The Arkansas VMA was proud to award Dr. Marilyn Baeyens as the 2009 Veterinarian of the Year at the Winter Meeting in February. Dr. Marilyn Baeyens graduated from Michigan State University with her B.S. and D.V.M. in 1975. She has been in Arkansas since 1976, and has also been at North Hills Animal Hospital since that time.

She is interested in small animal, birds, ferrets, exotic animals, wildlife medicine, and surgery. She works with the wildlife rehabilitators in Arkansas taking care of raptors (hawks, owls, eagles) and other wild animals. She is also the veterinarian for the Little Rock Zoo, and has held that position for 26 years.

In her spare time she enjoys horseriding and horse shows. She also enjoys her dogs and other animals at home. She and her husband, Dennis, have Red Brahman cattle and Quarter Horses. They also have 6 Border Collies, 2 mixed dogs, and 6 cats. Their daughter, Katie, is a veterinarian whom graduated from Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine.

She is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Arkansas Veterinary Medicine Association, Pulaski County Veterinary Medical Society, Association of Avian Veterinarians, Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians, and the American Association of Zoological Veterinarians.

We are lucky to have Dr. Baeyens at the Little Rock Zoo and a member of our Association. Thank you Dr. Baeyens for all you do!! Congratulations!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELIEF VETERINARIANS</th>
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<th>Locations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bressett</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>417-679-1244</td>
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<td>Mouliere</td>
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<td>Stewart</td>
<td>Carolyn</td>
<td>501-269-3725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams, Jr.</td>
<td>George</td>
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Sales Tax Rule Proposed

The Department of Finance and Administration has issued the revised Veterinarian Sales and User Tax Regulations Draft. A copy of the draft is enclosed. A second 30 day public comment period is now underway. A second public hearing is scheduled for May 10th, 2010 at 10:30 am in room 2330 of the Ledbetter Building at 7th and Wolfe Streets in Little Rock. If you have any comments to make you may send them to the ArVMA. Everyone is also invited to comment at the hearing on May 10th.

RULE 2010-1

VETERINARIAN SALES AND USE TAX RULE

The Commissioner of Revenue, pursuant to his authority under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-52-316; 26-52-404; 26-52-405; 26-53-106; 26-53-131, does hereby issue the following regulation:

A. DEFINITIONS.
1. “Drug” means a compound, substance, or preparation, and any component of a compound, substance, or preparation, other than “food and food ingredients,” “dietary supplements,” or “alcoholic beverages” that is the following:
   a. Recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary, and supplement to any of them; or
   b. Intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease; or
   c. Intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.
2. “Prescription” means an order, formula, or recipe issued in any form of oral, written, electronic, or other means of transmission by a veterinarian.
3. “Veternarian,” means a practitioner of veterinary medicine duly licensed under the laws of this or some other state.
4. “Veternarian-client-patient relationship” means the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client, that is, the owner or caretaker, has agreed to follow the instruction of the veterinarian, and there is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal, by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept, and the practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.

B. SALES BY VETERINARIANS.
1. Tangible Personal Property Used or Consumed by the Veterinarian. Veterinarians are deemed to be the consumers or users of tangible personal property that is used or consumed by them in the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine. Tangible personal property that is administered by a veterinarian, or by an assistant under the veterinarian’s direction, during the treatment of an animal is furnished as part of the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine and is not taxed as a retail sale of tangible personal property. The veterinarian must pay tax on its purchase of tangible personal property used or consumed in the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine. See subsection (C).

Example 1: J.T. takes his dog to the veterinarian to be microchipped. J.T. is charged for the chip, implant procedure, and enrollment in a pet recovery service, which are separately itemized on the invoice. The microchip is consumed in the rendition of veterinary services and the veterinarian is required to pay sales or use tax on the purchase of the vaccine. The veterinarian should not collect sales tax from J.T.

Example 2: J.T. takes his dog to the veterinarian to be microchipped. J.T. is charged for the chip, implant procedure, and enrollment in a pet recovery service, which are separately itemized on the invoice. The microchip is consumed in the rendition of veterinary services and the veterinarian is required to pay sales or use tax on the purchase of the vaccine. The veterinarian should not collect sales tax from J.T.

2. Drugs Requiring a Prescription.
   a. A veterinarian’s sale of a drug that can only be legally dispensed by prescription is not taxable when sold by the veterinarian pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. A drug that can only be legally dispensed by prescription is furnished as part of the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine. The veterinarian must pay tax on its purchase of drugs that can only be legally dispensed by prescription. See subsection (C).
   b. Example 1: J.T. takes his puppy to the veterinarian for a rabies vaccination and checkup. J.T. is charged for the rabies vaccination and checkup, which are separately itemized on the invoice. Administering the vaccine is considered a nontaxable veterinary service. The vaccine is consumed in the rendition of veterinary services and the veterinarian is required to pay sales or use tax on the purchase of the vaccine. The veterinarian should not collect sales tax from J.T.
dispensed by prescription. J.T. is charged for the office visit and the drug, which are separately itemized on the invoice. The veterinarian should not collect sales tax from J.T.

Example 2: J.T. takes his cat to the veterinarian. The veterinarian diagnoses the cat with a heart condition and prescribes a diuretic. The diuretic can only be legally dispensed by prescription. J.T. refills the prescription on a monthly basis at the veterinary clinic. The veterinarian should not collect sales tax from J.T. on the refill because the drug is sold by the veterinarian pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

However, the sale of a drug that can only be dispensed by prescription is taxable when a veterinarian sells a drug prescribed by another veterinarian or the drug is sold by a pharmacist. The sale of the drug is a retail sale of tangible personal property because the drug is not sold by a veterinarian pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

Example: J.T. takes his cat to the veterinarian. The veterinarian diagnoses the cat with a heart condition and prescribes a beta blocker. The drug can only be legally dispensed by prescription. J.T. must refill the prescription on a monthly basis. J.T. refills the prescription for the beta blocker at his local pharmacy. The pharmacy should collect tax from J.T. on the retail sale of the beta blocker.

3. Other Tangible Personal Property. The retail sale of tangible personal property other than a drug that can only be legally dispensed by prescription is subject to sales tax. If the invoice does not separately state taxable and nontaxable items, then the total amount reflected on the invoice may be subject to tax.

Example 1: J.T. takes his dog to the veterinarian to examine a skin condition. The veterinarian determines that the dog has a bacterial infection and prescribes a drug to be administered twice a day for a week. The drug can only be legally dispensed by prescription. During the checkout, J.T. also purchases three months of flea and tick preventative that can be purchased without a prescription. J.T. is charged for the office visit, the drug, and the flea and tick preventative, which are separately itemized on the invoice. The veterinarian should collect sales tax from J.T. on the retail sale of the flea and tick preventative.

4. Grooming and Boarding Services. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 26-52-316 pet grooming and kennel services are taxable. A veterinarian that provides pet grooming or kennel services must collect sales tax from its customers. See Arkansas Gross Receipts Tax Rule GR-9.16.

C. PURCHASES BY VETERINARIANS.

1. Permitted Business.

a. A veterinarian holding a sales tax permit may purchase tangible personal property exempt from sales or use tax as a sale for resale. See Arkansas Gross Receipts Tax Rule GR-53. As tangible personal property used, consumed, or furnished in the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine is withdrawn from stock, the veterinarian is required to self-assess and pay sales or use tax based upon the purchase price of the property. When tangible personal property is sold at retail, the veterinarian must collect sales tax from the customer based upon the sales price.

Example: A veterinarian purchases a case of a fast-acting flea preventative. Some of the flea preventative will be used to treat animals receiving medical care at the veterinary clinic and some of the flea preventative will be sold to customers at retail. The veterinarian should purchase the flea preventative exempt from tax. Any of the flea preventative that is used or consumed by the veterinarian should be treated as a withdrawal from stock and the veterinarian is required to self-assess, report, and pay tax on the purchase price of the flea preventative. The veterinarian is required to collect sales tax on the sales price of the flea preventative when it is sold at retail.

b. A veterinarian may pay sales or use tax on purchases of tangible personal property used or consumed in the nontaxable practice of veterinary medicine at the time of purchase.

2. Non-Permitted Business.

If a veterinarian does not have a sales tax permit, the veterinarian is required to pay sales or use tax at the time of purchase. Tangible personal property purchased from an out-of-state vendor for use, storage, distribution, or consumption in the performance of veterinary services is subject to Arkansas use tax. If the vendor does not collect tax at the time of sale, the veterinarian is required to report and remit Arkansas use tax on the purchase price of the tangible personal property. A credit for sales tax paid in another state is given to offset Arkansas use tax if the other state requires the tax to be paid. See Arkansas Compensating Use Tax Rules UT-3, UT-4, UT-7, and UT-11.

3. Sales of tangible personal property, such as office supplies and equipment, surgical instruments, or operating supplies, to a veterinarian are taxable sales and the veterinarian is required to pay sales or use tax on the purchase of these items.

D. COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY. Arkansas law provides a limited exemption for agricultural chemicals such as vaccines, medications, and medicinal preparations used in the commercial production of livestock and poultry. Such vaccines, medications, and medicinal preparations are not subject to sales or use tax when sold to the producer of the livestock or poultry. See Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-52-404, 26-52-405, and Arkansas Gross Receipts Tax Rule GR-45.
The Arkansas VMA is saddened by the loss of its oldest member. Dr. Thayer Hendrickson passed away on April 4, 2010. He has been a member of the Association since 1946. He received Veterinarian of The Year in 1961. In 2007, Dr. Hendrickson was awarded an Outstanding Service Award for his time and support of the Association. He was the biggest supporter of the veterinary profession, along with many other charities and civic organizations. He will be greatly missed.

The Arkansas VMA is saddened by the sudden loss of Dr. Martin Reynolds. Dr. Reynolds was a graduate of Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine, Class of '63, and a retired Captain in the U.S. Army. Marty established Little Rock Veterinary Clinic in 1976 and served Little Rock with dedication and compassion until he retired in 2008. Marty was also a co-founder of the Animal Emergency and Specialty Clinic located in Maumelle, AR. Contributions honoring Dr. Reynolds’s memory may be made to: Alzheimer’s Association (1-800-272-3900) P.O. Box 96011, Washington DC, 20090-6011 or American Diabetes Association (1-800-342-2383) P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312

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**Advanced Veterinary Dental Care**

Dr. Billy Scott - Small Animal Dentistry and Oral Surgery

*Still seeing cases every 2-3 weeks in Little Rock even though he has moved to Mississippi.*

**Website:** billyscottdvm.com  **Phone:** 479-774-3450

**Referrals Made Easy**—Referring a dental case is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Give the owner a copy of “A referral to Dr. Scott - What to expect” (download from website or request forms from me via email, fax or snail mail).
2. Give me a call (479-775-3450) to discuss the case.

OR

Fax a completed “Dental Referral Request and History Form” and any lab work you have done to 888-387-2173. That’s all you do. I will take it from there.

Dr. Scott sees cases and performs surgery in Little Rock and ONLY PROVIDES SERVICES AND PRODUCTS RELATED TO THE REFERRED DENTAL CASE.

Dr. Scott only practices veterinary dentistry and dedicates approximately 100 hours per year to continuing education specifically in veterinary dentistry by attending dental lectures and labs and one-on-one instruction with board certified dentists.

**Dental Services**

- Oral medicine & Intraoral digital radiography
- Oral surgery (extractions, fractures, tumors, etc)
- Orthodontic treatment
- Restoration and Crown placement
- Endodontic treatment
- Periodontal treatment and surgery
Greetings Arkansas Veterinarians: 
Attention Earthlings, This is Your Leader Speaking: 
To Whom It May Concern: 
Oh Heck, How all you Saints fans doin? 

I am now your President, for better or worse, sickness or health, richer or poorer for all the days of this year. As you can see, I am gonna be taking a relaxed attitude. I do respect the office of President of Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association, but I will try to have fun…. Or as the hip kids say these days, make it real. I still don’t know what that means, but lets run with it.

I’m writing this letter on a beautiful spring morning, at the base of the Big Damn Bridge, waiting on a group to ride my bike. I just had my first crawfish boil of the year this Sunday. Ca C’est Bon, Cher! I’m in a good springtime mood, if you didn’t figure that out. With spring comes new hopes. To quote Cecil Alexander, “All creatures Great & Small, All Things Bright & Beautiful, All Things Wise & Wonderful, the Lord God Made Them All.”

Spring also reminds us of new issues, new accomplishments and new developments on old issues. The major issues before our Association are: The veterinary sales tax issue, the veterinary technology school in Beebe, and how the smart new graduates make this old fart feel (OK, just checking to see if you’re paying attention). On the sales tax issue, our “public comment meeting” with Mr. Theiss was a grand slam. There were varied opinions, most of which were presented in a polite and courteous manner and the game clincher was Dr. Thames very professional presentation. I think his message, centered around the idea that being governed by the board of veterinary medicine in all that we do, we consider prescribing veterinary drugs as an extension of our veterinary practices. Mr. Theiss gave undivided attention and the result is that they are rewriting the proposed rules. Dr. David Blount will continue to be our contact for this issue. On the veterinary technology program, ASU-Beebe is giving a great effort and will need out continued support. They need us to send students, fill in as guest lecturers and employ the graduates to improve the quality of veterinary medicine and the quality of life for the veterinarians in this state. Dr. Damain Stroderd is putting together a good list of speakers for next year’s ArVMA Winter Meeting.

Oh yeah, I forgot my resume, vitae, bio….Here’s the deal. I’m Cajun. Graduated from LSU and I’m the smartest man in the world. I married a woman smarter than me (Sonya) and have the sense to admit it. I have a daughter, Jessica, a senior at Mount Saint Mary’s girls school. She is planning on attending Hendrix. Zachary, my son, is a freshman at Catholic High School for Boys. He plans on graduating.

Thank you for being a member, thank you for reading my life story and if you liked the winter meeting, I did it. If you didn’t, call Maggie. Hope everyone has a good Spring and take time to smell the roses and enjoy the important things in life. 

Rene’ LaVergne, DVM

The DAVK9 Program

The DAVK9 Program provides healthcare coverage and support services for disabled veterans assistance dogs. The assistance dog definition includes basically all categories. If you have or know of a disabled veteran, have them contact Dr. Zepecki at 501-626-0237. Pets Best insurance has agreed to a group discount for disabled veterans under this program. Any disabled veteran can apply directly to Pets Best and receive the discounted rate, or Dr Z can arrange for payment for those unable to afford the cost. Veterinarians who service these veterans are asked to do the paperwork and thoroughly explain all aspects of pet insurance. Simply ask the vets to submit the paperwork to Pets Best and be reimbursed from the company with the co-pay from the veteran. There is a substantial amount of prepaid wellness that all clinics should emphasize to the veteran. The goal is to keep the assistance dogs so vital to the health of the disabled vets in good health with no looming financial burden for the veteran. Clinics can contact Dr Zepecki at 501-626-0237 or go online to hot springs villagevet.com and select DAVK9 to review the program.
Executive Director’s Message

Dr. Rene’ LaVergne put together a great Winter Meeting. We had a wonderful attendance and all the speakers were fabulous. Thank you Dr. LaVergne for putting together an outstanding meeting. Dr. Marilyn Baeyens was named 2009 Veterinarian of The Year. An honor well deserved! Congratulations to you Dr. Baeyens!!

I would like to personally thank Dr. David Blount for his leadership over the past year. I know it was a difficult year personally and a hard year serving as President with all the legislative issues that came up. It was a pleasure to work with Dr. Blount and he definitely made my job a lot easier. You are a strong man, an exceptional leader and I am most proud to call you my friend! You are definitely an asset to our Association and the entire veterinary profession.

The Association continues to monitor the Sales Tax issue. Please take time to read the enclosed article. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I will try my best to answer. If I don’t have the answer, I will definitely find it. Please remember this is a timely process. It has to go through many processes before it goes into effect, so please be patient as we work through this together.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call or e-mail me.

Fondly,
Maggie Milligan
WebSuite
Sign up for WebSuite so that you can access your test results and invoices directly on your computer anywhere or anytime. You will be able to retrieve your test results as soon as our lab personnel enter them into the computer, simply by going to our website (www.arlpc.org). Call our office to sign up – it only takes a few minutes!

The benefits to your clinic include:
1. Faster access to your test results. You won’t have to wait until a report is generated and sent to you.
2. Greater reliability. No more delayed reports because of problems with e-mail or fax machines.
3. Greater flexibility. You can get your results anytime, even when the lab or your clinic is closed.
4. Ability to track the progress of your submissions. No more calling the lab to check if your tests are completed.
5. Ability to see when samples arrived at our lab. No more calling the lab to check if we received your samples.

New Veterinary Microbiologist
Dr. Erol Erdal has joined the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory as a Veterinary Microbiologist and he will be supervising the Bacteriology, Serology, and Virology sections. He was previously at the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory. Dr. Erdal received his DVM degree at Firat University in Turkey, his M.S. degree at the University of Missouri, and his PhD in Veterinary Microbiology at Texas A&M University. He has extensive experience developing PCR methods for bacterial and viral pathogens.

2010 Guide Booklet and Fee Schedule
We have published a new Guide Booklet which lists all the tests we are currently performing. (We have not raised our fees again this year.) Please contact the lab to receive a copy (501-907-2430).

New Small Animal Tests
We are performing PCR testing for canine parvovirus (feces or intestine), for Tritrichomonas foetus (feces), and for Leptospira spp. (urine or kidney).

We now automatically look for blood parasites on all mammalian CBCs at no extra charge.

We also offer testing for methicillin-resistant Staph. aureus (MRSA). We perform an autoagglutination test for the specific protein that is responsible for methicillin resistance. The fee for this test is $10.00 per isolate. Suspected MRSA isolates will be resistant to oxacillin on the antibiotic sensitivity panel. (As recommended by CLSI guidelines, our lab uses oxacillin instead of methacillin to test for resistance because of storage stability and reliability issues with methacillin discs.) Keep in mind, MRSA organisms are reported to be resistant to all cephalosporins and other beta-lactams regardless of in-vitro test results with those agents because most cases of MRSA infection respond poorly to beta-lactam therapy.

Diagnosis of Leptospirosis
Differentiating an active infection of Leptospirosis from a previous infection or a vaccine response can be challenging. Traditionally a positive diagnosis is made when a four-fold titer increase occurs for a specific serovar in paired serum samples taken 3 weeks apart. However, due to the time factor, we rarely receive paired serum samples. These are the pros and cons of the two testing options available at our lab:

• The advantages of the PCR test are that it requires only one urine sample to be diagnostic and results are generally available within 24 hours. The disadvantage is that the specific serovar involved can not be determined. However, that may not be important when making treatment decisions.

• The advantages of the microscopic agglutination test (MAT) are that it can be performed on serum and it distinguishes each of the 7 serovars. The disadvantages are that it may not be diagnostic unless paired serum samples are submitted and it is only performed one day each week (currently on Tuesdays).

If the MAT is performed, follow these guidelines when making a diagnosis. Keep in mind that an infection with one Lepto strain may result in increased antibody titers to multiple serovars due to cross-reactivity.

• A serovar titer of <1:100 is considered negative.

• A serovar titer of ≥1:800 in a single serum sample is considered diagnostic for an active infection as long as it has been >3 months since vaccination and there are compatible clinical findings.

• A serovar titer ≥1:100 and <1:800 in a single serum sample presents a diagnostic dilemma. Your choices are to collect a second serum sample in 3 weeks or to perform PCR testing on urine.
Update on the National Veterinary Accreditation Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the veterinary accreditation program in 1921 so that accredited private practitioners could assist Federal veterinarians in controlling animal diseases and facilitating the movement of animals.

The mission of the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) is to ensure the health of the Nation's livestock and animal population and to protect the public health and well-being.

Accredited veterinarians work cooperatively with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and State animal health officials to protect and improve the health, quality, productivity, and marketability of U.S. animals by preventing, controlling, and eradicating livestock diseases. Businesses that transport and export animals also rely on the expertise of accredited veterinarians to help ensure that exported animals will not introduce diseases into other States or countries.

The United States depends extensively on accredited veterinarians to carry out many of its animal health programs and services—including animal inspections, testing, and certifications. Accredited veterinarians serve as the first line of defense in ensuring the health of the Nation's livestock.

More than 80 percent of all U.S. veterinarians, or about 71,000, are accredited.

Working Together in Regulatory Medicine

The NVAP is a voluntary program. Participation is not mandated by the Federal government; however, accredited veterinarians who participate in the NVAP must work according to the standards for accredited veterinarian duties in Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 161.

The NVAP is based on the mutual respect and the professional partnership between APHIS, accredited veterinarians, and State animal health officials. With the development of a more global economy, these partners work increasingly closer to support American agriculture by:

- Understanding the responsibilities of the program,
- Administering the program uniformly and consistently,
- Preserving the integrity of the program,
- Keeping up-to-date with animal health issues, and
- Mobilizing to assist APHIS with foreign animal disease incursions.

Benefits of Accreditation

By becoming accredited, you can offer additional services to your clients. For example, large animal practitioners can certify animal and herd health, which facilitates producers' access to domestic and international markets. Small animal practitioners can use their accreditation to certify companion animals for domestic and international movement.

Important Changes in the National Veterinary Accreditation Program

APHIS has changed the accreditation program to address the needs of the increasingly complex and fast-paced world of animal health, business, trade, and travel. Key components of the program, including important changes, are described below.

1. Election to Participate in the NVAP Under the New Program

   - Veterinarians who are already accredited as of February 1, 2010, must elect to participate in the NVAP as a Category I or Category II veterinarian (see number 4 below “Accreditation Categories”). Failure to do so will result in the expiration of that veterinarian’s accreditation. Election to participate may only be accomplished by completing an application (VS Form 1-36A) and submitting the application to USDA, APHIS, VS, NVAP Staff, 4700 River Road, Unit 64, Riverdale, MD 20737 Telephone: (301)-734-NVAP (6827) or Fax: (301)-734-3641 or E-mail: NVAP@aphis.usda.gov

2. Initial Accreditation Requirements Before July 1, 2011

   - Complete core orientation
   Complete the core orientation program presented by the APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) Area Office for the State in which an applicant wishes to perform
accredited duties. Contact information for the Area Office for each State can be found at:


- **Be licensed or legally able to practice**
  Graduate with a doctorate of veterinary medicine (DVM) or equivalent degree, and be licensed or legally able to practice veterinary medicine in one State.

- **Submit NVAP application (VS Form 1-36A)**
  Complete the NVAP application (VS Form 1-36A), which is available through VS Area Offices and online at www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/. Send the completed form to the VS Area Office for the State in which you wish to perform accredited duties. The form must include your original ink signature, so it may not be sent electronically. When completing the application, you must certify that you are able to perform the necessary tasks for your chosen accreditation category. Tasks lists may be viewed at www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/ and may also be found in the Code of Federal Regulations [9 CFR 161.1 (g)].

- **Complete State-specific training if required**
  You may be required to attend a State-specific orientation program about animal health issues that are important in the State of application.

- **Obtain written approval**
  Upon approval of your application, APHIS will send an approval letter that includes your renewal date and your National Accreditation Number. You may not perform accredited duties until you receive an approval letter. Your accreditation authorizes you to perform accredited duties only in the State in which you are accredited.

3. **Issuance of Six-digit National Accreditation Numbers for Accredited Veterinarians**
   National Accreditation Numbers are randomly generated, and have no correlation to your State license number(s). Your National Accreditation Number will be required on all official documents that call for an “accreditation number.” For veterinarians accredited prior to February 2010, the new National Accreditation Number will replace all accreditation numbers previously assigned by State or Federal authorities.

4. **Accreditation Categories**
   On the NVAP application (VS Form 1-36A), you must choose an accreditation category, based on the species on which you wish to perform accredited duties.

   - **Category I animals:** All animals except: food and fiber species, horses, birds, farm-raised aquatic animals, all other livestock species, and zoo animals that can transmit exotic animal diseases to livestock
   - **Category II animals:** All animals

5. **Accreditation Renewal**
   Your accreditation must be renewed every 3 years for as long as you wish to perform accredited duties.
   If you have provided an e-mail address on your most recent NVAP application (VS Form 1-36A), APHIS will e-mail you a reminder before your accreditation expires. If you did not provide an e-mail address, a reminder will be mailed to your home address. To renew your accreditation, you must complete the NVAP application to update all contact and State license information and to report all required APHIS-approved supplemental training you have completed.
   The form must be received on or before your renewal date or your accreditation will expire. Mail the completed NVAP application to: USDA, APHIS, VS, NVAP Staff, 4700 River Road, Unit 64, Riverdale, MD 20737. Do not send the form for renewal to your VS Area Office. Doing so may substantially delay the processing of your renewal, which may result in the expiration of your accreditation.

6. **Supplemental Training Requirements**
   You must complete the APHIS-approved supplemental training that is required for your accreditation category: three units of supplemental training per renewal period for Category I veterinarians, and six units for Category II veterinarians. APHIS-approved supplemental training is available online at no charge. A list of APHIS-approved supplemental training units may be accessed at: www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/. For veterinarians without Internet access, other training options (e.g., CD-ROM or paper) are available at a minimal cost to cover production, shipping, and handling. Requests for non-Web based supple-
mental training materials may be made by calling NVAP Headquarters at (301) 734–NVAP (6827).

**Note:** In 2012 organizations offering accreditation-relevant training through meetings may apply to have such training added to the list of APHIS-approved supplemental training.

**7. Authorization to Perform Accredited Duties in Additional States**

Once accredited in one State, you may apply for authorization to perform accredited duties in each additional State in which you are licensed or legally able to practice. Simply complete VS Form 1-36A and submit it to the VS Area Office servicing the State in which you wish to apply.

**8. Initial Accreditation Requirements After July 1, 2011**

Beginning July 1, 2011, applicants for accreditation will need to complete specific APHIS-approved initial accreditation training through a U.S. college of veterinary medicine or through the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. The training will need to be completed with a passing score of 80 percent or higher. A certificate of completion of the training will be required to be admitted to a core orientation program. Information about the initial accreditation training is available at www.aphis.usda.gov_nvap/. The requirements for completing core orientation, being licensed or legally able to practice, submitting the NVAP application (VS Form 1-36A), completing State-specific training if required, and obtaining written approval before beginning accredited duties are the same as before July 1, 2011.

**Other Uses of VS Form 1-36A**

VS Form is a multiple-use form. To update your contact information (name, address, telephone, etc.), request a change of accreditation category, request reinstatement after expiration, or to be reaccredited after revocation, you must complete a VS Form 1-36A and submit it to your local VS Area Office. As an accredited veterinarian, it is your responsibility to keep your contact information current.

**Summary**

This table below shows the basic requirements for initial accreditation, authorization in different States, and renewing your accreditation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Initial Accreditation</th>
<th>Authorization in additional States</th>
<th>Accreditation 3-year Renewal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have a DVM or equivalent degree from a college of veterinary medicine</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit a completed VS Form 1-36A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be licensed or legally able to practice in the State of application</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete initial accreditation training</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete a core orientation program</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHIS-approved supplemental training every 3 years: Category 1 = 3 Units, Category 2 = 6 Units</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify the AVIC of each additional State where seeking to do accredited work</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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