

## 316 FINAL REGULATIONS

### Statement of Rationale:

The Board of Social Work Examiners proposes to amend continuing education requirements for licensees of the Board to conform to Act 158 of the 2024 legislative session.

Document No. 5356

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION  
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**CHAPTER 120**

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 40-1-70, 40-69-60, and 40-69-70

120-4. Licensure to Practice Veterinary Technology.

120-5. Biennial License Renewal.

120-6. Continuing Education Requirements; Waivers.

120-7. Continuing Education Provider and Sponsor Approval.

### Synopsis:

The South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners proposes to amend Chapter 120 of the Code of Regulations to make changes regarding continuing education requirements. The Board intends to review and will consider adding to, amending or repealing other sections of Chapter 120.

A Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on May 24, 2024.

### Instructions:

Print the regulation as shown below. All other items remain unchanged.

### Text:

120-4. Licensure to Practice Veterinary Technology.

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the practice of veterinary technology unless duly licensed under the applicable provisions of this chapter.

A. Application. Any person desiring to be licensed as a veterinary technician must apply to the Board and provide all information and documentation required by the Board. Applications and accompanying documents will be valid for one (1) year from the initial application date. After one (1) year, a new application with attendant documents and appropriate fees must be submitted.

B. Education Transcript(s). Certified transcripts shall be mailed directly to the Board office from the appropriate educational institution.

(1) Certified transcripts from an accredited school or college of veterinary technology, or

(2) Certification from Board approved veterinary technology educational institution.

C. Examinations.

(1) Veterinary Technician National Examination. Certified minimum passing score of national examination as set by AAVSB.

(2) South Carolina State Law and Ethics Examination. Minimum passing score as set by SCBVME.

#### 120-5. Biennial License Renewal.

##### A. Active License.

It is the responsibility of each licensee to apply for license renewal. Any person who shall practice veterinary medicine or veterinary medical technology after such expiration of license shall be practicing in violation of the law.

(1) Licenses shall be renewed biennially upon submission of renewal fee and Biennial Renewal Form.

(2) Failure to apply for renewal within thirty (30) days after expiration of license term shall result in automatic lapse of license. In addition to the renewal fee, a late fee shall be assessed.

##### B. Renewal of Lapsed License.

The right to practice in South Carolina is suspended until the following requirements are met.

(1) A veterinarian or veterinary technician whose license has lapsed within three (3) years from the date of renewal may reactivate the license by submitting satisfactory evidence of continuing education, if applicable, and payment of the renewal fee plus the applicable penalty.

(2) A veterinarian or veterinary technician whose license has been lapsed for three (3) years or longer must meet the requirements in effect at the time of application for a new license. The Board may also assess an additional penalty.

##### C. Fee Waiver During Period of Temporary Medical Disability.

Upon written request, a licensee may apply for a waiver of the license renewal fee and other requirements of no more than three (3) years due to temporary medical disability which prevents the licensee from practicing. Upon approval by the Board of the request, the licensee will be placed in an inactive status and the license held by the licensee will no longer be valid. The licensee may apply for license reactivation after the period of disability.

#### 120-6. Continuing Education Requirements; Waivers.

A. Continuing Education Requirements. Failure to satisfy continuing education requirements for biennial renewal shall result in automatic revocation of license. Any licensee who continues practice of veterinary medicine after such revocation shall be in violation of this chapter and subject to applicable disciplinary action.

(1) As a pre-requisite for biennial renewal,

(a) the veterinarian must complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education;

(b) the veterinary technician must complete a minimum of twelve (12) hours of continuing education.

(2) Credit hours may be earned by completion of programs offered through the following sources:

(a) The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), the National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America (NAVTA), and the Veterinary Hospital Managers Association;

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(b) The American Association of Veterinary State Board's (AAVSB) Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE);

(c) State veterinary medical and veterinary technician associations;

(d) AVMA or NAVTA recognized specialty organizations; or

(e) such other programs as may be approved by the Board.

(3) Of the thirty (30) required hours,

(a) A veterinarian authorized to prescribe controlled substances shall complete at least two (2) hours of continuing education every two (2) years related to approved procedures of prescribing and monitoring controlled substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV of the schedules provided for in S.C. Code Sections 44-53-210, 44-53-230 and 44-53-250;

(b) A minimum of twenty-two (22) hours must be in veterinary medical/surgical courses;

(c) No fewer than twenty (20) hours must be live, in-person or live digital interactive programs, the remaining ten (10) may be pre-recorded or written.

(4) Of the twelve (12) required hours for licensed veterinary technicians:

(a) A minimum of six (6) hours must be in veterinary medical.

(b) No fewer than six (6) hours must be live in-person or live digital interactive programs, the remaining six (6) may be pre-recorded or written.

(5) Each licensee must maintain a record of attendance at the meetings qualifying for continuing education for a minimum of three (3) years immediately preceding renewal. The licensee must maintain documentation to include:

(a) name and license number of the participant;

(b) name of provider;

(c) name of program;

(d) hours completed; and

(e) date of completion.

### B. Waiver of Continuing Education Requirements.

(1) The continuing education requirement is waived for the licensee for the first year of licensure.

(2) In individual cases involving extraordinary hardship or extenuating circumstances, disability or illness, all or any part of the requirements may be waived, modified or extended by the Board.

Any applicant shall be eligible for waiver or extension who, upon written application to the Board and for good cause shown, demonstrates that they are unable to participate in a sufficient number of regular continuing educational programs for licensure/registration.

## 120-7. Continuing Education Provider and Sponsor Approval.

Providers or sponsors of continuing education must be approved by the South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

A. Providers and sponsors seeking approval for educational programs must submit a written request to the Board offices at least forty-five (45) days prior to the scheduled date of the presentation.

B. Providers and sponsors must provide adequate documentation of licensee's participation in the program. Such documentation shall include:

- (1) name and license number of participant;
- (2) name and address of provider or sponsor;
- (3) name of program;
- (4) hours completed;
- (5) date of program and location of program;
- (6) authorized signature from program provider or sponsor;
- (7) Providers of distance learning program must also provide document of follow-up testing, if applicable.

C. Comprehensive Approval. A comprehensive approval allows the provider or sponsor to submit an application indicating all course offerings for a given calendar year. Requests for a comprehensive approval may be submitted to the Board office on an annual basis at least ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of each year or ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of a scheduled program. Providers and sponsors shall be responsible for annual renewal of course offerings. Programs offered by the following shall receive comprehensive approval:

- (1) The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), the National Association of Veterinary Technicians of America (NAVTA), the Veterinary Hospital Managers Association;
- (2) the American Association of Veterinary State Board's (AAVSB) Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE);
- (3) State veterinary medical and veterinary technician associations;
- (4) AVMA or NAVTA recognized specialty organizations;
- (5) Such other sources as may be approved by the Board.

**Fiscal Impact Statement:**

There will be no cost incurred by the State or any of its political subdivisions for these regulations.

**Statement of Rationale:**

The updated regulations would: increase the number of hours of continuing education that veterinary technicians must complete from ten to twelve; modify the list of approved continuing education programs; modify the breakdown of continuing education hours for veterinarians from eight in practice management and

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22 in veterinary/medical to two in controlled substances prescribing and monitoring and 22 in medical, and further establishes the number of live versus recorded hours of continuing education veterinarians are required to attend; adds the breakdown of continuing education hours for veterinary technicians of six in veterinary/medical, and further establishes the number of live versus recorded hours veterinary technicians are required to attend; adds hardship waiver requirements for continuing education; and decreases the number of days providers and sponsors have to seek approval for educational programs from 90 days to 45. The proposed regulation also removes requirements for having sponsors sign documentation and provide follow up testing, and makes other minor changes.

Document No. 5330  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
CHAPTER 123  
Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 50-11-1910 and 50-11-1920

### 123-56. Deer Processors and Donated Deer Processing Recovery Fee. (New)

#### **Synopsis:**

The Department of Natural Resources proposes to add Regulation 123-56 “Deer Processors and Donated Deer Processing Recovery Fee”. The following new regulation is made in order to permit deer processors to process legally taken female (doe) deer donated by a hunter or deer depredation permittee and recover the fee of processing the deer from a person other than the individual who donated the deer. The regulation prescribes the necessary guidelines to implement SC Code of Laws 50-11-1910(B). It provides direction and conditions for deer processors to obtain a permit to process legally taken female (doe) deer donated by a hunter or deer depredation permittee and recover the fee of processing the deer from a person other than the individual who donated the deer. Additionally, the regulation prescribes directions for reporting fee recoveries taken under the permit.

The Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on September 27, 2024.

#### **Instructions:**

Print the regulation as shown below. All other items remain unchanged.

#### **Text:**

### 123-56. Deer Processors and Donated Deer Processing Recovery Fee.

1. A donated deer is defined as a legally taken female (doe) deer that is knowingly, intentionally, and unconditionally given or transferred to a permitted processor. It also includes any processed deer that has not been collected by the owner or his representative within the designated pickup timeframe, as specified by a posted notice at the business or communicated in writing to the customer.

2. To participate in the processing fee recovery program, a deer processor must submit an application provided by the department and be issued a permit annually. The permit is only valid for recovering the processing fee from female (doe) deer donated by a hunter or deer depredation permittee. A violation of a permit condition may result in permit revocation and penalties under the enabling code section.

3. Permitted processors are not obligated to accept donated deer and may choose the times when donated deer are accepted.

4. Permitted processors must submit to the department by January 31 annually the number of deer donated for which processing fees were recovered.

5. Permitted processors may not recover fees more than those normally charged for deer processing services.