

VISITING VETERINARY MEDICAL STUDENTS ON CLINICAL ROTATIONS

This position statement is intended to reflect the general principles and considerations that the AAVMC and the schools/colleges consider important related to students visiting for short-term clinical training. Students should check directly with institutions they would like to visit as individual university policies may differ in details from the general principles described in this guidance document.

Students in good academic standing and in their clinical training year(s) at an American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Council on Education (COE) accredited veterinary medical training programs leading to the DVM or equivalent degree will be permitted to undertake short-term clinical educational rotations at other AVMA COE-accredited program institutions, without incurring financial charges for the educational opportunity, under the following conditions.

- Educational opportunities are limited to two rotations of 2-3 weeks each in duration per student per year (exact time limitation based upon the host institution's typical time frame for individual rotations).
 - Requests for longer periods of clinical rotation will be subject to financial charge at a rate and payment schedule determined by the hosting institution.
- Hosting institutions will accept such students provided that the students' home institution has a veterinary medical teaching hospital that can/will reciprocally accept the hosting institution's students under the same guidelines. If this is not the case, the hosting institution has the right to refuse to provide clinical training or charge a fee for the training.
- Visiting students will be expected to comply with all of the hosting institution's rules and regulations related to student conduct on clinical training rotations.
- Hosting institutions will have the flexibility to design their own requirements for application/enrollment materials, such as a dean's letter of good standing from the student's home institution, evidence of health insurance, evidence of malpractice liability insurance, proof of immunization against rabies and/or tetanus (or adequate rabies titer), proof of a negative tuberculin skin test (or other documentation of negative tuberculosis status for BCG vaccinates) within the prior 6 months, hold-harmless agreements, emergency contact information forms, etc. However, to the degree that these requirements can be harmonized across institutions, this will be beneficial to students.
- The hosting institution will use its own system to assign a grade/evaluation to the student unless a different agreement is reached before the start of the externship. The home institution may accept this grade as is or interpret it as appropriate to the home institution's evaluation system.
- All requests for visiting student clinical rotations will be based upon space available status at the hosting institution. Once a visiting student is scheduled, it is the expectation that s/he will attend. Failure to attend without notification of unavoidable schedule changes at least 3 months prior to scheduled arrival would be considered a breach of professionalism (except under extenuating circumstances) and should be handled by that student's home institution in the appropriate manner.
- Visiting students will be expected to manage and pay for travel arrangements, housing, and other related items.

- Some institutions offer very specialized rotations with a course fee. In those cases, the student would be required to pay the associated fee in order to participate.
- International students (whether as citizens of and attending an AVMA COE-accredited DVM or equivalent degree program from outside the country of the hosting institution, or a foreign national attending from a country other than either the hosting or student's home institution) must comply with any applicable visa requirements and must be personally responsible for all visa application procedures and fees. International students may be limited in what they are allowed to do in a clinical environment (e.g. only be allowed to observe rather than actively engage in clinical procedures), as determined by the limitations imposed by their visa status or state practice act.

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Historical References:			