

AMERICAN BOARD OF VETERINARY PRACTITIONERS

SWINE HEALTH MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Diplomate of ABVP certified in Swine Health Management! The following steps are required for successful certification by ABVP in Swine Health Management.

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

A. To be eligible for ABVP certification, veterinarians must have:

1. Graduated from a college or school of veterinary medicine accredited by the AVMA or possess a certificate issued by the ECFVG, or
2. Are legally qualified to practice veterinary medicine in any state or country, and
3. Have met the education, training, and experience requirements established by ABVP, and
4. Have demonstrated unquestionable moral character and ethical professional behavior

B. The Swine Health Management applicant must have a solid background in swine medicine and production gained in one (1) of the following ways:

1. At least five (5) years of documentable experience in swine practice prior to first credentials submission
2. Residency/completion of an MS degree, plus at least one (1) year of swine practice
3. Completion of a PhD degree in a swine-related area. The PhD applicant must document evidence of consulting to the swine industry

ENTRY APPLICATION PROCESS

The applicant must pass an entry examination given in conjunction with the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) annual meeting held in early spring (usually March). This examination will measure basic skills and problem-solving abilities related to swine health management. The test will consist of multiple choice questions designed to ensure that the applicant is familiar with all areas of swine health, including reproduction, growth, mortality, economics, epidemiology, disease diagnosis/treatment/prevention, environment, country specific regulatory issues and animal welfare.

To apply for the entry examination, submit an entry exam application and payment to ABVP by January 15. Application forms are obtained from and submitted to:

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners
618 Church Street, Suite 220
Nashville, TN 37219
p (800) 697-3583 f (615) 254-7047
www.abvp.com abvp@xmi-amc.com

Applicants who fail the entry examination may retake it in succeeding years by notifying ABVP of their intention and paying the required examination fee.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Following passage of the entry examination, an advisor must be approved by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee. Each applicant must complete a plan of study developed in collaboration with the advisor.

1. Applicants are asked to submit a list of three (3) potential advisors ranked in order of preference. Advisors must have expertise in Swine Health Management. The committee will try to assign advisors according to candidate preference whenever possible, but may suggest names not included on the list provided by the applicant. Final selection of the advisor will be made by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee.
2. The relationship between advisor and applicant will be advisory only. Applicants are not required to work for or with the advisor, although he/she may choose to do so without prejudice. The Swine Health Management Credentials Committee will serve as an approval and oversight body.
3. The advisory period will normally be three (3) years, but may be reduced upon recommendation of the advisor and subsequent approval by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee and the Council of Regents. If the applicant cannot meet the requirements for the certification examination in four (4) years, the individual must re-enter the application process at the level of the entry examination.
4. The plan of study may vary between applicants, depending upon experience, demonstrated abilities and goals of the applicant. The plan of study will be prepared by the applicant and advisor and submitted to the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee for approval within three (3) months after the applicant is notified of successful passage of the entry examination. This curriculum may include, but is not limited to: formal courses, intensive short courses, home study, clinical trials with reports, literature reviews, presentations at meetings, special seminars, and manuscript preparation.
5. Advisors will be asked to submit an annual report to the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee, which serves to evaluate the work of the applicant.
6. Three (3) publications are required for credentials. Two (2) case reports must be written in the style outlined by ABVP in the Applicant Handbook. The third publication must be accepted for publication in a refereed journal.
7. Upon completion of the course of study, the applicant will submit an application and application fee by September 1. The credentials packet is due to the ABVP office by the following January 15. Detailed descriptions of all documentation comprising the credentials packet can be found in the ABVP Applicant Handbook.
8. After review by the Credentials Committee, the applicant's credentials may be accepted thereby allowing him/her to take the certification examination. Credentials results are sent by mail no later than June 1 following the January 15 they were submitted. All applicants whose credentials are accepted are known as candidates. Applicant status can last for three (3) years. If one (1) or more sections of the application and/or credentials packet is not accepted by the Credentials Committee, the applicant has two (2) more years to revise the failed documents, so long as they are revisable, and re-apply (by January 15 of each year).

9. After credentials have been accepted, a candidate has three (3) years in which to pass all parts of the certification examination. The certifying exam is approximately eighteen (18) months after the application deadline and fourteen (14) months after the credentials packet deadline. The certifying exam is administered at the annual AASV meeting in the early spring. The exam is designed to test problem solving skills as well as written and verbal communication skills. The exam will include oral questions and essay questions, and will cover: pre-clinical sciences; medical, surgical, diagnostic and management techniques; and the practical application of these areas in swine health management using a problem solving format. Exam scores are made available approximately forty-five (45) days following examination.
10. Recertification is required every ten (10) years to maintain Diplomate status. Details are available at www.abvp.com.
11. Annual Diplomate renewal fees must be submitted to ABVP.

Revised February 2012