ARTICLE 3

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.001, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5a. Direct supervision. "Direct supervision" means:

(1) when a supervising veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician is in the immediate area and within audible or visual range of an animal and the unlicensed veterinary employee treating the animal;

(2) the supervising veterinarian has met the requirements of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship under section 156.16, subdivision 12; and

(3) the supervising veterinarian assumes responsibility for the professional care given to an animal by a person working under the veterinarian's direction.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.001, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7a. Licensed veterinary technician. "Licensed veterinary technician" means a person licensed by the board under section 156.077.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.001, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10b. Remote supervision. "Remote supervision" means:

(1) a veterinarian is not on the premises but is acquainted with the keeping and care of an animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept;

(2) the veterinarian has given written or oral instructions to a licensed veterinary technician for ongoing care of an animal and is available by telephone or other form of immediate communication; and

(3) the employee treating the animal timely enters into the animal's medical record documentation of the treatment provided and documentation is reviewed by the veterinarian.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.001, is amended by adding a subdivision to
read:

Subd. 12. *Veterinary technology.* "Veterinary technology" means the science and
practice of providing professional support to veterinarians, including the direct supervision
of unlicensed veterinary employees. Veterinary technology does not include veterinary
diagnosis, prognosis, surgery, or medication prescription.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.07, is amended to read:

**156.07 LICENSE RENEWAL.**

Persons licensed under this chapter shall conspicuously display their license in their
principal place of business.

Persons now qualified to practice veterinary medicine licensed in this state, or who shall
hereafter be licensed by the Board of Veterinary Medicine to engage in the practice as
veterinarians or veterinary technicians, shall periodically renew their license in a manner
prescribed by the board. The board shall establish license renewal fees and continuing
education requirements. The board may establish, by rule, an inactive license category, at
a lower fee, for licensees not actively engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine or
veterinary technology within the state of Minnesota. The board may assess a charge for
delinquent payment of a renewal fee.

Any person who is licensed to practice veterinary medicine or veterinary technology in
this state pursuant to this chapter, shall be entitled to receive a license to continue to practice
upon making application to the board and complying with the terms of this section and rules
of the board.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Sec. 6. *[156.0721] INSTITUTIONAL LICENSURE.*

Subdivision 1. Application and eligibility. (a) Any person who seeks to practice
veterinary medicine while employed by the University of Minnesota and who is not eligible
for a regular license shall make a written application to the board for an institutional license
using forms provided for that purpose or in a format accepted by the board. The board shall
issue an institutional license to practice veterinary medicine to an applicant who:

1. has obtained the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent from a
nonaccredited college of veterinary medicine. A graduate from an accredited college and
an applicant who has earned ECFVG or PAVE certificates should apply for a regular license
to practice veterinary medicine;

2. has passed the Minnesota Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination;

(b) Any person who seeks to practice veterinary technology in this state pursuant to this chapter, shall be entitled to receive a license to continue to practice
upon making application to the board and complying with the terms of this section and rules
of the board.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2026.

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1. has obtained the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent from a
nonaccredited college of veterinary medicine. A graduate from an accredited college and
an applicant who has earned ECFVG or PAVE certificates should apply for a regular license
to practice veterinary medicine;

2. has passed the Minnesota Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination;
A person of good moral character, as attested by five notarized reference letters from adults not related to the applicant, at least two of whom are licensed veterinarians in the jurisdiction where the applicant is currently practicing or familiar with the applicant’s clinical abilities as evidenced in clinical rotations.

(4) has paid the license application fee;

(5) provides proof of employment by the University of Minnesota;

(6) certifies that the applicant understands and agrees that the institutional license is valid only for the practice of veterinary medicine associated with the applicant's employment as a faculty member, intern, resident, or locum of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine or other unit of the University of Minnesota;

(7) provides proof of graduation from a veterinary college;

(8) completed a criminal background check as defined in section 214.075; and

(9) provides other information and proof as the board may require by rules and regulations.

(b) The University of Minnesota may submit the applications of its employees who seek an institutional license in a compiled format acceptable to the board, with any license application fees in a single form of payment.

(c) The fee for a license issued under this subdivision is the same as for a regular license to practice veterinary medicine in the state. License payment and renewal deadlines, late payment fees, and other license requirements are also the same as for a regular license to practice veterinary medicine.

(d) The University of Minnesota may be responsible for timely payment of renewal fees and submission of renewal forms.

Subd. 2. Scope of practice. (a) An institutional license holder may practice veterinary medicine only as related to the license holder's regular function at the University of Minnesota. A person holding only an institutional license in this state must be remunerated for the practice of veterinary medicine in the state solely from state, federal, or institutional funds and not from the patient-owner beneficiary of the license holder's practice efforts.

(b) A license issued under this section must be canceled by the board upon receipt of information from the University of Minnesota that the holder of the license has left or is otherwise no longer employed at the University of Minnesota in this state.

(c) An institutional license holder must abide by all laws governing the practice of veterinary medicine in the state and is subject to the same disciplinary action as any other veterinarian licensed in the state.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section is effective July 1, 2025.
Sec. 7. [156.076] DIRECT SUPERVISION; UNLICENSED VETERINARY
EMPLOYEES.
(a) An unlicensed veterinary employee may only administer medication or render
auxiliary or supporting assistance under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian or
licensed veterinary technician.
(b) This section does not prohibit:
1. The performance of generalized nursing tasks ordered by the veterinarian and
performed by an unlicensed employee on inpatient animals during the hours when a
veterinarian is not on the premises; or
2. Under emergency conditions, an unlicensed employee from rendering lifesaving aid
and treatment to an animal in the absence of a veterinarian if the animal is in a life-threatening
condition and requires immediate treatment to sustain life or prevent further injury.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Subdivision 1. Licensure; practice. (a) The board shall issue a license to practice as a
veterinary technician to an applicant who satisfies the requirements in this section and those
imposed by the board in rule. A licensed veterinary technician may practice veterinary
technology. A person may not use the title "veterinary technician" or the abbreviation "LVT"
unless licensed by the board.
(b) The board may adopt by rule additional or temporary alternative licensure
requirements or definitions for veterinary technician titles.

Subd. 2. Applicants; qualifications. Application for a license to practice veterinary
technology in this state shall be made to the board on a form furnished by the board and
accompanied by evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is at least 18 years of
age, is of good moral character, and has:
1. Graduated from a veterinary technology program accredited or approved by the
American Veterinary Medical Association or Canadian Veterinary Medical Association;
2. Received a passing score for the Veterinary Technician National Examination;
3. Received a passing score for the Minnesota Veterinary Technician Jurisprudence
Examination; and
4. Completed a criminal background check.

Subd. 3. Required with application. A completed application must contain the following
information and material:
(1) the application fee set by the board, which is not refundable if permission to take the
jurisprudence examination is denied for good cause;
(2) proof of graduation from a veterinary technology program accredited or approved
by the American Veterinary Medical Association or Canadian Veterinary Medical
Association;
(3) affidavits from at least two licensed veterinarians and three adults who are not related
to the applicant that establish how long, when, and under what circumstances the references
have known the applicant and any other facts that may enable the board to determine the
applicant's qualifications; and
(4) if the applicant has served in the armed forces, a copy of the applicant's discharge
papers.

Subd. 4. Temporary alternative qualifications. (a) The board shall consider an
application for licensure submitted by a person before July 1, 2031, if the person provides
evidence satisfactory to the board that the person:
(1) is a certified veterinary technician in good standing with the Minnesota Veterinary
Medical Association; or
(2) has at least 4,160 hours actively engaged in the practice of veterinary technology
within the previous five years.
(b) Each applicant under this subdivision must also submit to the board affidavits from
at least two licensed veterinarians and three adults who are not related to the applicant that
establish how long, when, and under what circumstances the references have known the
applicant and any other facts that may enable the board to determine the applicant's
qualifications.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.
(3) affidavits of two licensed practicing doctors of veterinary medicine or veterinary technicians residing in the United States or Canadian licensing jurisdiction in which the applicant is or was most recently practicing, attesting that they are well acquainted with the applicant, that the applicant is a person of good moral character, and that the applicant has been actively engaged in practicing or teaching in such jurisdiction;

(4) a certificate from the agency that regulates the conduct of practice of veterinary technology in the jurisdiction in which the applicant is or was most recently practicing, stating that the applicant is in good standing and is not the subject of disciplinary action or pending disciplinary action;

(5) a certificate from all other jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a currently active license or held a license within the past ten years, stating that the applicant is and was in good standing and has not been subject to disciplinary action;

(6) in lieu of the certificates in clauses (4) and (5), certification from the Veterinary Information Verification Agency that the applicant's licensure is in good standing;

(7) a fee as set by the board in form of check or money order payable to the board, no part of which shall be refunded should the application be denied;

(8) score reports on previously taken national examinations in veterinary technology, certified by the Veterinary Information Verification Agency or evidence of employment as a veterinary technician for at least three years;

(9) proof that the applicant received a passing score for the Minnesota Veterinary Technician Jurisprudence Examination; and

(10) proof of a completed criminal background check.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Authorized activities. No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit:

(a) a person from rendering necessary gratuitous assistance in the treatment of any animal when the assistance does not amount to prescribing, testing for, or diagnosing, operating, or vaccinating and when the attendance of a licensed veterinarian cannot be procured;

(b) a person who is a regular student in an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine from performing duties or actions assigned by instructors or preceptors or working under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian;

(c) a veterinarian regularly licensed in another jurisdiction from consulting with a licensed veterinarian in this state;

(3) affidavits of two licensed practicing doctors of veterinary medicine or veterinary technicians residing in the United States or Canadian licensing jurisdiction in which the applicant is or was most recently practicing, attesting that they are well acquainted with the applicant, that the applicant is a person of good moral character, and that the applicant has been actively engaged in practicing or teaching in such jurisdiction;

(4) a certificate from the agency that regulates the conduct of practice of veterinary technology in the jurisdiction in which the applicant is or was most recently practicing, stating that the applicant is in good standing and is not the subject of disciplinary action or pending disciplinary action;

(5) a certificate from all other jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a currently active license or held a license within the past ten years, stating that the applicant is and was in good standing and has not been subject to disciplinary action;

(6) in lieu of the certificates in clauses (4) and (5), certification from the Veterinary Information Verification Agency that the applicant's licensure is in good standing;

(7) a fee as set by the board in form of check or money order payable to the board, no part of which shall be refunded should the application be denied;

(8) score reports on previously taken national examinations in veterinary technology, certified by the Veterinary Information Verification Agency or evidence of employment as a veterinary technician for at least three years;

(9) proof that the applicant received a passing score for the Minnesota Veterinary Technician Jurisprudence Examination; and

(10) proof of a completed criminal background check.
(d) the owner of an animal and the owner's regular employee from caring for and
administering to the animal belonging to the owner, except where the ownership of the
animal was transferred for purposes of circumventing this chapter;

(e) veterinarians who are in compliance with subdivision 4, section 156.0721 and who
are employed by the University of Minnesota from performing their duties with the College
of Veterinary Medicine, College of Agriculture, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory,
Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural Extension Service, Medical School, School
of Public Health, School of Nursing, or other unit within the university; or a person from
lecturing or giving instructions or demonstrations at the university or in connection with a
continuing education course or seminar to veterinarians or pathologists at the University of
Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory,

(f) any person from selling or applying any pesticide, insecticide or herbicide;

(g) any person from engaging in bona fide scientific research or investigations which
reasonably requires experimentation involving animals;

(h) any employee of a licensed veterinarian from performing duties other than diagnosis,
prescription or surgical correction under the direction and supervision of the veterinarian,
who shall be responsible for the performance of the employee;

(i) a graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine from working under the direct
personal instruction, control, or supervision of a veterinarian faculty member of the College
of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota in order to complete the requirements
necessary to obtain an ECFVG or PAVE certificate;

(j) a licensed chiropractor registered under section 148.01, subdivision 1a, from practicing
animal chiropractic; or

(k) a person certified by the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board under
chapter 144E from providing emergency medical care to a police dog wounded in the line
of duty.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.12, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Titles. It is unlawful for a person who has not received a professional degree
from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine, or ECFVG or PAVE
certification, or an institutional license under section 156.0721 to use any of the following
titles or designations: Veterinary, veterinarian, animal doctor, animal surgeon, animal dentist,
animal chiropractor, animal acupuncturist, or any other title, designation, word, letter,
abbreviation, sign, card, or device tending to indicate that the person is qualified to practice
veterinary medicine.

Sec. 12. REPEALER.

Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 156.12, subdivision 6, is repealed.
Sec. 13. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

(a) Sections 1 to 5 and sections 7 to 9 are effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Section 6 and sections 10 to 12 are effective July 1, 2025.