

## WSR 25-14-065

## PERMANENT RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

(Veterinary Board of Governors)

[Filed June 27, 2025, 8:46 a.m., effective July 28, 2025]

Effective Date of Rule: Thirty-one days after filing.

Purpose: Veterinarian and veterinary technician continuing education, examination, and licensure requirements; reducing barriers. The veterinary board of governors (board) is adopting amendments to chapters 246-933 and 246-935 WAC to remove barriers to entering into, remaining in, and returning to the health care workforce. The adopted amendments will streamline and shorten the credentialing process for veterinarians and veterinary technicians and remove WAC that are no longer applicable to the professions.

The adopted amendments: (1) Remove the jurisprudence exam as a requirement for initial licensure for veterinarians and veterinary technicians; (2) add a new section to each chapter requiring, as part of continuing education, successful completion of training in Washington state law respective to their profession, to be completed after initial licensure and prior to the licensee's first renewal; (3) reduce barriers to reactivate a veterinary license; (4) reduce barriers to initial licensure for veterinary applicants who do not hold a veterinary license in another state or jurisdiction and have not been in active practice; and (5) repeal WAC that were only applicable when the board administered the licensure examination.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 246-933-438 and 246-935-308; repealing WAC 246-933-265, 246-935-090, 246-935-110, and 246-935-120; and amending WAC 246-933-250, 246-933-270, 246-933-275, and 246-935-070.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 18.92.030 and 18.130.077.

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 25-06-092 on March 5, 2025.

A final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting Poppy Budrow, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 564-669-0026, TTY 711, email poppy.budrow@doh.wa.gov, website <https://doh.wa.gov/>.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 2, Amended 4, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 4.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 2, Amended 4, Repealed 4.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 2, Amended 4, Repealed 4.

Date Adopted: June 27, 2025.

Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, DVM, Chair  
Veterinary Board of Governors

OTS-5868.2

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-11-062, filed 5/16/22, effective 6/16/22)

**WAC 246-933-250 Examination and licensure requirements.** To qualify for licensure (~~(in this state, a candidate must)~~) as a veterinarian, an applicant shall:

(1) Successfully complete either the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or the National Board Examination for Veterinary Medical Licensing (NBE); 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).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-20-036, 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.~~)

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-06-067, filed 2/28/14, effective 3/31/14)

**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 unre-~~~~stricted~~) a 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; and

(b) Complete an additional 15 hours of continuing education which meet the defined requirements in WAC 246-933-445 (1)(a).

#### NEW SECTION

##### **WAC 246-933-438 Veterinarian jurisprudence continuing education.**

A licensed veterinarian shall complete a board-approved, one-time training in Washington state jurisprudence, which will count as one credit hour toward meeting applicable continuing education requirements. Training must include Washington state veterinary law.

(1) This training must be completed after initial licensure and prior to the veterinarian's first license renewal.

(2) The board accepts only courses that are listed on the board's website.

#### REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 246-933-265            Scope of Washington state jurisprudence examination.

#### **OTS-5867.2**

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-11-099, filed 5/20/08, effective 6/20/08)

**WAC 246-935-070 Examination for licensure as a veterinary technician.** (1) (~~All applicants~~) To qualify for licensure as a veterinary technician, an applicant shall (~~be required to~~) successfully complete the veterinary technician national examination as approved by the board (~~, and the Washington state examination that consists of questions pertaining to the laws and rules regulating technicians~~).

(2) The passing criteria or score is ~~((+  
 (a)) the criteria-referenced passing score on the national ex-  
 amination.  
 ((b) Ninety percent on the Washington state examination.))~~

NEW SECTION

**WAC 246-935-308 Veterinary technician jurisprudence continuing education.** A licensed veterinary technician shall complete a board-approved, one-time training in Washington state jurisprudence, which will count as one credit hour toward meeting applicable continuing education requirements. Training must include Washington state veterinary technician law.

(1) This training must be completed after initial licensure and prior to the veterinary technician's first license renewal.

(2) The board accepts only courses that are listed on the board's website.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 246-935-090	Examination review procedures.
WAC 246-935-110	Examination procedures.
WAC 246-935-120	Frequency and location of examination.