

# Hawaii Veterinary Licensing Requirements



## Board Applications

### 1. Application

Complete Application form found [here](#) (for initial license).

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must be 18 years or older.
2. **EDUCATION:** Must have graduated from an [AVMA accredited veterinary college](#), OR graduates of foreign colleges must meet the requirements of the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalent (PAVE). Your transcript or certification must be sent directly to Board from the applicable organization.
3. Pass the NAVLE and have your scores sent directly to the Board. To send your scores, you can use the [AAVSB's VAULT service](#) for a fee of \$99.

### 2. Relevant Fees

**\$310 to \$490** to become licensed in Hawaii

Consists of:

- \$100.00 application fee
- \$30.00 State Exam fee
- \$180 license fee if issued between July 1 and June 30 of even-numbered years
- \$360 license fee if issued between July 1 and June 30 of odd-numbered years



## Practicing Veterinarians

Education requirements can be bypassed if you have actively practiced in another state for 10 out of the last 12 years under a current license. You will need to submit a signed statement from that state's board attesting your work history with your license and a copy of the state's licensing laws.

## Additional Required Testing:

1. State of Hawaii Board of Veterinary Medicine Licensing Examination
  - a. Application must be approved by Board 60 days BEFORE taking the exam.
  - b. Once approved, you are eligible to take the exam for 2 years.
  - c. During this 2 year waiting period, you are eligible to practice veterinary medicine under a temporary permit while supervised by a fully licensed veterinarian.

Register for the exam [here](#) once you've obtained a login from the Hawaii State Board.

## Renewal & CE Requirements:

1. All veterinary licenses expire on June 30 of each even-numbered year. Licenses must be renewed prior to expiration, or license becomes invalid and you will be charged a late fee.
2. **\$360** fee to Renew or \$372 if late.
3. Renew license [online](#) or by mail using this [application](#). Online renewals process in 3 to 5 business days, mail renewals process in 14 to 21 business days.
4. Must complete **20 hours** of CE credits from [approved sponsor](#) prior to renewing. Requirement waived if you graduated within one year of your first license renewal.
5. You are responsible for documenting your own CE hours. Board conducts random audits.



## Temporary License:

- 1.** Once your application is approved, while waiting to take the Hawaii State Board Exam, you may work up to 2 years under a temporary license while under the supervision of a fully licensed veterinarian who must be physically present on the same island while practicing.
- 2. REQUIREMENTS:**
  - a. You must have graduated from an AVMA accredited veterinary college OR submit a certificate from ECFVG/PAVE OR be currently licensed in another state.
  - b. You must have passed the NAVLE.
  - c. Pay all fees and file all required documents for a Hawaii permanent license.
  - d. Provide letter of employment signed by supervising Hawaii-licensed veterinarian
- 3.** Temporary Permits are valid until the results of the Hawaii State Board Exam are known. Failure of this exam immediately terminates the temporary license.
- 4.** Temporary Permits are not renewable.


## Relief License:

The Board may issue a relief or courtesy permit to a veterinarian licensed in another state to work under the supervision of a Hawaii-licensed sponsor.


- 1.** Relief/courtesy permits valid for 30 days and can only be renewed once per year, not exceeding 60 total days in a 12 month period. More than two requests for relief or courtesy permits within two years constitutes evidence the applicant is actively practicing medicine in the state, and a Hawaii State License will be required.
- 2.** You cannot hold both a courtesy permit and a relief permit in the same 12 month period.
- 3.** For relief permits, the sponsor DOES NOT have to be present on the same island.

## FAQ:


### What happens if my application is missing required documents?

 If your application is missing documents, it will not be considered or reviewed. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all documents are received.


### What happens if I do not pass the Hawaii state examination?

 If you fail the Hawaii Board Examination, you must wait 3 months prior to retesting. You must repay the \$30 fee to retake the exam and register 60 days prior to taking it.

### What if my license is denied?

 If denied, you are entitled to a hearing. Send a written request for a hearing to the Board within 60 days of your denial.


### What if my license is not renewed in time?

 If you do not renew your license in time, it can be restored for up to 2 years by filing a **restoration application** and paying the required **\$460 fee**.

After 2 years, the license is terminated, and you must reapply as a new applicant.

## FAQ Continued:

### Applying without the NAVLE from out-of-state

 If you passed a National Board Examination prior to the NAVLE and if the Clinical Competency Test was not required at the time you were licensed in another state, the Board requires:

1. Your NBE scores be sent directly to the Board
2. A statement or resume with your experience in veterinary medicine
3. Notarized statements from at least two veterinary colleagues attesting your veterinary experience for 10 out of the last 12 years.
4. List of all licenses you hold or held at any time on the application

## Contact

### Hawaii Board of Veterinary Medicine

DCCA, PVL Licensing Branch  
P.O. Box 3469  
Honolulu, HI 96801

(808)586-3000

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