

North Carolina Veterinary Licensing Requirements



Board Applications

1. State and National Requirements

- a)** If you have graduated from an AVMA accredited college, you must have proof of attendance and graduation and a transcript, which should be submitted by your 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, or sufficient clinical education equal to that of students in AVMA accredited schools.
- c)** You can find the online application here.
- d)** For a comprehensive list of application qualifications, see here.
- e)** Once you submit an application, you will have six months to complete it as well as the State Laws Exam before your application will expire.

2. Relevant Fees

- \$250 fee to take the state licensing exam.



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 submitted by the respective licensing boards.

Additional Required Testing:

1. Prior to applying, you must have passed the NAVLE (for previously unlicensed applicants, you must have passed within the last five years).
 - You can apply for this exam through the [ICVA](#).
2. The state licensing exam will be sent to you once you start your application for licensure.
3. The state licensing exam takes thirty minutes and consists of fifty multiple choice and true/false questions. For examples of the exam, see sample questions [here](#).

Mandatory Documentation:


In North Carolina, you are required to submit your fingerprints for a criminal background check and then submit those to the board. You can do that via the application portal.

Temporary License:

- In North Carolina, you may apply for a temporary license if you are scheduled to take the state exam but are waiting for your testing date, in which case you would follow typical application instructions and then request a temporary license through the portal. There is a \$150 fee for temporary licenses.
- For a sixty-day temporary permit, if you are a non-resident of North Carolina, you may apply via the application portal. In this case, you must hold a license in another state and have proof of your veterinary degree. For more information, see [here](#).


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?”

 If you are licensed in another state, you can either apply for a full license, or a sixty-day temporary permit in NC.

- A temporary permit requires verified proof of previous/current licenses in other states, as well as the standard requirements for a license, such as a background check and NAVLE scores.
- Additionally, the states in which you currently hold a license will need to submit verification of your license to the GVMB.

“What are the Continuing Education requirements in North Carolina?”

 All fully-licensed veterinarians in North Carolina are required to fulfill their CE, which entails 20 hours of CE every year. Of these 20 hours, ten may be online, but of those ten five must be “interactive” online courses. Additionally, two hours of these courses must focus on substance abuse and prevention.

- To submit an application for renewal, you may use the [Licensure Portal](#).
- Currently, due to COVID-19, the NCVMB has revoked the limitations on online training requirements, so your credits may be completely fulfilled online. (See [here](#) for the announcement).
- To apply for license renewal, beyond completing your CE there is a \$170 renewal fee to be paid with your application.
- For more information regarding CE requirements and programs, please see [here](#).

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