

Chapter 246-933 WAC

VETERINARIANS—VETERINARY BOARD

WAC

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246-933-170	Cooperation with the board. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), § 246-933-170, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-170, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-070, filed 7/23/80.] Repealed by WSR 97-20-101, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040.
246-933-180	Responsibility for maintaining mailing address on file with the board. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 93-08-029 (Order 353B), § 246-933-180, filed 3/30/93, effective 4/30/93.] Repealed by WSR 98-05-060, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280.
246-933-230	Foreign trained veterinarians. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-230, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 232, § 308-151-060, filed 11/17/75.] Repealed by WSR 07-20-036, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030.
246-933-240	Practical examination requirement. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-240, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-240, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 79-10-087 (Order 318), § 308-151-070, filed 9/21/79.] Repealed by WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030.
246-933-260	Frequency and location of examinations. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 01-02-066, § 246-933-260, filed 12/29/00, effective 1/29/01; WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-260, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-260, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 88-08-033 (Order PM 719), § 308-151-090, filed 4/1/88; WSR 80-05-032 (Order 340), § 308-151-090, filed 4/15/80.] Repealed by WSR 07-20-036, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030.
246-933-280	Examination review procedures. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 92-03-074 (Order 235B), § 246-933-280, filed 1/14/92, effective 2/14/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-280, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 86-08-068 (Order PL 584), § 308-151-110, filed 4/1/86.] Repealed by WSR 07-20-036, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030.
246-933-430	Effective date of requirement. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-430, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-430, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 233, § 308-154-030, filed 2/16/77.] Repealed by WSR 98-05-060, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280.
246-933-450	Qualification of program for continuing education credit. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-450, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-450, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 233, § 308-154-050, filed 2/16/77.] Repealed by WSR 07-19-130, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030.

- 246-933-470 Continuing education—Certification of compliance. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-470, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-470, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-16-023 (Order PL 358), § 308-154-080, filed 10/29/80.] Repealed by WSR 98-05-060, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280.
- 246-933-980 Licensing/renewal/late penalty. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 93-08-029 (Order 353B), § 246-933-980, filed 3/30/93, effective 4/30/93. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040 and 18.92.140. WSR 92-07-036 (Order 252), § 246-933-980, filed 3/10/92, effective 4/10/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-933-980, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 262, § 308-152-020, filed 1/13/77.] Repealed by WSR 97-20-101, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT/ETHICS

WAC 246-933-010 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Unless stated, words used in the singular may be read in the plural.

(1) "Advertise" means to announce publicly by any form of media in order to aid directly or indirectly in the sale of a commodity or service.

(2) "Animal" means any species normally recognized as treatable by veterinary medicine.

(3) "Controlled substances" as defined in RCW 69.50.-101.

(4) "Department" means the department of health.

(5) "Drugs" as defined in RCW 69.50.101.

(6) "Health certificate" means a document prepared pursuant to law and which attests to the fact that an animal is in a certain state of health.

(7) "Patient" means any animal under the care and treatment of a veterinarian.

(8) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health.

(9) "Veterinary board of governors" is that board appointed by the governor pursuant to chapter 18.92 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 93-08-029 (Order 353B), § 246-933-010, filed 3/30/93, effective 4/30/93; WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-010, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-010, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-150-005, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-020 Objectives. The principal objectives of the veterinary profession are to render veterinary services to society, to assist in conserving livestock resources, and to assist in relieving suffering of animals. The veterinarian shall always endeavor to act in such a manner to further these objectives.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-020, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-020, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-006, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-030 Degree of skills. The veterinarian shall endeavor to keep abreast of new developments in veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry, and shall endeavor to improve his or her knowledge and skill in the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry.

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[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-030, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-030, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-007, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-040 Exercise of professional judgment and skills. The veterinarian shall not accept employment under terms and conditions that interfere with the free exercise of the veterinarian's professional judgment or infringe upon the utilization of his or her professional skills.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-040, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-008, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-050 Emergency care of animals of unknown ownership. The veterinarian shall endeavor to provide at least minimal treatment to alleviate the suffering of an animal presented in the absence of the owner or the owner's agent.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-050, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-050, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 86-01-085 (Order PL 575), § 308-150-009, filed 12/18/85; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-009, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-060 Patient abandonment. The veterinarian shall always be free to accept or reject a particular patient, but once care is undertaken, the veterinarian shall not neglect the patient, as long as the person presenting the patient requests and authorizes the veterinarian's services for the particular problem. Emergency treatment not authorized by the owner shall not constitute acceptance of a patient.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-060, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-011, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-070 Emergency services. (1) Emergency services shall mean the delivery of veterinary care by a licensed veterinarian during the hours when the majority of regional, daytime veterinary practices have no regularly scheduled office hours (are closed).

(2) Emergency service shall be provided at all times. This requirement does not mean that a veterinary medical facility shall be open to the public at all times but that the provision of professional services must be accomplished by appropriate means including the assignment of veterinarians or cooperation between practices or after-hours emergency veterinary medical facilities serving the area. In the absence of an emergency veterinary medical facility serving the area, the phone shall be answered at all times so that inquirers can be told if the veterinarian is available and, if not, where emergency service is available.

(3) A veterinarian who represents, in any way, that he or she provides emergency veterinary services, including but not limited to, using names or terms such as "after hours clinic," or "after hours veterinary hospital," or use of the word "emergency" in any way, shall include in all advertisements the following information:

The availability of the veterinarian who is to provide emergency services, in print at least as large as that used to advertise the availability of emergency services, as either:

(a) "Veterinarian on premises," or term of like import, which phrase shall be used when there is a veterinarian actually present at the facility who is prepared to render veterinary services and the hours such services are available; or

(b) "Veterinarian on call," or term of like import, which phrase shall be used when the veterinarian is not present at the hospital, but is able to respond within a reasonable time to requests for emergency veterinary services and has been designated to so respond.

(4) All licensees shall comply with this section by December 1, 1989.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-070, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-070, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 88-08-033 (Order PM 719), § 308-150-013, filed 4/1/88; WSR 86-01-085 (Order PL 575), § 308-150-013, filed 12/18/85.]

WAC 246-933-080 Honesty, integrity and fair dealing. A veterinarian's practice shall be conducted on the highest plane of honesty, integrity and fair dealing with clients in time and services rendered, and in the amount charged for services, facilities, appliances and drugs. It is unprofessional and unethical for a veterinarian to attempt to mislead or deceive a client or to make untruthful statements or representations to a client.

It is also unprofessional and unethical for a veterinarian to attempt to dissuade a client from filing a disciplinary complaint by, but not limited to, a liability release, waiver, or written agreement, wherein the client assumes all risk or releases the veterinarian from liability for any harm, damage, or injury to an animal while under the care, custody, or treatment by the veterinarian.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-080, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-080, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: 1988 c 206 § 604 and RCW 18.92.030. WSR 89-10-076 (Order PM 836), § 308-150-014, filed 5/3/89. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 86-01-085 (Order PL 575), § 308-150-014, filed 12/18/85.]

WAC 246-933-090 Validation of health certificate. It is unethical to sign or otherwise validate any health certificate without actually, physically inspecting the animal. A health certificate shall be dated as of the time of examination.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-090, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-090, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-150-030, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-100 Inspection of animals. It is unethical for a veterinarian when employed to inspect an animal for health and soundness, to accept a fee or other compensation in relation to the inspection from a person other than the veterinarian's employer.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-100, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-100, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-150-035, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-110 Drugs and controlled substances. It is unethical to violate any laws or regulations of either the state of Washington or the United States relating to prescription drugs or controlled substances.

(6/6/14)

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-110, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-150-045, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-130 Minimum sanitary conditions. It is unethical for a veterinarian to own or operate a clinic, office, hospital, mobile veterinary clinic, or other animal facility contrary to the health and sanitary standards as established by the rules and regulations as adopted by the veterinary board of governors.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-130, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-150-055, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-140 Prohibited publicity and advertising. A veterinarian shall not, on behalf of himself or herself, any partner, associate or other veterinarian affiliated with his or her office or clinic, use or allow to be used any form of public communication or advertising which:

- (1) Is false, fraudulent, deceptive or misleading;
- (2) Refers to secret methods of treatment;
- (3) Is not identified as a paid advertisement or solicitation;

(4) States or implies that a veterinarian is a certified specialist unless the veterinarian is certified in such specialty by a board recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-140, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-140, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-060, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-150 Honoring of publicity and advertisements. (1) If a veterinarian advertises a fee for a service, the veterinarian shall render that service for no more than the fee advertised.

(2) Unless otherwise specified in the advertisement, if a veterinarian publishes any fee information, the veterinarian shall be bound by any representation made therein for the periods specified in the following categories:

(a) If in a publication which is published more frequently than one time per month, for a period of not less than thirty days after such publication.

(b) If in a publication which is published once a month or less frequently, until the publication of the succeeding issue.

(c) If in a publication which has no fixed date for publication of the succeeding issue, for a reasonable period of time after publication, but in no event less than one year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-150, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-150, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-061, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-160 Prohibited transactions. A veterinarian shall not compensate or give anything of value to representatives of the press, radio, television or other communication media in anticipation of or in return for professional publicity of any individual veterinarian in a news item.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-160, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-09-106 (Order PL 351), § 308-150-062, filed 7/23/80.]

WAC 246-933-190 Adjudicative proceedings. The board adopts the model procedural rules for adjudicative proceedings as adopted by the department of health and contained in chapter 246-11 WAC, including subsequent amendments.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 93-21-007, § 246-933-190, filed 10/7/93, effective 11/7/93.]

VETERINARIAN EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-933-220 Approval of courses. A course of instruction conducted by a school, that has obtained accreditation of the course of instruction in the care and treatment of animals from the American Veterinary Medical Association, is an approved course within the meaning of section 1, chapter 44, Laws of 1974 1st ex. sess., RCW 18.92.015.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-220, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order PL 179, § 308-151-050, filed 11/27/74.]

WAC 246-933-250 Examination and licensure requirements. To qualify for licensure in this state, a candidate must:

(1) Successfully complete either the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE), or the National Board Examination for Veterinary Medical Licensing (NBE), with the Clinical Competency Test (CCT); and

(2) Successfully complete the Washington state jurisprudence examination; and

(3) Be a graduate of a program that is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. A person who is a graduate of a college of veterinary medicine not accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association must:

(a) Successfully complete the American Veterinary Medical Association's Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates program (ECFVG); or

(b) Successfully complete the American Association of Veterinary State Board's Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE); and

(4) Complete four clock hours of AIDS education as required in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 8.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-20-036, § 246-933-250, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07; WSR 01-02-066, § 246-933-250, filed 12/29/00, effective 1/29/01; WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), § 246-933-250, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92; WSR 92-03-074 (Order 235B), § 246-933-250, filed 1/14/92, effective 2/14/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-250, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 88-08-033 (Order PM 719), § 308-151-080, filed 4/1/88; WSR 85-03-085 (Order PL 509), § 308-151-080, filed 1/18/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.070. WSR 83-07-050 (Order PL 429), § 308-151-080, filed 3/18/83. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 80-05-032 (Order 340), § 308-151-080, filed 4/15/80.]

WAC 246-933-255 How to obtain a temporary practice permit while the national background check is completed. Fingerprint-based national background checks may cause a delay in licensing. Individuals who satisfy all other licensing requirements and qualifications may receive a temporary practice permit while the national background check is completed.

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(1) A temporary practice permit may be issued to an applicant who:

(a) Holds an unrestricted, active license to practice veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry in another state that has substantially equivalent licensing standards to those in Washington state;

(b) Is not subject to denial of a license or issuance of a conditional or restricted license; and

(c) Does not have a criminal record in Washington state.

(2) A temporary practice permit grants the individual the full scope of practice of veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry.

(3) A temporary practice permit will not be renewed, reissued, or extended. A temporary practice permit expires when any one of the following occurs:

(a) The license is granted;

(b) A notice of decision on application is mailed to the applicant, unless the notice of decision on the application specifically extends the duration of the temporary practice permit; or

(c) One hundred eighty days after the temporary practice permit is issued.

(4) To receive a temporary practice permit, the applicant must:

(a) Submit the necessary application, fee(s), and documentation for the license.

(b) Meet all requirements and qualifications for the license, except the results from a fingerprint-based national background check, if required.

(c) Provide verification of having an active unrestricted license to practice veterinary medicine, dentistry and surgery from another state that has substantially equivalent licensing standards as Washington state.

(d) Submit the fingerprint card and a written request for a temporary practice permit when the department notifies the applicant the national background check is required.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.064, 18.130.075, and 18.92.030. WSR 10-06-056, § 246-933-255, filed 2/24/10, effective 3/27/10.]

WAC 246-933-265 Scope of Washington state jurisprudence examination. (1) The Washington state jurisprudence examination consists of multiple choice questions relating to state laws and administrative regulations in the practice of veterinary medicine.

(2) A candidate may take the Washington state jurisprudence examination up to six months prior to graduation from an approved course of study.

(3) The passing score on the examination is ninety percent.

(4) A candidate may retake the examination by submitting an application and fee to the department of health.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-20-036, § 246-933-265, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07.]

WAC 246-933-270 Examination results. The board accepts the following minimum passing score for licensure examinations.

(1) The minimum passing score for the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) is the criterion-referenced passing score established by the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(2) The minimum passing score before December 1982 for the National Board Examination for Veterinary Medical Licensing (NBE), and the Clinical Competency Test (CCT) is 1.5 standard deviation below the mean of the criterion population. From December 1992 through April 2000 the minimum passing score is the criterion referenced passing score required by the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(3) The minimum passing score on the Washington state jurisprudence examination is ninety percent.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-20-036, § 246-933-270, filed 9/25/07, effective 10/26/07; WSR 01-02-066, § 246-933-270, filed 12/29/00, effective 1/29/01; WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), § 246-933-270, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92; WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-270, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-270, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 85-07-021 (Order PL 523), § 308-151-100, filed 3/13/85; WSR 85-03-085 (Order PL 509), § 308-151-100, filed 1/18/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.070. WSR 83-07-050 (Order PL 429), § 308-151-100, filed 3/18/83. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 80-16-023 (Order PL 358), § 308-151-100, filed 10/29/80; WSR 80-05-032 (Order 340), § 308-151-100, filed 4/15/80.]

WAC 246-933-275 Reactivation of an expired veterinary license. (1) To reactivate a veterinary license that has been expired for three years or less, the veterinarian must meet the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.

(2) To reactivate a veterinary license that has been expired for more than three years, the practitioner must:

(a) Submit verification of unrestricted licensure in another state or jurisdiction; and

(b) Submit documentation of two hundred hours of active practice within each of the previous three years within that state or jurisdiction.

For purposes of this subsection, documentation of licensure and active practice in a foreign country is acceptable if there is an American Veterinary Medical Association accredited school or college of veterinary medicine in that country.

(3) To reactivate a veterinary license that has been expired for more than three years, when the veterinarian has not held an unrestricted license and has not been in active practice, the veterinarian must:

(a) Successfully complete the current North American Veterinary Licensing Examination as provided in WAC 246-933-250(1); and

(b) Meet the continuing education requirements of WAC 246-12-040 and chapter 246-933 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 14-06-067, § 246-933-275, filed 2/28/14, effective 3/31/14.]

WAC 246-933-300 Veterinary specialty licensure. (1) A person may be licensed to practice only specialized veterinary medicine in Washington state. Application for specialty licensure shall be made on forms provided by the secretary and include:

(a) Official transcript or other evidence of graduation from an American Veterinary Medical Association approved or accredited college or university; or

(b) Certification that the applicant has successfully completed either:

(i) The American Veterinary Medical Association's Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates; or

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(ii) The American Association of Veterinary State Board's Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE); and

(c) Documented licensure, in good standing, to practice veterinary medicine in any state, United States territory, or province of Canada; and

(d) Certification as a diplomate of a national board or college recognized in the specialty area for which application is submitted.

(2) Applicants must pass a written examination approved by the board pertaining to laws regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in the state of Washington. Examination grades will be based on a possible score of one hundred percent with a minimum passing score of ninety percent.

(3) At the time of license renewal, licensees must present evidence of continued certification by the veterinary specialty board authority.

(4) The veterinary board of governors recognizes all veterinary medicine specialties recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The practice of a veterinarian licensed as a specialized practitioner is limited to the specific specialty for which licensed.

(5) Individuals licensed as a veterinary specialist are subject to chapter 18.130 RCW.

(6) Veterinary specialty licensees shall be charged the impaired veterinarian assessment on each license issuance or renewal: Provided however, That no licensee shall pay more than one impaired veterinarian assessment per year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, 18.92.135. WSR 09-09-045, § 246-933-300, filed 4/9/09, effective 5/10/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), § 246-933-300, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92; WSR 92-03-074 (Order 235B), § 246-933-300, filed 1/14/92, effective 2/14/92.]

WAC 246-933-305 Retired active credential. A practitioner may obtain a retired active credential. Refer to the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 5.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-933-305, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 92-03-074 (Order 235B), § 246-933-305, filed 1/14/92, effective 2/14/92.]

FACILITIES AND PRACTICE MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

WAC 246-933-310 Definitions. (1) **Veterinary medical facility:** Any premise, unit, structure or vehicle where any animal is received and/or confined to be examined, diagnosed or treated medically, surgically or prophylactically, as defined in RCW 18.92.010.

(2) **Mobile clinic:** A vehicle, including a camper, motor home, trailer or mobile home, used as a veterinary medical facility. A mobile clinic is not required for house calls or farm calls.

(3) **Aseptic surgery:** Aseptic surgical technique exists when everything that comes in contact with the wound is sterile and precautions are taken to ensure such sterility during the procedure. These precautions include, but are not limited to, such things as the surgery room itself, sterilization procedures, scrubbing hands and arms, sterile gloves, caps and masks, sterile long-sleeved gowns, and sterile draping and operative techniques.

(4) **Antiseptic surgery:** Antiseptic surgical technique exists when care is taken to avoid bacterial contamination but the precautions are not as thorough and extensive as in aseptic surgery. Surgeons and surgical assistants shall wear clean attire and sterile gloves, and the patient shall be appropriately draped. A separate sterile surgical pack shall be used for each animal.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-310, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-310, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 89-02-006 (Order PM 804), § 308-153-010, filed 12/27/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, 18.130.050 (1) and (12) and 1986 c 259 § 139, WSR 86-13-070 (Order PM 600), § 308-153-010, filed 6/18/86; Order PL-236, § 308-153-010, filed 2/18/76.]

WAC 246-933-320 General requirements for all veterinary medical facilities. (1) **Construction and maintenance:** All facilities shall be so constructed and maintained as to provide comfort and safety for patients and clients. All areas of the premises shall be maintained in a clean and orderly condition, free of objectionable odors. All facilities shall comply with applicable state, county and municipal laws, ordinances and regulations.

(2) **Ventilation:** Adequate heating and cooling shall be provided for the comfort of the animals, and the facility shall have sufficient ventilation in all areas.

(3) **Lighting:** Proper lighting shall be provided in all rooms utilized for the practice of veterinary medicine. Outside lighting shall be adequate to identify the building and to assist the clients.

(4) **Water:** Potable water shall be provided.

(5) **Basic sanitation:** Any equipment, instruments or facilities used in the treatment of animals shall be clean and sanitary at all times to protect against the spread of diseases, parasites and infection.

(6) **Waste disposal:** Covered waste containers, impermeable by water, shall be used for the removal and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, animal tissues, debris and other waste.

Disposal facilities shall be so operated as to minimize insect or other vermin infestation, and to prevent odor and disease hazards or other nuisance conditions.

The facility shall use refrigeration and employ a procedure for the prompt, sanitary and esthetic disposal of dead animals which complies with all applicable state, county and municipal laws, ordinances and regulations.

(7) **Records:**

(a) Every veterinarian shall keep daily written records of the animals he or she treats.

(b) Separate records for companion animals shall be kept for each animal.

(c) The medical record for a litter may be recorded either on the dam's record or on a litter record until the individual animals are permanently placed or reach the age of three months.

(d) Records for food and fibre producing animals and animals kept in herds or flocks, etc., may be maintained on a group or owner or authorized agent basis.

(e) All records shall be legible, readily retrievable and shall be kept for a period of three years following the last treatment or examination.

(f) The author of all medical record entries must be identified by code or employee number, or initials.

(g) The records shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(i) Name, address and telephone number of the owner or authorized agent.

(ii) Name, number or other identification of the animal or group.

(iii) Species, breed, age, sex, weight and color of the animal.

(iv) Immunization record.

(v) Beginning and ending dates of custody of the animal.

(h) The records must include sufficient information to justify the tentative diagnosis and to warrant the treatment. This would include, but not be limited to:

(i) A short history of the animal's condition as it pertains to its medical status.

(ii) Physical examination findings and any laboratory or other diagnostic tests performed or recommended.

(iii) Provisional or final diagnosis.

(iv) Treatment administered or recommended.

(v) Dosage and route of medications administered, prescribed or dispensed.

(vi) Anesthesia dosage and route of administration.

(vii) Description of surgery performed.

(viii) Progress of the case.

(8) Veterinary medical records and medical images are the property of the veterinarian or the veterinary facility that originally ordered their preparation.

(9) When requested by the owner or authorized agent, copies of records will be made available as promptly as required by medical necessity or public health circumstances, but no later than ten working days upon the owner or authorized agent's request.

(a) The veterinarian may charge the copying fee as set forth in WAC 246-08-400 as now or hereafter amended.

(b) A medical image shall be released upon the request of another veterinarian who has the authorization of the owner or authorized agent of the animal to which it pertains.

The medical image shall be returned within ten working days following receipt of a written request from the originating veterinarian or veterinary facility. If the originating veterinarian provides a copy of the medical image, he or she may charge the actual costs of duplicating the medical image.

(10) **Storage:** All supplies, including food and bedding, shall be stored in facilities which adequately protect such supplies against infestation, contamination or deterioration. Refrigeration shall be provided for all supplies that are of a perishable nature, including foods, drugs and biologicals.

(11) **Biologicals and drugs:** Biologicals and other drugs shall be stored in such a manner as to prevent contamination and deterioration in accordance with the packaging and storage requirements of the current editions of the *U.S. Pharmacopeia*, 12601 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland 20852, and the *National Formulary*, Mack Publishing Company, 20th and Northampton Streets, Easton, Pennsylvania 18042 or manufacturers' recommendation.

All controlled substances shall be maintained in a locked cabinet or other suitable secure container in accordance with federal and Washington state laws.

Controlled substance records shall be readily retrievable, in accordance with federal and Washington state laws.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 10-11-120, § 246-933-320, filed 5/18/10, effective 6/18/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-320, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 92-17-076 (Order 299B), § 246-933-320, filed 8/19/92, effective 9/19/92; WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-320, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-320, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 88-08-033 (Order PM 719), § 308-153-020, filed 4/1/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, 18.130.050 (1) and (12) and 1986 c 259 § 139. WSR 86-13-070 (Order PM 600), § 308-153-020, filed 6/18/86; Order PL-236, § 308-153-020, filed 2/18/76.]

WAC 246-933-330 Minimum physical facilities. All veterinary medical facilities in which animals are received for medical, surgical or prophylactic treatment shall have the following minimum facilities, but are not limited to only these facilities:

(1) **Reception room and office:** Or a combination of the two.

(2) **Examination room:** Should be separate but may be combined with a room having a related function, such as a pharmacy or laboratory. It must be of sufficient size to accommodate the veterinarian, patient and client.

Examination tables shall have impervious surfaces. Waste receptacles shall be lined, covered or in a closed compartment, and properly maintained. A sink with clean or disposable towels must be within easy access.

(3) **Surgery:** If surgery is performed, a separate and distinct area so situated as to keep contamination and infection to a minimum; provided, however, a separate and distinct room so situated as to keep contamination and infection to a minimum shall be required.

(4) **Laboratory:** Shall be either in the facility or through consultative facilities, adequate to render diagnostic information.

(5) **Radiology:** Facilities for diagnostic radiography shall be available either on or off the premises. The facilities shall meet federal and Washington state protective requirements and be capable of producing good quality diagnostic radiographs.

(6) **Animal housing areas:** Any veterinary medical facility confining animals shall have individual cages, pens, exercise areas or stalls to confine said animals in a comfortable, sanitary and safe manner.

Cages and stalls shall be of impervious material and of adequate size to assure patient comfort and sanitation.

Runs and exercise pens shall be of a size to allow patient comfort and exercise. Runs and exercise pens shall provide and allow effective separation of adjacent animals and their waste products, and shall be constructed in such a manner as to protect against escape or injury. Floors of runs shall be of impervious material.

Animals that are hospitalized for treatment of contagious diseases shall be isolated in such a manner as to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-330, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-330, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 89-02-006 (Order PM 804), § 308-153-030, filed 12/27/88; WSR 88-08-033 (Order PM 719), § 308-153-030, filed 4/1/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, 18.130.050 (1) and (12) and 1986 c 259 § 139. WSR 86-13-070 (Order PM

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600), § 308-153-030, filed 6/18/86; Order PL-236, § 308-153-030, filed 2/18/76.]

WAC 246-933-340 Practice management. All veterinary medical facilities shall maintain a sanitary environment to avoid sources and transmission of infection. This includes the proper sterilization or sanitation of all equipment used in diagnosis or treatment and the proper routine disposal of waste materials.

(1) **Surgery:** Surgery shall be performed in a manner compatible with current veterinary practice with regard to anesthesia, asepsis or antisepsis, life support and monitoring procedures, and recovery care. The minimum standards for surgery shall be:

(a) Aseptic or antiseptic surgery shall be performed in a room designated and reserved for surgery and directly related noncontaminating activities.

(b) The surgery room shall be clean, orderly, well lighted and maintained in a sanitary condition, free of offensive odors.

(c) Storage in the surgery room shall be limited only to items and equipment related to surgery and surgical procedures.

(d) Instruments and equipment utilized in the surgery room shall be appropriate for the type of surgical service being provided.

(e) The operating table shall be constructed of a smooth and impervious material.

(f) Chemical disinfection ("cold sterilization") may be used only for field conditions or minor surgical procedures. Sterilizing of all appropriate equipment is required. Provisions for sterilization shall include a steam pressure sterilizer (autoclave) or a gas sterilizer (e.g., ethylene oxide).

(g) Surgical packs include towels, drapes, gloves, sponges and proper instrumentation. They shall be properly prepared for sterilization by heat or gas (sufficient to kill spores) for each sterile surgical procedure.

(h) For any major procedure, such as opening the abdominal or thoracic cavity or exposing bones or joints, a separate sterile surgical pack shall be used for each animal. Surgeons and surgical assistants shall use aseptic technique throughout the entire surgical procedure.

(i) Uncomplicated ovariohysterectomy or castration of normal healthy animals, and minor surgical procedures, such as excising small skin lesions or suturing superficial lacerations, may be performed under clean, antiseptic conditions. Surgeons and surgical assistants shall wear clean attire and sterile gloves, and care shall be taken to avoid introducing bacterial contamination.

(j) All animals shall be properly prepared for surgery as follows:

(i) Clipping and shaving of the surgical area for major procedures requiring aseptic technique as in (h) of this subsection shall be performed in a room other than the surgery room. Loose hair shall be removed from the surgical area.

(ii) Scrubbing the surgical area with soap and water.

(iii) Disinfecting the surgical area.

(iv) Draping the surgical area if appropriate.

(k) Anesthetic equipment appropriate for the type of patient and surgery performed shall be available at all times.

(l) Compressed oxygen or other adequate means shall be available to be used for resuscitation.

(m) Emergency drugs shall be available to the surgery area.

(n) Grossly contaminated procedures, such as lancing and draining abscesses, shall not be performed in the room designated for aseptic or antiseptic surgery.

(2) **Library:** A library of appropriate veterinary journals and textbooks shall be available on the premises for ready reference.

(3) **Laboratory:** Veterinary medical facilities shall have the capability for use of either in-house or consultant laboratory service for blood chemistry, bacterial cultures and antibiotic sensitivity examinations, complete blood counts, histopathologic examinations and complete necropsies. The in-house laboratory facility shall meet the following minimum standards:

(a) The laboratory room shall be clean and orderly with provision for ample storage.

(b) Ample refrigeration shall be provided.

(c) Any tests performed shall be properly conducted by currently recognized methods to assure reasonable accuracy and reliability of results.

(4) **Radiology:** Veterinary medical facilities shall have the capability for use of either in-house or consultant services for obtaining radiographs of diagnostic quality. Radiology equipment and use shall be in compliance with federal and Washington state laws, and shall follow the guidelines approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(5) **Biologicals and drugs:** The minimum standards for drug procedures shall be:

(a) All controlled substances shall be stored, maintained, administered, dispensed and prescribed in compliance with federal and Washington state laws.

(b) Among things otherwise provided by RCW 69.41.-050, legend drugs dispensed by a veterinarian shall be labeled with the following:

(i) Name of client or identification of animal.

(ii) Date dispensed.

(iii) Complete directions for use.

(iv) Name and strength of the drug.

(v) Name of prescribing veterinarian.

(c) A record of all drugs administered or dispensed shall be kept in the client's record. In the case of companion animals this record shall be by individual animal.

(6) **Limited services:** If veterinary medical services are limited to specific aspects of practice,

(a) The public shall be informed of the limitation of services provided.

(b) All veterinary services provided in the facility shall conform to the requirements for those services listed in WAC 246-933-330 and this section.

(c) The general requirements prescribed in WAC 246-933-320 shall apply to all veterinary medical facilities.

(7) **Exceptions:**

(a) The standards and requirements prescribed in WAC 246-933-330(3) and subsection (1)(a), (c), (j)(i), (n) of this section, shall not apply to equine or food animal veterinary procedures performed in medical facilities.

(b) The standards and requirements prescribed in WAC 246-933-320 (1), (2), (3), (4), (6), (8), 246-933-330 and sub-

sections (1)(a), (b), (c), (e), (h), (j)(i), (l), (n), (2), (3), (4), (6)(b), (c) of this section, shall not apply to equine or food animal veterinary procedures performed on the owner's premises by a veterinarian.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-340, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-340, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 89-02-006 (Order PM 804), § 308-153-045, filed 12/27/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, 18.130.050 (1) and (12) and 1986 c 259 § 139. WSR 86-13-070 (Order PM 600), § 308-153-045, filed 6/18/86.]

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-933-401 Citation and purpose. These rules may be cited as the "veterinary continuing education rules." The purpose of these rules is to establish standards of continuing veterinary medical education. The rules provide for qualifying training methods, designating approved continuing veterinary medical education providers and setting minimum continuing veterinary medical education credit requirements.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-19-130, § 246-933-401, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-401, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 233, § 308-154-010, filed 2/16/77.]

WAC 246-933-420 Basic requirement—Amount. Continuing veterinary medical education consists of programs of learning which contribute directly to the advancement or enhancement of skills in the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry. Licensed veterinarians must complete thirty hours of continuing veterinary medical education every three years as required in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7. No more than ten hours can be earned in practice management courses in any three-year reporting period.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-19-130, § 246-933-420, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-933-420, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-420, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-420, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 233, § 308-154-020, filed 2/16/77.]

WAC 246-933-440 Exceptions. The board may excuse from or grant an extension of continuing veterinary medical education requirements to a licensee due to illness or other extenuating circumstances.

Licensees seeking an extension must petition the board, in writing, at least forty-five days prior to the end of the reporting period.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 07-19-130, § 246-933-440, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07; WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-440, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-440, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; WSR 80-16-023 (Order PL 358), § 308-154-040, filed 10/29/80; Order 233, § 308-154-040, filed 2/16/77.]

WAC 246-933-460 Organizations, institutions or individuals approved by the veterinary board to provide continuing education courses. (1) The veterinary board designates the following organizations, institutions or individuals as providing approved continuing veterinary medical education courses:

(a) The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB).

(b) The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

(c) The Washington State Veterinary Medical Association.

(d) Any board approved college or school of veterinary medicine.

(e) Any state or regional veterinary association which is recognized by the licensing authority of its state as a qualified professional association or educational organization.

(f) The American Animal Hospital Association.

(g) Veterinary specialty boards recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(h) Conferences offered by regional or allied organizations recognized by AAVSB.

(i) The Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE).

(j) The United States Animal Health Association.

(k) The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

(l) The Washington state department of agriculture.

(m) A board certified veterinarian who is certified by a veterinary specialty board recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association when teaching a course within his or her area of certification.

(n) A veterinarian who is a faculty member of an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine when teaching a course within his or her area of expertise.

(2) Continuing veterinary medical education courses offered by the organizations, institutions, or individuals listed in subsection (1) of this section are presumed to qualify as continuing veterinary medical education courses for purposes of fulfillment of the requirements of WAC 246-933-420 without specific prior approval by the board.

(3) Other organizations, institutions, or individuals may submit course information to the board for determination whether the course qualifies as continuing veterinary medical education under WAC 246-933-401 through 246-933-480 for purposes of fulfillment of the requirements of WAC 246-933-420.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 14-04-020, § 246-933-460, filed 1/27/14, effective 2/27/14; WSR 07-19-130, § 246-933-460, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07; WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-460, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 233, § 308-154-060, filed 2/16/77.]

WAC 246-933-465 Self-study continuing veterinary medical education activities. The board may grant continuing veterinary medical education credit for participation in self-study educational activities. The board may grant a licensee a total of ten credit hours under this section for any three-year reporting period. Self-study educational activities may include:

(1) Credit for reports. The board may grant continuing education credit for reports on professional veterinary literature. Licensees must submit requests for credit at least sixty days prior to the end of the reporting period. The request must include a copy of the article, including publication source, date and author. The report must be typewritten and include at least ten descriptive statements about the article.

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(a) Professional literature approved for these reports are peer reviewed veterinary medical journals.

(b) Each report qualifies for one credit hour. The board may grant a licensee up to five credit hours of continuing veterinary medical education under this subsection if the combined total of ten hours for all types of self-study continuing veterinary medical education is not exceeded.

(2) Credit for preprogrammed educational materials. The board may grant a licensee continuing veterinary medical education credit for viewing and participating in board-approved formal preprogrammed veterinary educational materials. The preprogrammed materials must be approved by an organization listed in WAC 246-933-460, and must require successful completion of an examination. Preprogrammed educational materials include, but are not limited to:

(a) Correspondence courses offered through magazines or other sources;

(b) Cassettes;

(c) Videotapes;

(d) CD-ROM;

(e) Internet.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 07-19-130, § 246-933-465, filed 9/19/07, effective 10/20/07.]

WAC 246-933-480 AIDS prevention and information education requirements. Applicants must complete four clock hours of AIDS education as required in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 8. Alternatives to formal coursework may be in the form of video tapes, professional journal articles, periodicals, or audio tapes, that contain current or updated information.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280, WSR 98-05-060, § 246-933-480, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 70.24.270, WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-480, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-480, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: 1988 c 206 § 604 and RCW 18.92.030, WSR 89-10-076 (Order PM 836), § 308-154-085, filed 5/3/89.]

AUTHORIZING ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL AGENCIES AND NONPROFIT HUMANE SOCIETIES TO PROVIDE LIMITED VETERINARY SERVICES

WAC 246-933-501 Intent. It is the intent of the legislature to allow qualified animal control agencies and humane societies to provide limited veterinary services to low-income members of our communities. It is not the intent of the legislature to allow these agencies to provide veterinary services to the public at large.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260, WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-501, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03.]

WAC 246-933-510 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Entity" means animal care and control agencies as defined in RCW 16.52.011 and nonprofit humane societies, which have qualified under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) "Emergency care" as referred to in RCW 18.92.260 (1)(b) means an unexpected, serious occurrence or situation which urgently requires prompt action in order to prevent an

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animal's death or permanent injury, unless defined otherwise by local ordinance.

(3) "Low-income household" means a single person, family or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted family income is less than eighty percent of the median family income, adjusted for household size, for the county where the project is located (RCW 43.185A.010(5)).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-510, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03.]

WAC 246-933-520 Registration. A qualified animal care, control agency, or nonprofit humane society may obtain a registration credential. Refer to the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 3.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-520, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03.]

WAC 246-933-530 Purchase and use of legend drugs and controlled substances. (1) For purposes of this section, "drugs" includes both legend drugs and controlled substances.

(a) "Legend drugs" means any drugs that are required by state law or regulation of the pharmacy quality assurance commission to be dispensed on prescription only or are restricted to use by practitioners only.

(b) "Controlled substances" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedule I through V of Article II of chapter 69.50 RCW.

(2) A licensed veterinarian shall be responsible for the policies and procedures regarding the ordering, purchasing, safe storage, dispensing and administration of all drugs used at an entity registered under RCW 18.92.260 in connection with surgical sterilization or emergency care. Entities are responsible for the ordering, purchasing, and safe storage of all drugs.

(a) The veterinarian shall comply with the pharmacy quality assurance commission requirements for controlled substances in chapter 69.50 RCW, and legend drugs in chapter 69.41 RCW.

(b) All drugs shall be stored in accordance with WAC 246-933-320.

(c) All controlled substances shall be stored, maintained, administered, dispensed and prescribed in compliance with federal and Washington state laws.

(d) All legend drugs shall be dispensed in accordance with RCW 18.92.012, 18.92.013, and WAC 246-933-340(5).

(e) A record of all drugs administered and/or dispensed shall be kept in the individual animal's record.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030(2). WSR 14-13-016, § 246-933-530, filed 6/6/14, effective 7/7/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-530, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03.]

WAC 246-933-550 Investigation. Treatment records to include drug use shall be made available to representatives of the veterinary board of governors and the pharmacy quality assurance commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030(2). WSR 14-13-016, § 246-933-550, filed 6/6/14, effective 7/7/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-14-035, § 246-933-550, filed 6/23/03, effective 7/24/03.]

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WAC 246-933-590 Humane society and animal care and control agency (entity) fees and renewal cycle. (1) Registrations must be renewed every year on August 1 as provided in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 3.

(2) The nonrefundable fees are:

Title of Fee	Fee
Entity registration	\$120.00
Entity renewal	100.00
Late renewal penalty	80.00
Expired registration reissuance	80.00

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 2011 1st sp.s. c 50. WSR 11-20-092, § 246-933-590, filed 10/4/11, effective 12/1/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250, [43.70.]280 and 43.70.110. WSR 05-12-012, § 246-933-590, filed 5/20/05, effective 7/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250 and 18.92.260. WSR 03-10-044, § 246-933-590, filed 5/1/03, effective 6/1/03.]

SUBSTANCE ABUSE MONITORING

WAC 246-933-601 Intent. It is the intent of the legislature that the veterinary board of governors seek ways to identify and support the rehabilitation of veterinarians where practice or competency may be impaired due to the abuse of drugs or alcohol. The legislature intends that these veterinarians be treated so that they can return to or continue to practice veterinary medicine in a way which safeguards the public. The legislature specifically intends that the veterinary board of governors establish an alternate program to the traditional administrative proceedings against such veterinarians.

In lieu of disciplinary action under RCW 18.130.160 and if the veterinary board of governors determines that the unprofessional conduct may be the result of substance abuse, the veterinary board of governors may refer the license holder to a voluntary substance abuse monitoring program approved by the veterinary board of governors.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-601, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.175. WSR 90-21-029 (Order 93), § 308-158-010, filed 10/9/90, effective 11/10/90.]

WAC 246-933-610 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Approved substance abuse monitoring program" or "approved monitoring program" is a program, complying with applicable state law and approved by the board, which oversees a veterinarian's compliance with a contractually prescribed substance abuse recovery program. Substance abuse monitoring programs may provide evaluation and/or treatment to participating veterinarians.

(2) "Contract" is a comprehensive, structured agreement between the recovering veterinarian and the approved monitoring program wherein the veterinarian consents to comply with the monitoring program and the required components for the veterinarian's recovery activity.

(3) "Approved treatment facility" is a facility recognized as such according to RCW 18.130.175(1).

(4) "Substance abuse" means the impairment, as determined by the board, of a veterinarian's professional services by an addiction to, a dependency on, or the use of alcohol, legend drugs, controlled substances, or other addictive drugs.

(6/6/14)

(5) "Aftercare" is that period of time after intensive treatment that provides the veterinarian or the veterinarian's family with group or individual counseling sessions, discussions with other families, ongoing contact and participation in self-help groups, and ongoing continued support of treatment and/or monitoring program staff.

(6) "Veterinarian support group" is a group of veterinarians and/or other health professionals meeting regularly to support the recovery of its members. The group provides a confidential setting with a trained and experienced facilitator in which participants may safely discuss drug diversion, licensure issues, return to work, and other professional issues related to recovery.

(7) "Twelve-steps groups" are groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and related organizations based on a philosophy of anonymity, peer group association, and self-help.

(8) "Random drug screens" are the observed collection of specified bodily fluids together with laboratory tests to detect the presence of drugs of abuse in bodily fluids. Collection must occur at irregular intervals not known in advance by the person to be tested.

(9) "Veterinarian" means an impaired practitioner.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-610, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.175, WSR 90-21-029 (Order 93), § 308-158-020, filed 10/9/90, effective 11/10/90.]

WAC 246-933-620 Approval of substance abuse monitoring programs. The board shall approve the monitoring program(s) which shall participate in the recovery of veterinarians. The board shall enter into a contract with the approved substance abuse monitoring program(s) on an annual basis.

(1) An approved monitoring program may provide referrals for evaluations and/or treatment to the participating veterinarians.

(2) An approved monitoring program staff shall have the qualifications and knowledge of both substance abuse as defined in this chapter and the practice of veterinary medicine to be able to evaluate:

- (a) Drug screening laboratories;
- (b) Laboratory results;
- (c) Providers of substance abuse treatment, both individual and facilities;
- (d) Veterinarians' support groups;
- (e) The veterinarians' work environment; and
- (f) The ability of the veterinarian to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

(3) An approved monitoring program shall enter into a contract with the veterinarian and the board to oversee the veterinarian's compliance with the requirements of the program.

(4) An approved monitoring program staff shall evaluate and recommend to the board, on an individual basis, whether a veterinarian will be prohibited from engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine for a period of time and restrictions, if any, on the veterinarian's access to controlled substances in the work place.

(5) An approved monitoring program shall maintain records on participants.

(6) An approved monitoring program shall be responsible for providing feedback to the veterinarian as to whether treatment progress is acceptable.

(7) An approved monitoring program shall report to the board any veterinarian who fails to comply with the requirements of the monitoring program.

(8) An approved monitoring program shall provide the board with a statistical report on the program, including progress of participants, at least annually, or more frequently as requested by the board. Progress reports shall not include names or any identifying information regarding voluntary participants.

(9) The board shall approve and provide the monitoring program guidelines on treatment, monitoring, and/or limitations on the practice of veterinary medicine for those participating in the program.

(10) An approved monitoring program shall provide for the board a complete financial breakdown of cost for each individual veterinary participant by usage at an interval determined by the board in the annual contract.

(11) An approved monitoring program shall provide for the board a complete annual audited financial statement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.130.050, WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-620, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030, WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-620, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.175, WSR 90-21-029 (Order 93), § 308-158-030, filed 10/9/90, effective 11/10/90.]

WAC 246-933-630 Participation in approved substance abuse monitoring program. (1) In lieu of disciplinary action, the veterinarian may accept board referral into an approved substance abuse monitoring program.

(a) The veterinarian shall undergo a complete physical and psychosocial evaluation before entering the approved monitoring program. This evaluation will be performed by health care professionals with expertise in chemical dependency.

(b) The veterinarian shall enter into a contract with the approved substance abuse monitoring program to comply with the requirements of the program which shall include, but not be limited to the following:

(i) The veterinarian shall agree to remain free of all mind-altering substances, including alcohol, except for medications prescribed by an authorized prescriber, as defined in RCW 69.41.030 and 69.50.101.

(ii) The veterinarian shall submit to random drug screening as specified by the approved monitoring program.

(iii) The veterinarian shall sign a waiver allowing the approved monitoring program to release information to the board if the veterinarian does not comply with the requirements of this contract.

(iv) The veterinarian shall undergo approved substance abuse treatment in an approved treatment facility.

(v) The veterinarian shall complete the prescribed after-care program of the approved treatment facility, which may include individual and/or group psychotherapy.

(vi) The veterinarian shall cause the treatment counselor(s) to provide reports to the approved monitoring program at specified intervals. Reports shall include treatment prognosis and goals.

(vii) The veterinarian shall attend veterinarians' support groups and/or twelve-step group meetings as specified by the contract.

(viii) The veterinarian shall comply with specified practice conditions and restrictions as defined by the contract.

(ix) Except for (b)(i) through (iii) of this subsection, an approved monitoring program may make an exception to the foregoing requirements on individual contracts.

(c) The veterinarian is responsible for paying the costs of the physical and psychosocial evaluation, substance abuse treatment, random drug screens, and therapeutic group sessions.

(d) The veterinarian may be subject to disciplinary action under RCW 18.130.160 and 18.130.180 if the veterinarian does not consent to be referred to the approved monitoring program, does not comply with specified practice restrictions, or does not successfully complete the program.

(2) A veterinarian who is not being investigated or monitored by the board for substance abuse and who is not currently the subject of current disciplinary action, may voluntarily participate in the approved substance abuse monitoring program without being referred by the board. Such voluntary participants shall not be subject to disciplinary action under RCW 18.130.160 and 18.130.180 for their substance abuse, and shall not have their participation made known to the board if they meet the requirements of the approved monitoring program:

(a) The veterinarian shall undergo a complete physical and psychosocial evaluation before entering the approved monitoring program. This evaluation shall be performed by health care professional(s) with expertise in chemical dependency.

(b) The veterinarian shall enter into a contract with the approved substance abuse monitoring program to comply with the requirements of the program which may include, but not be limited to the following:

(i) The veterinarian shall undergo approved substance abuse treatment in an approved treatment facility.

(ii) The veterinarian shall agree to remain free of all mind-altering substances, including alcohol, except for medications prescribed by an authorized prescriber as defined in RCW 69.41.030 and 69.50.101.

(iii) The veterinarian shall complete the prescribed after-care program of the approved treatment facility, which may include individual and/or group psychotherapy.

(iv) The veterinarian shall cause the treatment counselor(s) to provide reports to the approved monitoring program at specified intervals. Reports shall include treatment prognosis and goals.

(v) The veterinarian shall submit to random observed drug screening as specified by the approved monitoring program.

(vi) The veterinarian shall attend veterinarians' support groups and/or twelve-step group meetings as specified by the contract.

(vii) The veterinarian shall comply with practice conditions and restrictions as defined by the contract.

(viii) The veterinarian shall sign a waiver allowing the approved monitoring program to release information to the board if the veterinarian does not comply with the requirements of this contract.

(ix) Except for (b)(ii) through (iii) of this subsection, an approved monitoring program may make an exception to the foregoing requirements on individual contracts.

(c) The veterinarian is responsible for paying the costs of the physical and psychosocial evaluation, substance abuse treatment, random drug screens, and therapeutic group sessions.

(3) Treatment and pretreatment records shall be confidential as provided by law.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.130.050. WSR 91-24-098 (Order 221B), § 246-933-630, filed 12/4/91, effective 1/4/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.92.030. WSR 91-02-060 (Order 108B), recodified as § 246-933-630, filed 12/28/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.175. WSR 90-21-029 (Order 93), § 308-158-040, filed 10/9/90, effective 11/10/90.]

FEES

WAC 246-933-990 Veterinarian fees and renewal cycle. (1) Licenses must be renewed every year on the practitioner's birthday as provided in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.

(2) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

Title of Fee	Fee
State examination (initial/retake)	\$210.00
Initial state license	160.00
Specialty licensure	155.00
Impaired veterinarian assessment	10.00
Temporary permit	235.00
State or specialty license renewal	175.00
Retired active license and renewal	85.00
Late renewal penalty (state and specialty license)	95.00
Expired license reissuance	90.00
Late renewal penalty (retired active license)	90.00
Duplicate license	30.00
Certification of license	30.00

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 2011 1st sp.s. c 50. WSR 11-20-092, § 246-933-990, filed 10/4/11, effective 12/1/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250, [43.70.]280 and 43.70.110. WSR 05-12-012, § 246-933-990, filed 5/20/05, effective 7/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250, 2001 2nd sp.s. c 7 and RCW 18.92.120. WSR 01-23-101, § 246-933-990, filed 11/21/01, effective 1/21/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-933-990, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250. WSR 93-14-011, § 246-933-990, filed 6/24/93, effective 7/25/93; WSR 93-08-028 (Order 351), § 246-933-990, filed 3/30/93, effective 4/30/93; WSR 92-07-036 (Order 252), § 246-933-990, filed 3/10/92, effective 4/10/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-050 (Order 122), § 246-933-990, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.]