

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARIANS EXAMINATION INFORMATION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Following provisional approval of the ACPV by the American Board on Veterinary Specialties, and subsequent recognition of the College by the AVMA in 1991, four Founder and fifteen Charter Diplomates initiated operation of the College. The College received full accreditation from the AVMA in 1996. The college has been incorporated in the State of Pennsylvania and will function under Section 501(c)3 of the IRS code.

The following objectives have guided development of the ACPV.

- 1.2 To further educational and scientific progress in the specialty of poultry veterinary medicine.
- 1.3 To strengthen and improve instruction in poultry veterinary medicine at both professional and post-graduate levels.
- 1.4 To establish standards of post-professional training and experience for specialists in poultry veterinary medicine.
- 1.5 To promote the professional standing of poultry veterinarians.
- 1.6 To certify qualified and competent poultry veterinarians in aspects of veterinary medicine appropriate to breeders, broilers, commercial egg, and turkey production, and their ancillary disciplines.

2.1 DIPLOMATES

There are four categories of membership in the College:

Founder Diplomate

Charter

Diplomate

Diplomate

Emeritus

Diplomate

3.1 ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

General requirements for eligibility

The following prerequisites must be met to the satisfactions of the Board before the applicant will be determined eligible to take the Board Examination:

3.2.1 Applicants must have earned a DVM or VMD or an equivalent veterinary qualification which would enable the applicant to practice veterinary medicine in the USA or another country.

All applicants must submit a diploma.

a) The applicant who holds a veterinary degree from an AVMA accredited College or School of Veterinary Medicine must request an official veterinary diploma be sent directly to the ACPV office by their granting institution.

b) The applicant who has graduated from a non-AVMA accredited College or School must have their diploma verified through a credential certification company with the verification sent directly from the company to the ACPV office. Suggested companies are National Student Clearinghouse and World Education Services.

3.2.2 Have satisfactory moral and ethical standing in the veterinary profession.

3.1.2 Be sponsored by three (3) Diplomates of the College. It is suggested that the selection of your sponsors allow confirmation of your professional experience with direct reference to particular job responsibilities. Only ACPV members in good standing will be allowed to sponsor exam candidates. (<http://www.acpv.info/acpv-members-in-good-standing>)

3.2 ACADEMIC TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

In addition to having earned the DVM degree or equivalent, the applicant must satisfy one of the following requirements:

- Have earned the M.S. degree or an equivalent or higher post-graduate degree with major emphasis in poultry veterinary medicine before or after obtaining the DVM or equivalent degree. Transcripts from such a program must be included in the application to allow determination of a sufficient degree of poultry emphasis. Or:
- Have successfully completed a training program in Poultry Veterinary Medicine approved by the Training Program Review Committee. Applicants currently enrolled in an educational or training program which will be completed prior to the examination must submit transcripts or other proof of enrollment with their application. Proof of successful completion of the program must be submitted prior to taking the examination. Or:
- Have at least five (5) years professional experience beginning after receiving a DVM, relevant to Poultry Veterinary Medicine in one or more activities including, but not limited to, teaching, research, service or diagnostics with increasing responsibilities over this period of time. This should be confirmed through the selection of your sponsors.

Knowledge and experience in Poultry Veterinary Medicine should be interpreted as competence in the disciplines associated with poultry health diagnostics and disease control, such as microbiology, pathology, epidemiology, disease prevention, nutrition, and environmental management.

3.3 PUBLICATIONS

- The applicant shall have authored as first author three case, research or technical reports of a standard suitable for publication or that make a potential contribution to the field of poultry veterinary medicine.
- In all cases, the applicant shall submit to the Examination Committee Chair for submission to the Credentials Committee a copy of the relevant article and/or reports described above. These articles must be translated into English. Abstracts or outlines of presentation will not be accepted. If more than three articles are submitted, the application will not be accepted.

4.0 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The application must be made on forms prescribed by the Board and shall be submitted, with all necessary documents to the ACPV Business Office. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. The application deadline for the 2021 examination will be October 1, 2020. The application must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$100 in U.S. funds only drawn on a U.S. bank. Eligibility will be determined by the Board of Governors. Candidates who are eligible to sit the certifying examination are subject to a fee of \$560.00 for the three-part examination. A fee of \$185 per exam portion will be levied upon candidates who fail to earn a passing percentage in the year in which they begin to write the examination

5.0 CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The ACPV Certification Examination will consist of three parts described below. The examination will be given the summer of 2021. Details regarding the date, time and location for the examination will be provided later. Please refer to the ACPV website periodically for updated information.

- The Basic Examination, consisting of multiple-choice questions, will test the candidate's knowledge of a broad range of topics involved in clinical poultry medicine.
- The Applied Examination in 2 parts (projected images and written questions) will be a practical examination dealing with diagnostic recognition and problem solving. Questions may require written response to exhibits, such as photographs showing gross or microscopic lesions, figures, laboratory findings, production history and data, descriptions of clinical signs and lesions. Questions requiring short answers will involve diagnoses, recommending therapeutic, preventive or management action.

Content of the examination includes the following subject areas with an emphasis on diagnosis and production:

- Anatomy and Physiology 4%
- Biosecurity 12%
- Diagnosis 34%
- Food Safety 5%
- Production 20%
- Professional Skills including oral, written and interpersonal communications 11%
- U.S. Regulations regarding poultry 9%
- Research Skills 5%

All candidates will be required to sit for all three parts in their entirety.

6.0 PREPARATION FOR THE EXAMINATION

The examination will allow veterinarians who have successfully completed training programs in poultry medicine or other graduate programs, or who have extensive practical experience, to successfully pass the exam. Suggested Study Materials include but are not limited to:

1. Pertinent scientific journals

Avian Diseases, Avian Pathology, and Poultry Science.

2. Books

- Swayne, D. (2013). *Diseases of Poultry 13th Edition*. Ames, Iowa: Wiley-Blackwell
- Williams, Susan M. (2016). *A Laboratory Manual for the Isolation, Identification, and Characterization of Avian Pathogens 6th Edition*. Jacksonville, FL: American Association of Avian Pathologists
- Abdul-Aziz, T. (2016). *Avian Histopathology, 4th Edition*. Jacksonville, FL: American Association of Avian Pathologists
- Owen, R. (2017). *A Practical Guide for Managing Risk in Poultry Production 2nd Edition*. Jacksonville, FL: American Association of Avian Pathologists

3. Slides and CDs

- <http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/conted/avian.html> Virtual slides and gross pathology plus other avian pathology online course material.
- <http://www.aaap.info/slides> Slide/CD study sets published by the AAAP.

4. Miscellaneous materials and links for information on regulations, best management practices, and welfare guidelines.

- AAAP Animal Welfare Committee Poultry Paw Welfare Sub-Committee Final Report, Sept. 2, 2008
- Links for the NPIP, NCC, NTF, AEB and FDA:

7.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

Candidates will be required to satisfactorily complete all 3 parts of the certification examination within

a three-year period. Passing one part of the examination is not necessary to complete any other part of the examination. Candidates who fail any part will be eligible to repeat those parts within the three-year period and pay the appropriate fee to retake that part of the exam. If the candidate has passed a part, it will not be necessary to re-sit for that part during the three- year period. Candidates who do not pass the failed parts within the three consecutive examination periods must reapply as new candidates and retake all parts after a waiting period of one year.

8.0 PROCEDURE

The online application form should be completed in detail to facilitate evaluation for eligibility. Applicants intending to take the 2021 examination are advised to obtain copies of professional certificate, licenses, and diplomas, reprints of required articles, copies of reports, and documentation relating to professional achievements in poultry veterinary medicine. This will expedite completion and submission of the application form before the strict October 1, 2020 deadline.

Any questions can be addressed to the Examination Committee Chair: Dr. Kate Hayes
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