

New Jersey Veterinary Licensing Requirements



Board Applications

1. Application

1. Register with the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs to [obtain your log-in](#).
2. Complete the [application online](#).
3. Send application, school transcripts/license verification(s), and test scores electronically to VeterinaryMed@dca.njoag.gov AND mail a paper copy of application with check to:

State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners | P.O. Box 45020 | Newark, New Jersey 07101

All documents must be submitted within 6 months. It's recommended you submit as much supporting information as possible if you answered "Yes" on any of the questions.

Requirements

1. **RECENT GRADUATES:** Must have graduated from an [AVMA accredited veterinary college](#) in the current academic year OR meet the requirements of either the ECFVG or PAVE. Transcripts/certificates must be sent directly from the institution and in English.
2. **RECIPROCIITY APPLICANTS:** Applicants who hold licenses in another state, territory, or Washington D.C. must be licensed in good standing, and you must have practiced veterinary medicine for 2 of the past 5 years. The state board(s) must submit license documentation directly to the New Jersey Board.
3. Must pass the NAVLE within 10 years prior to initial application. You can send your scores using the [AAVSB's VAULT service](#) for a fee of \$99.

It takes about 5 to 7 weeks for licenses to be processed.



2. Relevant Fees

1. TOTAL: \$218.75 to \$343.75

- a. Application Fee: \$75 (paid by check or money order)
- b. Criminal Background Check: \$18.75
- c. Registration fee (sent after application approved): \$250 or \$125 in second year of renewal period

2. Make checks payable to the "State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners"

3. Other Documentation

1. Criminal History Background check and Fingerprint Scan:

- a. After applying, you will receive a letter with instructions to schedule an appointment to have your fingerprints scanned. The scan takes 7 to 10 days to process, so it's recommended you schedule your fingerprint scan appointment as soon as possible.
- b. There are currently 17 eligible fingerprint scan locations in New Jersey, you don't need to wait for an appointment near you.

2. If your name has changed, include any associated documents.

4. Additional Required Testing

1. **New Jersey Jurisprudence Orientation**, found [here](#).
 - a. Must answer all questions in a single online session.
 - b. Must receive a score of 70 or above to pass.
 - c. If you fail the exam, you may retake it but will have to re-pay the \$75 application fee.

Renewal and Reinstatement

RENEWAL: Licenses must be renewed every 2 years and expire on June 30th of odd years.

1. Renewal forms are mailed 60 days prior to expiration; keep your address current.
2. Renewal Fee: **\$250**
3. Must include name, contact info, and other details for each veterinary clinic where you intend to practice 500 hours or more in the upcoming two years.
4. **LATE RENEWAL:** You may renew for up to 30 days after your license expires and practice during this time but must pay a \$100 late fee. After this period, your license is suspended.

REINSTATEMENT/REACTIVATION: Complete [Reinstatement Application](#) and pay **\$250** reinstatement fee (\$125 in 2nd year of renewal period) + **\$250** per lapsed period licensure.

Must include:

1. If you have held a license in another state during the lapsed period, you must submit a letter of good standing from all states where you've been licensed.
2. Signed and dated certification of each job held during lapsed period.
3. Proof of CE credits (can be waived if you completed another state's CE requirements).
4. If inactive for more than 5 years, you must retake the Jurisprudence Orientation
5. A new criminal background check is required for each renewal period (\$18.75 fee).


CE Requirements:

1. **20 hours** of CE are required every 2 year renewal period. Only 10 hours are required if you obtained your license during the second year of a biennial renewal period.
 - a. At least 17 hours must be in medicine, surgery, or dentistry.
 - b. No more than 4 hours can be in business management courses.
 - c. 1 hour must be on the topic of prescription opioid drugs.
2. Courses must be approved or sponsored by the NJVMA, AVMA, AAVSB, RACE, VIN, or a college or university. CE credit can also be earned by:
 - a. 1 hour of CE (5 hours max) can be earned by completing a self-assessment test from a peer reviewed journal issued by an AVMA approved veterinary schools
 - b. 3 hours of CE can be earned by writing an article in a peer reviewed journal.
 - c. Up to 10 CE hours can be earned teaching a new CE program approved by one of the above organizations. 1 hour earned per hour taught.
 - d. Up to 2 hours CE earned for providing free veterinary care to a person eligible for any program for public, family, or medical assistance OR a feral/stray cat without an owner in a shelter, pound, or municipally approved cat colony. 1 hour CE earned per two hours volunteer work performed.
3. Retain all documentation and certificates received.
4. CE requirements can be waived by the Board for good cause such as hardship, illness, disability, or military service. Must apply for waiver 90 days before your license expires.




FAQ:

Do you need to be a citizen of the United States to be eligible for a license?

 No. You can obtain a veterinary license in New Jersey regardless of citizenship. Social security numbers are not required. Even undocumented individuals are eligible.

What if I have been arrested for or convicted of a crime?

 You must submit a detailed letter of explanation, including all relevant police reports, judgements, sentencing orders, termination of probation orders, and evidence of rehabilitation to the Board.

Contact

Mailing Address:

State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

P.O. Box 45020

Newark, New Jersey 07101

PHONE: (973) 504-6500

EMAIL: MaGrathJ@dca.njoag.gov, VeterinaryMed@dca.njoag.gov

Please check your local requirements as state and national guidelines may have changed since last updated on 8/4/2023.