

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

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THE ACADEMY OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

The Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Practice is excited to announce that this year for the first time since our inception, there are 13 applicants with candidates from each of our 3 sub-specialties- Canine/Feline, Exotic Companion Animal, and Production Medicine! Exams will be administered at the ABVP Symposium in New Orleans.

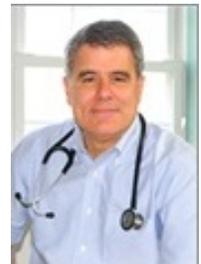
Additionally, the Feline specialty has completed their petition to become our 4th category. As our academy grows, we are thrilled to share our success with ABVP who has been a major supporter of ours.

At this time, the AVTCP is actively looking for ABVP Diplomates who would be interested in reviewing potential exam questions. Every year, our technicians strive to improve our exams and we rely on ABVP

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Michael Dutton

Time flies when you are having fun! It is hard to believe that only a few months still remain in my term as your President. When I started my term, President-Elect Kimberlee Buck and Vice President Carondelet Nollner and myself sat down and sketched out a three year plan on items we needed to act on and items we wanted to see move ABVP forward as the great organization we know it is. So rest assured, ABVP is in good hands.



First, I would like to say my thanks to Dr. Stephen Foulke who has moved on from his position as Examination Chair. Steve has done so much for the organization and we hope he can return in the future. Thank you, Steve. Temporarily, Dr. Dennis French (who has been Exam Chair in the past) is filling in.

We will also be creating a new Committee for Maintenance of Certification (our current term for recertification) or MOC. With the various ways to earn MOC credit and the integration of MOC into our web portal, it was proving to be overwhelming for the Credentials Committee to handle applications, initial credentialing, and MOC. So we have reorganized some of our functions into different committees.

Diplomates to "vet" our questions in order to maintain our high standards.

Any ABVP Diplomate interested will be asked to review 10-20 questions and should please email us at avtcpinformation@gmail.com.

Your support is greatly appreciated!



PET INSURANCE

A listing of Veterinary Pet Insurance is available on VIN,

<http://www.vin.com/doc/?id=6603412>



ABVP EXAMINATION PREPARATION COURSE AT NAVCI INSTITUTE 2015

Prepare to ace your ABVP exam with a focused review and practice session at the NAVCI Institute: July 27-30, 2015

Whether you're a candidate for the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) or simply interested in a hard-core review of general medicine, the NAVCI Institute 2015 [ABVP Specialty & Recertification Examination Preparation Course](#) is for you!

Sign up now for this course, lead by Dr. Douglas Mader, and acquire the rigorous medical knowledge needed for the Canine and Feline ABVP

The Credentials Committee will handle the initial application and initial credentialing, including some aspects of residency credentialing that had been under the Residency Committee.

The MOC Committee will handle all things MOC. Our goal is to spread the workload over more people and have more consistency between the practitioner route and residency route.

We also are looking to improve governance on a variety of credentials and MOC items by having at least three reviewers on each part to improve consistency of results and processes.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help ABVP in a variety of tasks. If you want to volunteer, please contact Marisa Hackemann at the Main Office, mhackemann@xmi-amc.com.

-Michael Dutton, DVM, MS, DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice), DABVP (Avian Practice), DABVP (Exotic Companion Mammal Practice), CVPP

20TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

New Orleans, Louisiana - New Orleans Marriott
November 12-15, 2015

The Big Easy ... The Crescent City ...
Birthplace of Jazz ... Mardi Gras City ...
nowhere else in the country will you find the authentic sights, sounds, tastes, and culture that New Orleans has to offer!



ABVP is bringing its signature Symposium to this unique American city that has influences from all over the world. We have worked hard to secure a hotel and conference space right on Canal Street just steps away from the historic French Quarter. If you've never been to NOLA you are in for an experience you won't forget.

I was in New Orleans recently for another meeting and had a chance to visit the Canal Street Marriott. The hotel is being freshly renovated so we'll have new, updated guest rooms. The space for our Symposium is all in one large area with an open exhibit hall, ballrooms, and smaller classrooms. It's all very convenient and a great place for meeting old friends and making new ones.

And when you get hungry or thirsty, you can step out the front door of the hotel, turn a corner, and find yourself immersed in the French Quarter with its hundreds of shops, restaurants, historic sites, watering holes, and some of the most interesting, colorful

exam in Cardiology, Clinical Pathology, Dentistry, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Hematology, Infectious Disease, Metabolic, Musculoskeletal, Neurology, Oncology, Ophthalmology and Urogenital Disease.

SAVE \$200 when you register by May 31! [Register now!](#)



ABVP CERTIFICATION AND MOC EXAM

ABVP Certification and Maintenance of Certification Exam
November 11-12, 2015
New Orleans, Louisiana

If you are an active Candidate for ABVP certification or a Diplomate who last certified in 2005, 2006, or 2007, you are eligible to sit for the exams on November 11-12, 2015. Diplomates maintaining certification only need to take the Specialty Exams on Wednesday, November 11. Candidates must pass both the Specialty and Practical Exams for their practice category to become board certified.

The exam schedule can be found in the 'Forms and Documents' tab once logged into your ABVP online account. You will also register for the exam via your online account. Registration must be completed by September 1 at 11:59PM Central Time. The exam fee is \$575 for Candidates and \$440 for Diplomates maintaining certification.

The exams will be held at the New Orleans Marriott in conjunction with the Symposium. Reservation

characters you'll ever meet.

But the main reason to join us for Symposium is to immerse yourself in high-level, cutting-edge, practical continuing education that you can take back and use right away.

For the first time, we are offering a live-animal canine ultrasound lab led by one of our own ABVP Diplomates, Greg Lisciandro. You'll want to register early to take advantage of this outstanding opportunity as attendance is limited.

We're also working on a foot care lab for our large-animal colleagues. Each year we attract more and more people interested in exotic pets and so this year our avian and exotic companion mammal tracks (flighties and furies) developed a running theme of Evidence-Based Medicine. There will be in-depth presentations, interaction, and even a panel discussion that will get to the bottom of what we know, what we don't know, what we think we know, etc. about exotic veterinary practice. All this plus our usual species-specific tracks in Canine, Feline, Reptiles/Amphibians, Equine, Food Animal, and Shelter Medicine.

Be sure to bring your technicians for the comprehensive CE track that features a variety of topics including critical care, toxicology, and exotic pets.

Never been to Symposium? You are missing out! Remember that our Maintenance of Certification process includes points for species-specific CE and you can earn up to 27 hours with full attendance. And if you're not sure what MOC is, be sure to attend our annual workshop to find out. We'll also have a credentialing workshop for veterinarians interested in becoming ABVP-certified, our Item Writing Workshop (required for earning MOC points using exam items) the annual Diplomate Meeting, Networking Luncheons, and our famous annual Diplomate Awards Dinner along with a live auction to support the ABVP Foundation. Our newest Diplomates and those who maintain certification for another ten-year period are recognized and wildly applauded!

All this plus exhibit booths to see the latest equipment, textbooks, and products, Sunrise Sessions for you early risers, free receptions, and most of all the camaraderie and friendliness that is unique to ABVP. Registration opens soon - don't be late!

-Craig Datz, DVM, MS, DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice), DABVP (Feline Practice), DACVN, Symposium Chair

MAINTENANCE OF

information can be found on the ABVP website www.abvp.com/symposium.

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Specialty Exams for all categories,
Part 1

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Specialty Exams for all categories,
Part 2

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Reception for all examinees

Thursday, November 12, 2015

8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Practical Exam for all categories



2015-2016 Slate of Nominees

The following individuals will fill positions on the Council of Regents beginning July 1, 2015. There will be an election for Canine and Feline Regent. Please look for a ballot in your inbox in mid April.

Vice President - Norris McGehee

Treasurer - Nicholas Nelson

Dairy Regent - Jonathan Townsend

Exotic Companion Mammal Regent -
Angela Lennox

Swine Health Management Regent -
Keith Erlandson

Appeals Chair - James Young

Canine and Feline Regent -

CERTIFICATION

FAQ's

Each year we receive many questions about the process of maintenance of certification (recertification). We are more than happy to answer them and offer assistance by phone or email, but here are some of the common ones that may be helpful to review in advance.

What is the purpose of maintenance of certification?

ABVP has required maintenance of certification every ten years ever since our founding in 1978. It is a way to demonstrate that ABVP Diplomates have kept up with changes and advances in veterinary practice. We are one of only two AVMA specialties that currently require maintenance of certification after some period of time (lab animal is the other). However, the AVMA American Board of Veterinary Specialties recently told the other 19 boards and colleges that they will also have to have a recertification or "maintenance of certification" process established by 2016. ABVP is a leader in the concept that in order to be a specialist, you should be able to prove that you are continuing to practice at a high level of competence. Not just now, but in the future as well.

When do I have to maintain my certification?

You are eligible to attempt maintenance of certification in your 8th, 9th, or 10th year of certification. For example, if you first certified in 2005 (took the exam in November 2005), you are in your 10th year and your deadline is September 1, 2015 to register to take the specialty exam in November 2015. If you certified in 2006 or 2007, then you are in your 9th or 8th year and you can (and should!) start the process. Likewise, if you first certified in 1995 or 1985, then you only have this year to maintain certification for the 2nd or 3rd time via exam.

Will I be notified when it's time to maintain my certification?

Yes, the ABVP office will send you electronic reminders in years 7, 8, 9, and 10. They also send reminders once your certification has expired but you remain eligible to regain your certification by taking and passing both the Specialty and Practical exams. These reminders are sent in years 11, 12, and 13. Your ABVP online account also lists when your certification expires.

If I've already maintained certification two times and have been a Diplomate for 30 years, do I really have to maintain certification again?

Yes. Our ABVP certificates are considered "time-limited" and are in effect for ten years. The only Diplomates that do not have to maintain certification are those that are elected to Emeritus status.

1. William Novak
2. Gary Thompson

All members of the Council of Regents must maintain Diplomate certification and be in good standing (current on all fees) with ABVP. Regent positions are three-year terms and officer positions are one-year terms.



WE WANT TO PROMOTE YOU!

We want to continue to profile a Diplomate every other week on our Facebook page, but have run out of profiles! If you would like to be profiled, please send an email to abvp@xmi-amc.com along with a photo of yourself. We will, in turn, send you a list of questions to complete before we feature you.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 1

2015-2016 Diplomate Fees payable via your online ABVP account. Beginning on July 31, any Diplomate with unpaid fees will be removed from the 'Find a Diplomate' search feature pending fees being paid.

July 15

Semi-Annual Residency Logs must be submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

September 1

The criteria used by the Council of Regents to determine eligibility for Emeritus status include one or more of the following:

1. Age of sixty-five (65) years or older at the time of request
2. Maintenance of Active Diplomate in good standing status for a minimum of twenty-five (25) consecutive years
3. Not working, consulting, or engaging in professional activities in which ABVP certification is required, encouraged, or promoted to the profession or the general public
4. Income from professional activities does not exceed the maximum earning limit for receiving full US Social Security retirement income for those below normal retirement age (prior to the year of retirement)
5. Disabled or unable to engage in veterinary activity
6. Engagement in professional activities including practice, consulting, teaching, writing, etc. does not exceed ten (10) hours per week on average

COR reserves the right to revoke Emeritus status if a Diplomate's activities change and no longer meet the above criteria.

But if I don't maintain certification for the second or third time, what happens?

Diplomates who fail to complete the maintenance of certification process either by choice or if their attempts fail can no longer use the title DABVP or "specialist". This is mandated by the AVMA/ABVS. In order to ensure the integrity of our title, we ask that all references to ABVP or Diplomate or specialist be removed from advertising, business cards, etc. if maintenance of certification is not accomplished. In the future, we will see the same standards applied to the other specialty boards and colleges.

Maintenance of Certification can be time-consuming and expensive. Why should I bother?

Attaining Diplomate status in ABVP or any other AVMA specialty is one of the most challenging yet rewarding accomplishments a veterinarian can do in a lifetime. To most Diplomates, it is an honor and privilege to be a specialist. Being able to demonstrate your ongoing commitment to lifelong learning, improvement in skills, and keeping up with changes in the profession is a continuation of the honor. Each year we recognize those who successfully recertify in our newsletter and in person for those who attend our annual Symposium.

Do I have to pass the exam to maintain certification?

This pathway was the only one available in the early years of ABVP. Sitting for the specialty exam is still the best way to demonstrate to yourself and others that you are maintaining the knowledge base and competence expected of a specialist.

-Exam registration (for candidates and Diplomates maintaining certification) must be completed via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

-First-Time Credentials Application and fee must be completed via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

November 11-12

ABVP Certification Exams, New Orleans, Louisiana, New Orleans Marriott

November 12-15

20th Annual ABVP Symposium, New Orleans, Louisiana, New Orleans Marriott

January 15

-Credentials documentation must be submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time (for both initial applications and re-applications)

-Maintenance of Certification application and documentation must be completed and submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

-Swine Health Management Entry Exam registration must be completed via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

-Semi-Annual Residency Logs must be submitted via your online account by 11:59 PM Central Time

However, today there are a number of alternatives to maintain certification that do not involve the exam. Please refer to the Maintenance of Certification Handbook for a complete list of the alternatives.

Why should I start in my 8th or 9th year? Why not just wait and send in everything in my 10th year?

Unfortunately not all Diplomates are successful in their first attempt. All submitted materials are subject to review and critical evaluation. Even if you submit the proper amount of credits, some may be unacceptable or disallowed, and then you have to wait another full year to submit new materials. Also, waiting until year 10 to sit for the exam runs the risk of not passing.

Should I write case reports similar to the ones I did for the initial credentialing process?

Maintenance of Certification can be accomplished by having two case reports accepted by the Credentials Committee. We do not recommend this pathway because it is the most difficult and has the highest failure rate. Case reports are evaluated anonymously by trained reviewers along with the first-time applicants. As you may remember from your experience, many case reports fail the review process initially and have to be revised and resubmitted the following year. Or sometimes the case itself is not acceptable so a new case must be identified and written up. The committee does not know which case reports are from first-time applicants or Diplomates attempting maintenance of certification. They are all equally subject to the high standards expected of the credentials process.

So if case reports are not recommended, what is the best pathway other than the exam?

The Maintenance of Certification Handbook has descriptions and details of the other methods, including writing exam items and interpretive summaries, attending high-quality CE meetings, giving lectures, publishing in journals or textbooks, and some types of committee service such as reviewing case reports. Choose the pathway that works best for you. If you see interesting cases and would like to write up one-page summaries, those are often accepted and are much easier to prepare than ABVP-style case reports.

If I fail to maintain certification in the 10-year period but decide to try again, what is the process?

The only pathway available after 10 years is to sit for both the specialty and practical exam. Both sections must be passed within a 3-year period. If the exam is not attempted or passed in years 11-13, then the only way to regain Diplomate status is to enter the credentials and exam process as a first-time applicant.

Is there any help available for navigating maintenance of

certification?

Yes. The Regent in your specialty is happy to help answer questions and provide guidance. Find a list of Regents with contact information [HERE](#). You may email or call our Executive Director, Marisa Hackemann, for details about the process or to find out where you are in the cycle. There is also an online maintenance of certification help group through VIN. You do not need to be a member of VIN in order to join the group. If you are interested in joining, please email Dr. Kimberlee Buck, President Elect, at studygroupadmin@abvp.com.



GUIDELINES FOR USE OF YOUR ABVP DIPLOMATE TITLE

Diplomates of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners are strongly encouraged to use their title accurately and consistently. Incorrect spelling, formatting, or misleading use reflects poorly on professionalism. It is unethical for veterinarians to identify themselves as members of an AVMA-recognized veterinary specialty organization if such certification has not been awarded.

1. Diplomates should choose one of the following formats for listing in directories, advertising, stationery, signage, websites, etc.

John Smith, DVM, Diplomat, American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (Equine Practice)

or

John Smith, VMD, Diplomat, ABVP (Canine and Feline Practice)

or

John Smith, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice)

2. Other permitted terms for ABVP Diplomates include:

Board certified in Food Animal Practice

Feline specialist

Certified in Exotic Companion Mammal Practice

Specializing (or Specialist) in reptiles and amphibians

However, these terms are not recommended for use by the American Board of Veterinary Specialties. Therefore, ABVP strongly suggests that terminology in #2 above be used for all listings.

3. The terms "board eligible" and "board qualified" are misleading to the public and should not be used in any public communications, advertising, or listings.

4. ABVP Diplomates are not permitted to list any qualifications, disciplines, services, etc. that would mislead the public. It is unethical for a listing to imply specialization other than the certification earned. For example, a Diplomate certified only in Avian Practice cannot advertise "specializes in birds, ferrets, rabbits, and pocket pets". Another example of an unethical listing is "John Smith, DVM, DABVP (Canine and Feline Practice) offers services in dermatology, dentistry, surgery, etc." because this may mislead the public into thinking that Dr. Smith is a board certified dermatologist, dentist, and/or surgeon. A practice that employs an ABVP Diplomate along with non-ABVP Diplomates cannot advertise or imply that it is a "specialty" practice or offers "specialist" services unless the Diplomate personally sees all cases or if it is clearly designated that only one veterinarian is board certified.

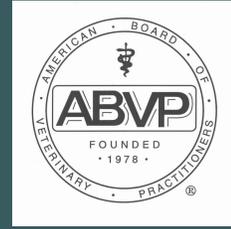
5. The following are common errors found on actual ABVP Diplomate websites:

Incorrect	Correct
Diplomat	Diplomate
Avian	Avian Practice
Specializing in canine and feline medicine	Specializing in Canine and Feline Practice
Avian Specialty	Avian Practice
Exotic animal expertise	(unethical)
Canine and Feline Specialty	Canine and Feline Practice
Feline medicine	Feline Practice
Dairy Practice Specialty	Dairy Practice
Canine and feline medicine	Canine and Feline Practice
Canine and feline medicine and surgery	Canine and Feline Practice
Canine and feline (or C/F)	Canine and Feline Practice
Companion Animal Practice	Canine and Feline Practice
Avian medicine and surgery	Avian Practice

Companion animal specialty	Canine and Feline Practice
Companion animal veterinary medicine	Canine and Feline Practice

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

The American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) advances the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence in species-oriented clinical practice.



STAY CONNECTED

