

CHAPTER 156

VETERINARIANS

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156.001 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subd 1, see M S 1998]

Subd 2 **Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.** "Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine" means a veterinary college or division of a university or college that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent and that conforms to the standards required for accreditation or approval by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education

Subd 3 **Animal.** "Animal" does not include poultry

[For text of subds 4 to 6, see M S 1998]

Subd 6a **Firm.** "Firm" includes a corporation, limited liability company, and limited liability partnership, wherever incorporated, organized, or registered

[For text of subds 7 to 11, see M S 1998]

History: 1999 c 231 s 151-153

156.01 STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M S 1998]

Subd 3 **Officers.** The board shall elect from its number a president and such other officers as are necessary, all from within its membership. One person may hold the offices of both secretary and treasurer. The board shall have a seal and the power to subpoena witnesses, to administer oaths, and take testimony. It shall make, alter, or amend rules that are necessary to carry this chapter into effect. It shall hold examinations for applicants for license to engage in veterinary practice at a time and place of its own choosing. Notice of an examination must be posted 90 days before the date set for the examination in all veterinary schools approved by the board in the state, and must be published in the American Association of Veterinary State Boards "Directory of Veterinary Licensure Requirements." The board may hold other meetings it deems necessary, but no meeting shall exceed three days duration.

[For text of subds 5 and 6, see M S 1998]

History: 1999 c 231 s 154

156.02 APPLICANTS FOR LICENSE; QUALIFICATIONS.

Subdivision 1 **License application.** Application for a license to practice veterinary medicine in this state shall be made in writing to the board of veterinary medicine upon a form furnished by the board, accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the applicant is at least 18 years of age, is of good moral character, and has one of the following:

(1) a diploma conferring the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, or an equivalent degree, from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine,

(2) an ECFVG certificate, or

(3) a certificate from the dean of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine stating that the applicant is a student in good standing expecting to be graduated at the completion of the current academic year of the college in which the applicant is enrolled

The application shall contain the information and material required by subdivision 2 and any other information that the board may, in its sound judgment, require. The application shall be filed with the board at least 60 days before the date of the examination. If the board deems it advisable, it may require that such application be verified by the oath of the applicant.

Subd 2 Required with application. Every application shall contain the following information and material

(1) the application fee set by the board in the form of a check or money order payable to the board, which fee is not returnable in the event permission to take the examination is denied for good cause,

(2) a copy of a diploma from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine or a certificate from the dean or secretary of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine showing the time spent in the school and the date when the applicant was duly and regularly graduated or will duly and regularly graduate or verification of ECFVG certification,

(3) affidavits of at least two veterinarians and three adults who are not related to the applicant setting forth how long a time, when, and under what circumstances they have known the applicant, and any other facts as may be proper to enable the board to determine the qualifications of the applicant, and

(4) if the applicant has served in the armed forces, a copy of discharge papers

[For text of subd 3, see M S 1998]

History: 1999 c 231 s 155, 156

156.03 EXAMINATION; PAYMENT.

Upon filing the application and any other papers, affidavits, or proof that the board of veterinary medicine may require, together with the payment of the application fee and appropriate examination fee as set by the board, the board shall issue to the applicant a permit to take the national examination in veterinary medicine and the Minnesota Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination. All applicants must be evaluated using an examination prescribed by the board. A passing score for the national examination must be the criterion referenced passing score as determined by the National Board Examination Committee.

History: 1999 c 231 s 157

156.072 NONRESIDENTS; LICENSES.

Subdivision 1 Application. A doctor of veterinary medicine duly admitted to practice in any state, commonwealth, territory, or district of the United States or province of Canada desiring permission to practice veterinary medicine in this state shall submit an application to the board upon forms prescribed by the board. Upon proof of licensure to practice in any United States or Canadian jurisdiction and having been actively engaged in practicing veterinary medicine therein, for at least three of the five years next preceding the application, or having been engaged in full time teaching of veterinary medicine in an approved or accredited college for at least three of the five years next preceding the application, or any combination thereof, the national examination in veterinary medicine may be waived, upon the recommendation of the board, and the applicant be admitted to practice without examination. However, the board may impose any other examinations it considers proper.

Subd 2 Required with application. Such doctor of veterinary medicine shall accompany the application by the following

(1) a copy of a diploma from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine or certification from the dean, registrar, or secretary of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine attesting to the applicant's graduation from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine, or a certificate of satisfactory completion of the ECFVG program

(2) affidavits of two licensed practicing doctors of veterinary medicine residing in the United States or Canadian licensing jurisdiction in which the applicant is currently practicing

ing, attesting that they are well acquainted with the applicant, that the applicant is a person of good moral character, and has been actively engaged in practicing or teaching in such jurisdiction for the period above prescribed,

(3) a certificate from the regulatory agency having jurisdiction over the conduct of practice of veterinary medicine that such applicant is in good standing and is not the subject of disciplinary action or pending disciplinary action,

(4) a certificate from all other jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a currently active license or held a license within the past ten years, stating that the applicant is and was in good standing and has not been subject to disciplinary action,

(5) in lieu of clauses (3) and (4), certification from the Veterinary Information Verification Agency that the applicant's licensure is in good standing,

(6) a fee as set by the board in form of check or money order payable to the board, no part of which shall be refunded should the application be denied,

(7) score reports on previously taken national examinations in veterinary medicine, certified by the Veterinary Information Verification Agency, and

(8) if requesting waiver of examination, provide evidence of meeting licensure requirements in the state of the applicant's original licensure that were substantially equal to the requirements for licensure in Minnesota in existence at that time

Subd 3 Examination. A doctor of veterinary medicine duly admitted to practice in any state, commonwealth, territory, or district of the United States or province of Canada desiring admission to practice in this state but who has not been actively engaged in the practice thereof for at least three of the preceding five years must be examined for admission in accordance with the requirements prescribed herein for those not admitted to practice anywhere

Subd 4 [Renumbered 156 073]

History: 1999 c 231 s 158,206

156.073 TEMPORARY PERMIT.

The board may issue without examination a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in this state to a person who has submitted an application approved by the board for license pending examination, and holds a doctor of veterinary medicine degree or an equivalent degree from an approved or accredited college of veterinary medicine or an ECFVG certification. The temporary permit shall expire the day after publication of the notice of results of the first examination given after the permit is issued. No temporary permit may be issued to any applicant who has previously failed the national examination and is currently not licensed in any licensing jurisdiction of the United States or Canada or to any person whose license has been revoked or suspended or who is currently subject to a disciplinary order in any licensing jurisdiction of the United States or Canada

History: 1965 c 204 s 9, 1976 c 222 s 128,129, 1976 c 285 s 7-9, 1986 c 444, 1996 c 415 s 14, 1999 c 231 s 158,206

156.074 TEMPORARY LICENSE.

A graduate of a nonaccredited or approved college of veterinary medicine, who has satisfactorily completed the fourth year of clinical study at an approved or accredited college of veterinary medicine and has successfully passed the national examination in veterinary medicine and the Minnesota Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination, and is enrolled in the ECFVG program, may be granted a temporary license. The holder of a temporary license issued under these provisions must practice under the supervision of a Minnesota licensed veterinarian. The temporary license is valid until the candidate obtains ECFVG certification or for a maximum of two years from the date of issue

History: 1999 c 231 s 159

156.10 UNLAWFUL PRACTICE WITHOUT LICENSE OR PERMIT; GROSS MISDEMEANOR.

It is a gross misdemeanor for any person to practice veterinary medicine in the state without having first secured a veterinary license or temporary permit, as provided in this chapter.

History: 1999 c 231 s 160

156.11 FIRMS NOT TO PRACTICE.

(a) It is unlawful in Minnesota for any firm, other than one organized pursuant to chapter 319B, to practice veterinary medicine, or to hold itself out or advertise itself in any way as being entitled to practice veterinary medicine, or to receive compensation derived from the practice of veterinary medicine or the performance of veterinary services by any person, whether that person is licensed to practice veterinary medicine or not. Any firm violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and must be fined not more than \$3,000 for each offense. Each day that this section is violated is a separate offense.

(b) Notwithstanding section 319B 08, a veterinary medical practice firm has 12 months after the death of an owner before all of the owner's ownership interest must be acquired by the practice, by persons permitted to own the ownership interest, or by some combination

History: 1999 c 86 art 1 s 37, 1999 c 231 s 161

156.12 PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.

[For text of subd 1, see M S 1998]

Subd 2 **Authorized activities.** No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit

(a) a person from rendering necessary gratuitous assistance in the treatment of any animal when the assistance does not amount to prescribing, testing for, or diagnosing, operating, or vaccinating and when the attendance of a licensed veterinarian cannot be procured,

(b) a person who is a regular student in an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine from performing duties or actions assigned by instructors or preceptors or working under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian,

(c) a veterinarian regularly licensed in another jurisdiction from consulting with a licensed veterinarian in this state,

(d) the owner of an animal and the owner's regular employee from caring for and administering to the animal belonging to the owner, except where the ownership of the animal was transferred for purposes of circumventing this chapter,

(e) veterinarians employed by the University of Minnesota from performing their duties with the college of veterinary medicine, college of agriculture, agricultural experiment station, agricultural extension service, medical school, school of public health, or other unit within the university, or a person from lecturing or giving instructions or demonstrations at the university or in connection with a continuing education course or seminar to veterinarians,

(f) any person from selling or applying any pesticide, insecticide or herbicide,

(g) any person from engaging in bona fide scientific research or investigations which reasonably requires experimentation involving animals,

(h) any employee of a licensed veterinarian from performing duties other than diagnosis, prescription or surgical correction under the direction and supervision of the veterinarian, who shall be responsible for the performance of the employee,

(i) a graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine from working under the direct personal instruction, control, or supervision of a veterinarian faculty member of the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota in order to complete the requirements necessary to obtain an ECFVG certificate

[For text of subd 3, see M S 1998]

Subd 4 **Titles.** It is unlawful for a person who has not received a professional degree from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine, or ECFVG certification, to use any of the following titles or designations: Veterinary, veterinarian, animal doctor, animal surgeon, animal dentist, animal chiropractor, animal acupuncturist, or any other title, designation, word, letter, abbreviation, sign, card, or device tending to indicate that the person is qualified to practice veterinary medicine.

History: 1999 c 231 s 162,163