

## CHAPTER 156

### VETERINARIANS

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#### 156.001 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Terms.** Except where the context otherwise indicates, for the purposes of this chapter, and acts amendatory thereof, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.** "Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine" means a veterinary college or division of a university or college that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent and that conforms to the standards required for accreditation or approval by the American veterinary medical association.

Subd. 3. **Animal.** "Animal" does not mean poultry or birds of any kind.

Subd. 4. **Board.** "Board" means the state board of veterinary medicine.

Subd. 5. **Compensation.** "Compensation" includes but is not limited to all fees, monetary rewards, discounts, and emoluments received directly or indirectly.

Subd. 6. **ECFVG certificate.** "ECFVG certificate" means a certificate issued by the American veterinary medical association education commission for graduates of a foreign college of veterinary medicine, indicating that the holder has demonstrated knowledge and skill equivalent to that possessed by a graduate of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.

Subd. 7. **Foreign college of veterinary medicine.** "Foreign college of veterinary medicine" means a college of veterinary medicine other than an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.

Subd. 8. **Licensee.** "Licensee" means a person licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 9. **Operation.** "Operation" includes but is not limited to any act of cutting, scraping, or disturbing the intact body surface in any way, and any surgical or dental procedure, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

Subd. 10. **Practice of veterinary medicine.** "Practice of veterinary medicine" has the meaning given by section 156.12.

Subd. 11. **Veterinary medicine.** "Veterinary medicine" includes veterinary surgery, obstetrics, pathology, radiology, dentistry, ophthalmology, cardiology, dermatology, laboratory animal medicine, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine.

**History:** 1985 c 228 s 1

#### 156.02 APPLICANTS FOR LICENSE; QUALIFICATIONS.

Subdivision 1. Application for a license to practice veterinary medicine in this state shall be made in writing to the board of veterinary medicine upon a form furnished by the board, accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the applicant is at least 18 years of age, is of good moral character, and has one of the following:

(1) a diploma conferring the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, or an equivalent degree, from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine;

(2) an ECFVG certificate; or

(3) a certificate from the dean of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine stating that the applicant is a student in good standing expecting to be graduated at the completion of the next academic term of the college in which he is enrolled.

The application shall contain the information and material required by subdivision 2 and any other information that the board may, in its sound judgment, require. The application shall be filed with the secretary of the board at least 30 days before the date of the examination. If the board deems it advisable, it may require that such application be verified by the oath of the applicant.

*[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 228 s 2

### 156.081 REVOCATION; SUSPENSION.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1984]*

Subd. 2. The board may revoke or suspend a license for any of the following causes:

(1) The employment of fraud, misrepresentation or deception in obtaining such license.

(2) Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude or conviction of a felony, in which case the record shall be conclusive evidence of such conviction.

(3) Chronic inebriety or addiction to the use of habit forming drugs.

(4) Existence of professional connection with or the lending of one's name to any illegal practitioner of veterinary medicine and the various branches thereof.

(5) Violation or attempt to violate, directly or indirectly, any of the provisions of this chapter.

(6) Revocation by a sister state or territory of a license or certificate by virtue of which one is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in that state or territory, notwithstanding that such license or certificate did not support the application for license to practice in this state.

(7) Conviction of or cash compromise of a charge or violation of the Harrison Narcotic Act, regulating narcotics, in which case the record of such conviction or compromise, as the case may be, shall be conclusive evidence.

(8) Fraud or dishonesty in applying, treating, or reporting on tuberculin or other biological tests.

(9) Employment of anyone but a veterinarian licensed in the state of Minnesota to demonstrate the use of biologics in the treatment of animals.

(10) False or misleading advertising having for its purpose or intent deception or fraud.

(11) Habitual conduct reflecting unfavorably on the profession of veterinary medicine or conduct in violation of law or rules or regulations of the board.

(12) Conviction on a charge of cruelty to animals.

(13) Failure, after written notification by the board, to keep one's premises and all equipment therein in a clean and sanitary condition, according to reasonable standards adopted by the board.

(14) Fraud, deception, or incompetence in the practice of veterinary medicine.

(15) Unprofessional conduct as defined in rules adopted by the board.

A plea or verdict of guilty to a charge of a felony or of any offense involving moral turpitude is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section. The board may order the license suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal.

*[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 228 s 3

**156.09** [Repealed, 1985 c 228 s 5]

## **156.12 PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.**

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1984]*

Subd. 2. 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 his 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;

(d) the owner of an animal and the owner's regular employee from caring for and treating the animal belonging to the owner, except where the ownership of the animal was transferred for purposes of circumventing this chapter;

(e) veterinarians employed by the University of Minnesota from performing their duties with the college of veterinary medicine, college of agriculture, agricultural experiment station, agricultural extension service, medical school, school of public health, 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;

(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 his or her performance;

(i) a graduate of a foreign college of veterinary medicine from working under the direct personal instruction, control, or supervision of a licensed veterinarian in order to complete the requirements necessary to obtain an ECFVG certificate.

*[For text of subds 3 to 5, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 228 s 4