

Colorado Veterinary Licensing Requirements



Board Applications

1. State and National Requirements

- a)** To apply in Colorado, you must complete the online application, where you will upload proof of your Veterinary degree from an AVMA accredited college.
- b)** If you are NOT from an accredited veterinary college, you will need either a certificate of completion of the Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates program (ECFVG) OR certification from the Program for Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE), submitted to the VMB by the examination board along with your transcripts from said school.
- c)** In your application you will need to demonstrate that you have passed the NAVLE, which you can apply to take here. If you have passed the NAVLE in the past year, you are exempt from the application's competence requirements, options for which can be found listed here.
- d)** Online Application Portal.

2. Relevant Fees

- \$290 application fee, which includes the licensing fee.



Verify Additional Existing Veterinary Licenses:

If you are or have ever been licensed to practice in another state, U.S. territory, or Canadian province, verification forms must be uploaded through the online application portal.

Additional Required Testing:

If you took the NAVLE prior to 11/20/2000, you must also have taken and submit scores for the National Board Examination (NBE) and the Clinical Competency Test (CCT).

- You can apply to take these exams through the [AAVSB](#).

Mandatory Documentation:

After submitting your application, the board will conduct a criminal background check on you, information about which can be found [here](#).

Temporary License:


Following the COVID-19 Pandemic, [Executive Orders](#) were passed that allowed for the issuance of temporary licenses for Veterinarians.

- To apply for a temporary license, you must use the same [online application portal](#).
- You must be a graduate of an AVMA accredited college and meet all of the same qualifications for licensure as a full license.




FAQ:

“I’m licensed in another state within the U.S., and therefore have passed the NAVLE. Do I still need to complete a license application, and if so, which parts?”

-  Yes! In Colorado, if you have taken and passed the NAVLE since 11/20/2000, you are qualified to apply for a license, so long as you can demonstrate competency.
- Competency for Veterinarians actively practicing in other states should include active clinical practice for at least three of the past five years (leading up to your application).
 - Additionally, your license must be verified by the issuing state.

“What are the Continuing Education Requirements in CO?”

-  All fully-licensed veterinarians in CA are required to fulfill their CE, which entails 32 hours of CE practices every two years. Of these 32 hours, at least 26 must be scientific-based hours, which are clinically applicable.
- Any courses approved by the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) are automatically accepted by the Board.
 - Up to six of the 32 hours can be Practice Management/Professional Development courses.
 - One of the 32 hours must also include a Substance Use Prevention Training.
 - For a complete list of what constitutes a CE course, see [here](#).
 - All Colorado Veterinary Licenses expire on the last day of October (10/31), so CE must be completed every two years before this date, and there is a late fee if you fail to do so.

Please check your local requirements as state and national guidelines may have changed since last updated on 6/5/2023.