletters to access that latest newsletter online or others on the site from previous publications.

We are trying to reduce unnecessary printing and be "greener" to reduce superfluous consumption and pollution to our planet. The veterinary profession in particular should be interested in saving trees: our dogs need them.

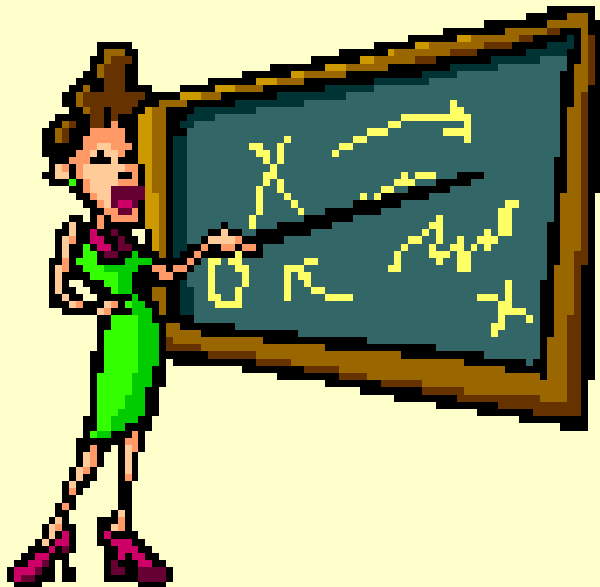
Make a Dog Happy...Save A Tree!



In Memoriam

Dr. Don G. Crow passed away August 15, 2010. He practiced veterinary medicine in Huntington, WV for 30 years before retiring to Greenville, SC.

Change in Acceptable Submissions of CE Attendance



We will no longer accept submission of continuing education attendance programs in lieu of completion of our continuing education table.

In the past, we allowed written verification of c.e. programs to be a copy of a program where the attendee highlighted the programs he or she attended. This has not worked out well, as many such submissions were several pages long, and the veterinarian renewing failed to total hours. This left it to the Board to sit and calculate all the hours on the programs and basically perform the task belonging to the licensee.

This was also very difficult as sometimes the printed pages were very light or the print was too small to discern the content. In some cases, the attendee had made notes on the program that covered some of the titles, making it extremely difficult to discern the class names.

We are tasked with reading through the titles of the classes to determine that they are classroom scientific, as well as determining that the programs were provided

by (not approved by) entities that the Board accepts as adequate c.e. providers.


The c.e. table will be sent with your renewal form. You may also acquire this table from our website (www.wvbvm.org).

We recommend that each year you prepare a folder for your continuing education for that year. When you complete an approved c.e. course, you can highlight the classes you attended that meet our requirements for acceptable mandatory c.e. and file them in your folder. Then, you can transfer the data on the approved classes to the c.e. table and submit the completed table with your license renewal.

Keep in mind that we cannot fill in your paperwork pertaining to your renewal. You must complete this process including the total number of hours and whether the course is compliant as RACE approved, provided by an official state veterinary or national association, a school of veterinary medicine or has been submitted for review to this Board and subsequently approved for the time and place occurring in the required renewal period. You must check what category of approval each class falls under on the c.e. table.

Please help us help you. We do not want to return your renewal form, especially as it may mean you have not completed appropriate continuing education that would allow us to renew your license. If we cannot ascertain that the classes were appropriate and that they comply with the requirements of an approved provider, proper content and correct time period, we have no choice but to reject the renewal.

If you do not recall the specifics of what constitutes an approved provider, etc., please go to our website at www.wvbvm.org and go to Newsletters, then December 2008 Newsletter. In that newsletter, we addressed

what is acceptable. 

Submitting a Program for Continuing Education Credit Review

If you wish to submit a program for determination of whether it's approved for continuing education for a specified profession, you need to be aware that:

- CE is for a specific date or time frame
- CE is for a specific location
- It is provided by a specific provider
- We do not approve breaks, lunches or exhibition halls
- A 50 minute minimum period of approved instruction constitutes one hour of c.e.

When you submit a program for review, you are NOT paying for the program to be approved. You are paying for it to be reviewed. Whether it is approved, not approved, or the hours approved are not the number you thought would be acceptable has no bearing on the review fee.


What needs to be submitted for a program to be reviewed?

- ✓ The \$50.00 program review fee payable to the WV Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- ✓ Information on who the provider of the program is. (This is not who approves or endorses it, but who the organization is that actually is administering the continuing education program).
- ✓ The title of the program.
- ✓ The date or contiguous dates of the program.
- ✓ We must have clearly defined names of the classes or if the class name is vague, some elaboration on what the class entails.

- ✓ We need information on the presenters/instructors to assure they are qualified to teach on the subject.
- ✓ The program and/or classes must be appropriate for the profession.

What type of c.e. must you complete this year for renewal for next year?

For further information on this, check out our December 2008 newsletter at

www.wvbvm.org. 

Board Actions and Their Reporting

Sometimes, we can resolve an issue rapidly which results in a finding of no fault. Other times we may determine that a censure letter is appropriate. Our censure letters are letters of caution or letters of concern. Of these two, a letter of concern is more serious than a letter of caution. However, both do not rise to the level of being a "reportable discipline".

A reportable discipline will be reported to the national veterinary disciplinary database. As a result of such reporting, other states where the licensee holds a license will be notified of the action. Future jurisdictions where you apply for license will also be informed that West Virginia has a record of disciplinary action against you when they receive your national exam(s) score report. It is up to that licensing board to check with the state which reported the discipline to acquire details of the action.

This year, the Board has revoked the license of one veterinarian. This revocation was upheld on appeal by the veterinarian to the Kanawha County Circuit Court.

In another case this year, we prevailed in a case that progressed to the WV Supreme Court. It is Case #35288. It involved an

applicant for veterinary licensure. 