

## Veterinarian Continued Education Requirements

### **Requirements**

Continuing education (CE) is a requirement of renewal per S.C. Code of Law §40-69-250(A) and S.C. Regulation 120-6. **Current CE cycle is April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023\*\*.**

Per Board Regulations, for biennial renewal, thirty (30) CE hours are required.

- (1) No more than eight (8) hours may be taken in practice management or practice building;
- (2) The remaining twenty-two (22) hours must be in clinical medical courses;
- (3) No more than fifteen (15) hours may be obtained through distance learning programs,
  - a. No more than three (3) hours may be from journal programs
  - b. No more than three (3) hours may be audio programs

Each veterinarian must maintain a record of attendance at the meetings qualifying for continuing education for a minimum of three (3) years immediately preceding renewal. Residency programs cannot be counted towards continuing education requirements.

<b>CE Course Type</b>	<b>Hours Required and/or allowed</b>	<b>DEA Registration</b>
Practice Management or Practice Building	8	
Clinical Medical Courses	22	Controlled Substances- 2 hours <b>required</b> for DEA License *

\*S.C. Code of Law §40-69-255: if a veterinarian authorized pursuant to state and federal law to prescribe controlled substances (DEA Registration), the licensee must complete at least two hours of continuing education every two years related to approved procedures of prescribing and monitoring controlled substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV of the schedules provided for in Sections 44-53-210, 44-53-230, and 44-53-250.

\*\*For the 2021/2023 Renewal Cycle ONLY – 100% of CEs may be obtained via online RACE approved course. For additional information on the Board ruling, view the “Alert – Continuing Education Update” found on the Board website at <https://www.llr.sc.gov/vet/>.

### **CE Waiver – First Year Licensees**

Per S.C. Regulation 120-6(B), continuing education requirement is waived for the licensed practitioner for the first year of licensure.

- Licensees receiving their license during the first year of the biennial renewal cycle (April 1 of an odd year through March 31 of an even year), will be responsible for fifteen (15) hours of continuing education for the first renewal. The CE credits may be obtained at any time during the current two CE cycle. Courses taken prior to the current CE cycle will not be accepted.
- Licensees receiving their license during the second year of the biennial renewal cycle (April 1 of an even year through March 31 of an odd year), will not be required to complete CEs for the first renewal.

### **CE Course Providers**

CE courses that meet the general requirements as outline above, may be developed and/or endorsed by the below organizations and agencies, shall be approved under blanket approval:

- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA);
- American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA);
- South Carolina Association of Veterinarians (SCAV);
- The Registry of Approved Continuing Education of American Association of Veterinary State Boards (RACE);
- State association-sponsored academies; or
- AVMA recognized specialty boards and approved schools of veterinary medicine

CE Course Sponsors, not meeting the list above, may apply to the SC Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for course approval. CE Sponsors must register with CE Broker and submit course information via the online application process. To register with CE Broker, please visit <https://cebroker.com/providers>.

### **CE Reporting**

All licensees are provided a free CE Broker Basic Account and may activate the account by visiting <https://cebroker.com/sc/plans>. Licensees are responsible for ensuring their courses are reported accurately and maintain tracking of their CE completion.

CE Providers utilizing CE Broker may upload course attendance which will auto populate in licensees accounts. Please check with the CE Provider to see if this option is available prior to signing up for a course.

Courses not registered in the CE Broker system may still be submitted by the licensee in the CE Broker system. CE Course verifications must include the date of the course, provider's name, subject matter covered, and CE hours earned. A formal certificate or documentation of attendance is required for approval. A handwritten list of courses does not suffice as

'official documentation of attendance,' nor does a copy of a registration badge, a meeting program, or a cancelled check.

### **Fee Waiver During Medical Disability**

Upon written request, a licensed veterinarian may apply for a waiver of the license renewal fee and other requirements of no more than three (3) years due to a temporary medical disability which prevents the licensee from practicing veterinary medicine. Upon approval by the Board of this request, the licensee will be placed in an inactive status and the license held by the veterinarian will no longer be valid. The licensee may apply for license reactivation after the period of disability. *S.C. Regulations 120-6(C)*