

# AAVSB and State / Provincial Licensing Bodies

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(AAVSB)





# About AAVSB

## American Association of Veterinary State Boards

- AAVSB is a 501(c)3, nonprofit corporation dedicated to its overall objective and mission which is to provide **quality resources for veterinary regulatory agencies, professionals, and allied groups in the interest of public protection**
- AAVSB is an organization of organizations



# AAVSB Member Boards

Represent 57 jurisdictional veterinary regulatory boards including;

- All of the United States
- District of Columbia
- Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- Four Canadian provinces - Alberta, Ontario, British Columbia, and Prince Edward Island



# Member Boards Participation

- Member Boards appoint voting **delegates**
- **Delegates**
  - Elect AAVSB Board of Directors
  - Vote on pertinent issues
  - Allow direct involvement by Member Boards in AAVSB programs and services



# AAVSB Member Services

- **PAM**– Practice Act Model
- **Annual Meeting and Conference**
  - September 16-18, 2010 in Baltimore, Maryland
- **Member Communications**
  - Newsletters, President’s letters, and e-communications
- **MyAAVSB**
  - Individual user account with secure login and access to discussion Forum



# AAVSB Programs

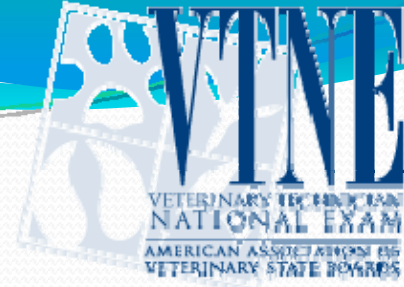
- **VIVA** – Veterinary Information Verifying Agency  
Initial AAVSB Program. Started in 1996.
- **VTNE** – Veterinary Technician National Examination  
Part of VIVA. Examination Purchased in 2005.
- **RACE** – Registry of Approved Continuing Education  
Started as Task Force in 1997. First Programs Approved 1999.
- **PAVE** – Program for the Assessment of Veterinary  
Education Equivalence  
Recognized in 33 Jurisdictions.



# About VIVA

## Veterinary Information Verifying Agency

- Centralized database of veterinarian and veterinary technician information including:
  - National Exam Scores
    - NBE, CCT, NAVLE, VTNE
  - Disciplinary Actions
  - Credential History
  - Initial AAVSB Program



# About VTNE

## Veterinary Technician National Examination

- High stakes exam owned and administered by the AAVSB
- Ensures candidates have a specified level of knowledge and skills to enter practice and/or be licensed
- Examination Purchased in 2005
- 6,361 Candidates took the exam in 2009
- 72% pass on first attempt
- 2/3 of the AAVSB Member Boards regulate Veterinary Technicians.



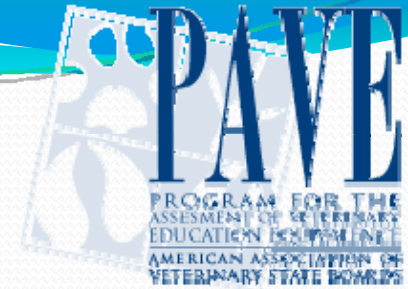


# About RACE

## Registry of Approved Continuing Education

- Established as a clearinghouse for the review and approval of CE providers and their programs on behalf of participating Member Boards
- Applications are evaluated utilizing broadly-acknowledged Standards for continuing veterinary medical education, based on input from participating Member Boards
- Started as Task Force in 1997
- First Programs Approved 1999

# About PAVE



## Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence

- Evaluates the education equivalence of international veterinary graduates on behalf of participating Member Boards
- Designed to ensure that PAVE-certified licensure candidates have the qualifications and experience that are equivalent to an AVMA accredited veterinary education
- PAVE is Recognized in 33 Jurisdictions
- First QE Exam in 2002



# In General, Licensing Bodies....

- Function of State/Provincial Government
- Legal Authority to Regulate Practice
- Protect the Public
  - 1) Determine who is qualified to enter the profession
  - 2) Ensure that licensed veterinarians practice with skill and safety
- Licensee
  - 1) Gains professional privilege
  - 2) Loses freedom



# Licensing Bodies....

- Establish Qualifications for Licensure and License renewal, education, examination, character and CE
- Aid in developing and refining Statutes and Rules and set minimum standards for the licensees and expectations for the public
- Investigate Complaints
- Resolve Complaints
- Address Ongoing Competency?



# Licensing Bodies....

Licensing bodies exist to protect the **PUBLIC!**

- Licensing bodies respond to **complaints** from consumers and the profession regarding a veterinarian's competency, standard of care and professional conduct.
- Licensing bodies **regulate** over 97,000 licensed veterinarians in the United States and Canada.
- Conflict of interest policies exist to prevent board members from participating in decisions in which they have a previous relationship or vested interest in the outcome.
- Decisions based on fact, not emotion.



# Licensing Bodies....

- State and provincial laws and regulations determine the process in which complaints are handled. Due process and legal procedures are followed. Decisions must be able to withstand court appeal.
- The goal of licensing bodies is not to remove every licensee from practice if deficiencies are identified but to maintain a minimum standard of practice. Additional education, proving competency and possibly limiting practice are tools first used by licensing bodies to remedy competency and standard of care issues. Maintaining a competent veterinary workforce is the goal of any licensing body. In serious or egregious incidents, licensure is suspended or revoked.
- Most licensing bodies have board members who are engaged in active veterinary practice who have the knowledge and expertise to determine reasonable expectations for the practitioner.
- Most disciplinary actions are stipulated (agreed upon) by both the licensee and the regulatory body.



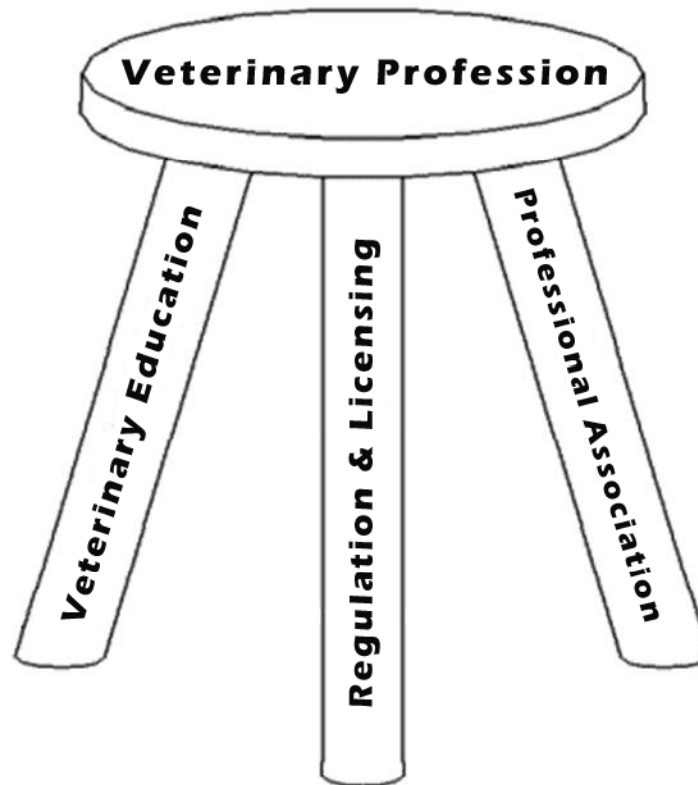
# In Short.....

Licensing Bodies Do These Things

- License
- Discipline

**All To Protect The Public**

# Interdependent





# The End

