



Questions and Answers on the Newly Revised Board of Veterinary Medicine Rules for Veterinary Technician Licensure June 21, 2018

Mandatory Continuing Medical Education Has Now Become Law in Michigan

On March 15, 2016, Governor Snyder signed Public Acts 47 and 49 into law requiring continuing medical education (CME) for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. As of June 21, 2018 the Administrative Rules related to CME have now been approved by the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

When will mandatory CME take effect?

Beginning in 2020, an applicant for a veterinary technician license renewal who held a license for the 3-year period immediately preceding the expiration date of the license shall have earned, within the 3-year period immediately preceding the date of the application, 15 hours of approved continuing education.

How much CME will veterinary technicians need to comply with the law?

Veterinary technicians will be required to complete 15 hours of CME every 3 years.

How often will I need to renew my license?

License renewals for technicians will occur every 3 years. Previously licenses were renewed every 2 years.

What will be counted as CME?

Link to revised rules for veterinary technicians: <https://michvma.org/mandatory-ce>

However, MVMA has tried to simplify it by providing the following.

Overall rules for veterinary technicians:

- No more than 12 hours can be earned during a 24-hour period.
- Credit for a program or activity that is substantially identical to a program or activity which the licensee has already earned during the renewal period will not be granted.
- A minimum of 10 hours must be scientific in nature (includes the science of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease as it relates directly to a patient or topics such as public veterinary practice, epidemiology, food safety, public health, animal welfare or antimicrobial stewardship).
- A minimum of 5 hours shall be completed in person.

All CE given by the following entities will count:

- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- AAVSB Registry of Continuing Education (RACE)
- World Veterinary Association (WVA)
- Michigan Association of Veterinary Technicians (MAVT)
- Local, state or regional professional association

- Member Institutions of the Association of the American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)
- AVMA constituent allied organizations and recognized veterinary specialty organizations
- A state veterinary board of another state
- AVMA accredited veterinary technician program

A maximum of 2 hours of CE may be counted from programs given by the following entities:

- American Medical Association
- Michigan State Medical Society
- Accreditation Council for CME
- American Osteopathic Association
- Michigan Osteopathic Association
- Educational courses offered by regionally accredited college and universities relating to the husbandry of food producing animals

Other activities that count:

- A maximum of 5 hours of CE is granted for individuals presenting a CE program related to practice as a veterinary technician for most of the above-mentioned entities (see details in rules). This cannot be the licensee's primary employment function.
- A maximum of 5 hours of CE is granted for serving as the primary author or 2 hours as the secondary author on initial publication of an article related to practice as a veterinary technician in a peer-reviewed journal.
- A maximum of 5 hours of CE is granted for serving as the primary author or 2 hours as the secondary author on initial publication of a chapter related to practice as a veterinary technician in a professional or peer-reviewed text book.
- A maximum of 5 hours of CE is granted for individuals serving as a clinical instructor for veterinary technician students. This cannot be the licensee's primary employment function.
- 2 hours of CE is granted for individuals participating on a state or national committee, board, council or association related to practice as a veterinary technician.

What is considered proof of CE?

A number of veterinarians and veterinary technicians will be randomly audited each year for proof that they have complied with the CME requirements. If audited, the licensee shall submit a copy of a letter or certificate of completion showing the licensee's name, number of CE hours earned, the sponsor's name or name of the organization that approved the activity and the date on which the program was held or the activity completed. If the CE is for presenting a CE program, authoring an article or chapter, acting as an instructor, or participating on a group see the full rules for specific information.

Will MVMA be providing additional CME options to help veterinary technicians comply?

Absolutely! In addition to increasing the number of in-person educational opportunities, MVMA now has an online CE portal available exclusively to members/affiliates. On our portal, there are approximately 1,200 courses you can choose from, with close to 300 that are completely free. In addition, the portal will track your CE and you can even enter it from external sources to track your compliance. If you have not already created an account and would like to take advantage of this member/affiliate benefit, [you can access the portal by logging in with your MVMA login information](#). If you need assistance, please contact us at mvma@michvma.org.