

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

9:30AM - 10:30AM

OPEN SESSION

MEETING AGENDA

HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

In-person meetings will resume in FY 2024, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.

In-person meetings will be at 2201 Shannon Place SE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20020.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:

This meeting is available by web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=meaac4d7d4904dd32c60e11d87ee69c30>

This meeting is available by phone:

Call in Number:

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

BOARD MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

	DANIEL TEICH, DVM — CHAIRPERSON	
	SOPHIE KINDBERG-HANLON, BVetMed PGCertSAS MRCVS — BOARD MEMBER	
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
	AMY HAYWOOD, LVT — VETERINARY TECHNICIAN BOARD MEMBER	
	BLAIR ZERVOS — CONSUMER MEMBER	

STAFF MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE:

STAFF MEMBERS:

	AYANNA BENNETT, MD, MSPH, FAAP — DIRECTOR	
	J. SAM HURLEY, MPH, EMPS, NRP — SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
	AISHA NIXON, MPT, CPM — ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	
	VITO DELVENTO, DVM, MS — EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
	JOY MCFARLANE-MILLS, BS, CPM, ILAM — PROGRAM MANAGER	
	WHITNEY MOORE — INVESTIGATOR	
	SAHAR MAJID — HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	

LEGAL STAFF / ATTENDANCE:

LEGAL STAFF MEMBERS:

	ED RICH, ESQ — BOARD ATTORNEY	
	KERA JOHNSON — LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS SPECIALIST	
	WARNER DIXON — POLICY ANALYST	

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OPEN SESSION AGENDA NOVEMBER 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-1120-01	<u>INTRODUCTIONS</u> A. CALL TO ORDER B. PRESIDING C. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT i. Dr. Dan Teich ii. Sophie Kindberg-Hanlon iii. Amy Haywood iv. Blair Zervos D. QUORUM E. STAFF PRESENT i. Ayanna Bennett ii. Sam Hurley iii. Aisha Nixon iv. Dr. Vito DelVento v. Joy Mc Farlane vi. Sahar Majid vii. Whitney Moore viii. Ed Rich ix. Kera Johnson x. Warner Dixon F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE
OS-1120-02	Board Action: Acceptance of November 20, 2025 Open Session agenda.

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS		
OS-1120-03	<u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u> Board Action: Consideration of Open Session minutes from September 11, 2025 meeting.	
OS-1120-04	<u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u>	
OS-1120-05	<u>SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT:</u>	
OS-1120-06	<u>ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u>	
OS-1120-07	<u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u> <i>Census</i> <u>Veterinarians</u> • Active Licenses: 591 • Paid Inactive: 24 • Expired Licenses: 667 • New Applications Under Review: 01	

	<u>Veterinary Technicians</u> • Active Certifications: 13 • Under Review: 14	
OS-1120-08	<u>ANIMAL SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT (ASP)</u> ONLINE DOG LICENSING APPLICATIONS DC Health, Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) is excited to announce the opening of our new online dog licensing system. All dog owners in the District are required to submit their dog registration or renewal applications by going to the below link and submitting an online application. https://dchealth.force.com/animalservices/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fanimalservices%2Fs%2F	
OS-1120-09	<u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT</u>	
OS-1120-10	<u>BOARD COUNSELOR'S REPORT</u> Commercial animal facility regulations Maryland Criminal Code on Animals Topics of Legislative Priorities: • Telehealth Policy	

	○ AAVSB telehealth regulations ○ Revision — Telemedicine regulations for veterinarians ● Cosmetic treatments on pets ● Artificial intelligence in veterinary medicine i. Client Communication and Education: - Chatbots powered by AI can provide instant answers to common pet-related questions. - Educational resources can be personalized based on an individual pet's needs. ii. Natural Language Processing (NLP): - NLP algorithms can analyze veterinary literature, case reports, and clinical notes to extract relevant information. - Veterinarians can benefit from AI-generated summaries and recommendations. iii. Diagnostics and Imaging: AI algorithms can analyze medical images (such as X-rays, MRIs, and ultrasounds) to assist veterinarians in diagnosing conditions like fractures, tumors, or organ abnormalities. iv. Predictive Analytics: - AI models can predict disease outbreaks, track disease trends, and assess risk factors in animal populations for example, predicting the spread of infectious diseases or identifying at-risk animals for preventive measures. v. Treatment Planning: - AI can recommend personalized treatment plans based on an individual animal's health history, genetics, and response to previous treatments. - It can also suggest optimal drug dosages and monitor treatment effectiveness. vi. Health Monitoring: - Wearable devices and sensors equipped with AI can continuously monitor vital signs, detect anomalies, and alert veterinarians to potential health issues.	
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	- This real-time monitoring enhances early disease detection and intervention. vii. Research and Drug Discovery: - AI assists in analyzing large datasets, identifying genetic markers, and predicting drug interactions. - It accelerates research and drug development for both animals and humans. viii. Population Health Management: - AI helps track population health trends, assess vaccination coverage, and manage disease control programs. - It contributes to better overall animal welfare.	
OS-1120-11 (a)	<u>Vet Tech Regulation — Scope of Practice</u> On October 19, 2025, Ms. Rachel Scott inquired about the scope of practice in the veterinary technician profession. Her email and copy of the skills list for the current application year for both Emergency & Critical Care and Anesthesia are attached for Board’s review.	
OS-1120-11 (b)	<u>Dentistry Procedures</u> Nowhere do the regs list the ability to perform Dental Hygiene procedures, but it does list single root tooth extractions — 11208.4 (h) Single tooth root extraction should have an exception for canine teeth. 11208 SCOPE OF PRACTICE 11208.4 A supervising veterinarian may delegate the following functions and duties to a veterinary technician to perform, at a minimum, under the veterinarian’s indirect supervision:	

	(h) Extraction of single-rooted, mobile teeth	
OS-1120-11 (c)	<u>Rabies administration</u>	
OS-1120-12	<u>ADOPTION OF NEW CHARACTER REFERENCE FORM FOR APPLICANTS</u> Board Action: The Board will review the proposed Character Reference Form and determine whether to adopt it. Background: The current Veterinary Reference Form lacks detail, requiring only the names and contact information of the applicant’s professional referees. To gain deeper insight into an applicant’s professional character, a new, more comprehensive form—modeled after the Board of Medicine's version—has been developed. The Board is now tasked with deciding whether to implement this updated form. <u>Update:</u> On July 17, 2025, Board decided to table the item for future review.	
OS-1120-13	<u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>	

OS-1120-14	<u>HOUSEKEEPING</u> Future Board meeting dates: • January 15, 2026 (Virtual) • March 19, 2026 (In-Person) • May 21, 2026 (Virtual) • July 16, 2026 (Virtual) • September 17, 2026 (Virtual) • November 19, 2026 (In-Person)	
OS-1120-15	<u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u> <u>NAVLE® Turns 25</u> The North American Veterinary Licensing Examination celebrates its 25th anniversary during the October–November testing window. <u>ICVA Board Updates</u> New leadership includes a Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and four newly appointed board members. <u>NAVLE® Practice Analysis</u> A vital process that ensures the exam remains relevant and reflective of current veterinary practice standards. <u>Communication Skills Taskforce</u> Led by Dr. Cindy Adams, the taskforce has made two significant advancements in assessing veterinary communication skills. <u>Assessment Development Committee</u> Dr. Stacey Byers has been appointed as the new Chair, succeeding Dr. Brad Heins.	

	<u>NAVLE Retake Policy</u> Beginning with the March 2026 NAVLE testing window, all candidates will be granted five (5) new opportunities to take the NAVLE, regardless of their prior testing history. Any test attempts made before December 1, 2025, will not count toward this new five-attempt limit. This policy is based on a comprehensive review of candidate feedback and NAVLE data.	
OS-1120-16	<u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u>	
OS-1120-17	<u>AAVSB UPDATES – FYI</u> <u>AAVSB Resolutions</u> Resolution 2025-1: Membership Expansion Opposes expanding AAVSB membership beyond North America. Urges focus on improving services for current Member Boards with clear strategies and measurable goals. Resolution 2025-2: Veterinary Professional Associate (VPA) Rejects endorsement of the VPA/mid-level practitioner role. Sets conditions for future consideration: accredited education, regulatory oversight, and broad Member Board support. Resolution 2025-3: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) Affirms veterinary practice occurs where the patient is located. Requires veterinarians to be licensed in the patient’s jurisdiction. Calls for enforceable standards ensuring access to in-person care when necessary. Resolution 2025-4: Board Composition Recommends inclusion of veterinary technicians on Member Boards alongside veterinarians and public members.	

Encourages AAVSB to promote this inclusive board structure across jurisdictions.

AAVSB RPC 5-Year Review Summary

Reviewed & Updated Model Regulations:

Appropriate Use of Opioids

Scope of Practice for Veterinary Technicians

Delegation of Tasks to Unlicensed Staff (*New addition*)

Practice Act Model (PAM) Updates:

Proposed revisions to Sections 104, 105, 106, and 108 to align with the updated model regulations.

Key Notes:

Tracked changes are available for PAM and Opioid regulations.

Scope of Practice for Veterinary Technicians was extensively revised—redline not provided due to volume.

Updates reflect insights from the Veterinary Team Task Survey and expert contributions.

Call for Feedback:

Executive Directors and Registrars are asked to share the documents with board volunteers.

Feedback is welcome from boards or individuals.

Deadline: December 1, 2025

Submission: Via designated [feedback form](#).

Upcoming Discussion:

Event: VetBoard Connect

Date: October 7, 2025

Time: 12:00–1:00 PM CDT

Presenters: Dr. Kelly Gottschalk (Chair) & Dr. Lesley Sawa (Vice Chair)

Leadership Update

- **Dr. Timothy Kolb** (Ohio) began his term as President following the 2025 Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- **Dr. Sheila Dodson** (Kansas) was elected President-elect and will advance to President and Immediate Past President in future terms. She has served with AAVSB since 2015 and owns Mariposa Veterinary Wellness Center.

Newly Elected Directors

- **Dr. Christina Bradbury** (California): Member of the California Veterinary Medical Board since 2018; owns Sierra Mobile Veterinary Specialists.
- **Robin Lazaro, RVT, VTS (ECC)** (North Carolina): Active in AAVSB committees since 2022; long-time member of the NC Veterinary Medical Board.
- **Dr. Michael Pfander** (Missouri): AAVSB contributor since 2013; Chairperson of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Board; owns Cottage Veterinary Hospital.

Full 2025–2026 Board of Directors

Officers & Executive Committee

- Frank Richardson, DVM (Nova Scotia) – Immediate Past President
- Timothy Kolb, DVM (Ohio) – President
- Sheila Dodson, DVM (Kansas) – President-elect
- Amy Haywood, LVT (District of Columbia) – Treasurer

Directors

- Christina Bradbury, DVM (California)
- Mark Chmielewicz, DVM (New York)
- Robin Lazaro, RVT, VTS (ECC) (North Carolina)
- Holly Lunsford, DVM (Oklahoma)
- Jennifer Pedigo, EMBA (Nevada)
- Michael Pfander, DVM (Missouri)
- James T. Penrod, CAE, FASLA – CEO & Secretary (non-voting)

Bylaws & Resolutions Committee

- The committee is conducting a comprehensive review of the AAVSB Bylaws.
- Member Boards are encouraged to submit suggestions by **December 31, 2025**.
- Proposed changes will be presented at the **2026 Delegate Assembly**.

VTNE Score Access

- VTNE scores are available via the AAVSB portal the day after testing.
- Executive Directors can request staff access by emailing **vettech@aavsb.org**.

Upcoming Event

- **VMX Conference** in Orlando, FL: **January 17–21, 2026** (Visit Booth 1626)

Global Task Force

To advance our growth and initiatives, the AAVSB is exploring partnerships with international jurisdictions. To guide this work, we are creating a Global Task Force composed primarily of a diverse group of current Board members and Executive Directors/Registrars from across the U.S. and Canada.

If you're interested in being part of this important initiative, please complete [the form](#) in full before November 30th to be considered for participation in January 2026.

Model Documents Feedback Requested

The AAVSB Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) has completed drafts for the 5-year review of the following topics:

- Appropriate Use of Opioids Model Regulation
- Scope of Practice for Veterinary Technicians Model Regulation
- Delegation of Tasks to Unlicensed Staff Model Regulation (New)

Feedback may be submitted as a board or as individuals. **Feedback is due December 1, 2025 and should be submitted through this form:**

[Feedback form](#)

Bylaws and Resolutions Webinar

The AAVSB Bylaws and Resolution Committee is hosting a Bylaws and Resolutions Webinar on December 2.

The webinar will include:

- General overview of Bylaws and Resolutions facilitated by Dale Atkinson, Esq, AAVSB Legal Counsel
- Overview of the Call for Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions process
- Administrative timeline of the Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions
- Update on the Comprehensive review of the AAVSB Bylaws by the Bylaws and Resolution Committee

OS-1120-18

AAVMC UPDATES – FYI

AAVMC’s New Website Is Live

We are pleased to announce the launch of AAVMC’s new digital experience—a two-phase initiative designed to make it easier, faster, and more rewarding to engage with us online.

Phase I: A Redesigned Website — Now Live

Phase II: Personalized Member Portal — Coming Next Month

Following the website launch, we are rolling out a secure, one-stop member portal with features designed around your needs, including:

- One login for all online services
- 24/7 self-service tools
- A universal shopping cart for events, resources, and dues
- Enhanced member directories
- And much more!

2026 AAVMC Awards Nominations Open

Nominations are now being accepted for four prestigious awards recognizing excellence in research, education, service, and diversity.

Deadline: October 9

Winners will be honored at the 2026 AAVMC Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Leadership Academy Launches New Year

The 2025 Leadership Academy welcomed 38 new participants and celebrated 30 spring graduates.

Funded by Elanco, the program focuses on leadership development in veterinary medicine.

Fall cohort graduates in April 2026.

SOC Implementation Strategies Guide

Offers insights to support Spectrum of Care curricular changes.

Topics include financial health, DEI goals, well-being, recruitment, and alignment with UN SDGs.

Wellbeing Webinar Recordings

Recordings now available on suicide prevention messaging and organizational wellbeing assessment tools.

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Highlights the growing impact of Latinx/Hispanic students in veterinary education.

Currently 10.6% of DVM enrollment, fastest-growing demographic.

Upcoming Events

- Primary Care Veterinary Educators Symposium: October 22–25, 2025
- 2026 AAVMC Annual Conference & Iverson Bell Symposium: April 16–18, Washington, D.C.

Scholarships Opening in October

- Diversity Leadership Scholarships: \$10,000 each, opens Oct 1
- Zoetis Foundation/AAVMC Scholarships: \$7,000 each, opens Oct 14
- Chewy Veterinary Leaders Program: \$20,000 each for 15 second-year students

Enhancements to AAVSB Online License Verifications (OLV)

The VAULT Team is happy to announce that the OLV system is receiving some new features and much-needed streamlining!

New Features:

Credential Type Selection: Previously enabled only for boards participating in the VIVA Data Exchange program, now available to all boards.

“No Records Available” Button: Candidates sometimes indicate holding a license that boards cannot verify. Now your board can indicate that there is no record.

OS-1120-19	<u>Brandywine Valley SPCA – Washington DC UPDATES – FYI</u> August 2025 Newsletter September 2025 Newsletter October 2025 Newsletter	
OS-1120-20	<u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS</u> <u>PDMP</u> Care for Animals Amendment Act of 2025: ▪ On October 20th, Councilmember Parker introduced the <i>Care for Animals Amendment Act of 2025</i> (B26-0440). This legislation expands the Animal Population Health and Education Program to include preventive and emergency veterinary services for pet owners in addition to existing low-cost spay and neuter clinic services, and an educational program for pet owners regarding pet care and safety. The services provided will be funded through the current law for dog licensing fees, pet food registration fees, and additional funds from private and public sources. The bill also creates a mechanism for the enforcement of standards for pet care facilities. ▪ The bill has been referred to the Committee on Health, but no hearing has been scheduled yet. DC Animal Shelter at DC Village: ▪ On November 4th, DC Health held a ribbon cutting for the DC Animal Shelter at DC Village. The Mayor, City Administrator, and Director of DC Health attended the event. ▪ All public services, including fostering, animal care and control, and spay and neuter, will now take place at the DC Village campus. <u>Veterinarian Regulations</u> https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-28&ChapterId=699	

Veterinary Technician Regulations

<https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-112&ChapterId=3904>

Veterinary Euthanasia Technician Regulations

<https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-111&ChapterId=3903>

The new Veterinary Technician and Euthanasia Technicians regulations became effective Friday, August 6, 2021. At this time, the DC Department of Health will not be issuing registrations until the process is in place.

The Department of Health is currently creating the platform by which individuals can submit an application for registration as either a Veterinary Technician or a Veterinary Euthanasia Technician. Once the platform is available, there will be a grace period for which individuals will need to come into full compliance.

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

[DC Vet Tech Communication Material.pdf](#)

11202 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

11202.1 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an applicant for veterinary technician certification shall furnish proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has successfully graduated from a two (2) year associate program in the practice of veterinary technology or animal health at an institution accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) at the time the applicant graduated.

11203 NATIONAL EXAMINATION

11203.1 To qualify for certification, an applicant shall furnish proof of having obtained, no more than seven (7) years prior to the submission of a certification application under this chapter, a passing score on the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) or its successor examination, administered by the American Association of Veterinary State

	Boards (AAVSB) or its successor. 11203.2 The passing score for the VTNE shall be as established by AAVSB. 11203.3 An applicant shall arrange for the score to be transmitted to the Board directly from AAVSB. 11204 KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VETERINARY JURISPRUDENCE 11204.1 To qualify for certification under this section, an applicant shall demonstrate to the Board's satisfaction that he or she possesses competent knowledge and understanding of the laws and rules pertaining to veterinary practice in the District. The Board may adopt or implement a District of Columbia Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination or other methods such as mandatory educational sessions. 11205 ALTERNATIVE QUALIFICATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING 11205.1 Notwithstanding the requirement of § 11202, an applicant who does not meet the requirement of § 11202.1 may qualify for a veterinary technician certification if he or she: (a) Has completed, with a minimum passing grade of C or equivalent, at least two-hundred and thirty (230) clock hours of post-secondary instruction relevant to the practice of veterinary technician, which includes: (1) Biology I; (2) Biology II; (3) Microbiology; (4) Chemistry; (5) Anatomy and physiology I; and (6) Anatomy and physiology II; and (b) Has accrued at least four thousand (4,000) hours of Directed Clinical Practice under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian	
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	<u>Fee Schedule:</u>	
	VETERINARY EUTHANASIA TECHNICIAN:	VETERINARY TECHNICIAN:
	Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00	Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00
	Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00	Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00
	Renewal Fee \$ 50.00	Renewal Fee \$ 50.00
	Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00	Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00
	Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00	Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00
	Verification of Records \$ 34.00	Verification of Records \$ 34.00
	Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00	Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00
	Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00	Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00
OS-1120-21	<u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u> https://dccouncil.us/events/list/	

DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-1120-22	<u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u>
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OS-1120-23	<u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>
OS-1120-24	<u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u>

CLOSING		
OS-1120-25	<u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u> Board Action: To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b). Background: This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Executive Section, which is closed to the public, to seek the advice of counsel to the board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(4); to administer licensing of health professionals governed by the Board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(6); to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(9); administration of licensing pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(6); discuss ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(14). This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov	

OS-1120-26	<u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u> Board Action: To adjourn the meeting. Background: At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.
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This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **January 15, 2026**

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov