

CERTIFICATION

in Animal Chiropractic

by the

ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC CERTIFICATION COMMISSION (ACCC)

of the

American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA)





GERALD JOHNSON, DVM

University of Florida – Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (1982)
Certification: Animal Chiropractic – ACCC/AVCA (2002)
Certification: Veterinary Acupuncture – IVAS (1992)
Certification: Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (2006)
Certification: Homeopathy (2002)

Silverthorn Animal Clinic, Springhill, Florida (1982-current)
Small Animal Medicine, Surgery, and Alternative Veterinary Medicine

University Of Florida Veterinary College Admissions Committee (2018-2024)
Weekly radio show (pet health and preventative care) WWJB, Brooksville, Florida

American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
Florida Veterinary Medical Association (FVMA)
Society of Theriogenology (SFT)
American Veterinary Acupuncture Association (AVAA)
International Veterinary Acupuncture Association (IVAS)

American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA)
Board Director 2018-2021
Secretary-Treasurer 2021-2023
President Elect 2023-2025
Education Committee 2018-Current

Animal Chiropractic Certification Commission (ACCC)
ACCC Commissioner 2016-2018
Examiner 2012-current



JON ZEAGLER, DC

Logan College of Chiropractic – Doctor of Chiropractic (2000)
Carrick Institute/Chiropractic Neurology Diplomat (2000)
Certification: Animal Chiropractic – ACCC/AVCA (2011)

Trinity Chiropractic Clinic, Natchitoches, Louisiana
2000-2019 (Owner)
Trinity Integrated Health and Wellness Center, Natchitoches, Louisiana
2019-current (Owner)

Louisiana Board of Chiropractic Examiners (LBCE) 2009-2021
Board 2009-2013
Secretary/Treasurer 2014-2016
President 2018-2020
Past President 2020-2021

National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) 2015-2020
Examiner and Test Committee

American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA)
President Elect 2016–2018
President 2018–2021
Immediate Past President 2021-2023
Education Committee 2016 - current

Animal Chiropractic Certification Commission (ACCC)
Examiner 2014-current

Chiropractic Association of Louisiana (CAL) (2006-2008)
Board of Directors 2006-2008

- AMERICAN VETERINARY CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION (AVCA)
- ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC CERTIFICATION COMMISSION (ACCC)
- WHAT IS CERTIFICATION
 - Difference Between Professional Certification & Curriculum Certificate
- PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ANALYSIS (PPA)
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- ACCC/AVCA CERTIFIED DOCTORS
- OVERVIEW



AMERICAN VETERINARY CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION (AVCA)

- A professional not-for-profit membership organization (established 1989) comprised of licensed doctors of veterinary medicine and licensed doctors of chiropractic
- Promotes animal chiropractic to professionals and the public
- Acts as the certifying agency for doctors who have undergone post-graduate animal chiropractic training
- Certification and membership are separate entities

ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC CERTIFICATION COMMISSION (ACCC)

- An administratively independent certification body of the AVCA
- Implements and maintains a certification program that promotes quality in animal chiropractic
- Promotes the highest standards in animal chiropractic care for the protection and benefit of the patient as well as the public
- ACCC/AVCA is the primary national credential for this field in North America

WHAT IS CERTIFICATION

- Certification is a voluntary process by which a non-government entity grants a time-limited recognition and use of a credential to an individual after verifying that he/she has met predetermined and standardized criteria
- Certification is distinct from licensure in that it is voluntary and requires recertification to maintain the credential
- Certification in animal chiropractic was developed based upon input and oversight from both professions
- Certification establishes and promotes professional accountability and visibility
- Professional certification is different from a curriculum certificate program

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND CURRICULUM CERTIFICATE

Professional Certification

- Non-governmental program
- Delivers an assessment based on industry knowledge
- Independent from training courses or course providers
- Grants a time-limited credential
- Examination is not used as a mirror, but as a screen, to separate those who meet the assessment standards from those who do not
- Primary focus is on assessment

Curriculum Certificate

- A non-degree granting program
- Purpose is to educate participants
- Course of instruction with intended learning outcomes
- Evaluates participants learning outcomes via an examination
- Awards curriculum certificate only to those who have passed that specific examination
- Primary focus is on education/training

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ANALYSIS (PPA)

- Purpose of conducting a practice analysis (a.k.a. job analysis or job task analysis) is to provide the foundation of a certification examination by defining practice in a profession
- Primary method used by assessment professionals to identify and prioritize the important tasks of a job or profession and the essential knowledge or skills required to perform the essential job functions satisfactorily
- ACCC/AVCA PPA
 - Currently under review by David Starmer, BSc (Hons), DC, MHS, Director of Education, Year III, Education Coordinator SIM Lab and research team at Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC), Ontario
 - First completed in 2010, reviewed in 2016 and 2017, updated in 2018, Delphi process in 2011 to determine examination scope statement
 - Conducted by Douglas M. Lawson, DC, MSc, Psychometrician (University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine, Medical Education Research Unit), Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board (1985-2003) and Mrs. Maria Lawson, Chief Executive Officer Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board (2003-2013), Alberta

<https://www.animalchiropractic.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/AVCA-PPA-2019.pdf>

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

- Purpose is to assure the public and the profession that candidates who pass are safe for practice in the field of animal chiropractic
- Strive to meet standards set by the American Psychological Association
- Professional Practice Analysis is examination blueprint
- Current and valid standards provide reliable indicators of competence and safety for the protection and benefit of the public

- Consists of written and practical components
 - Written examination designed to test clinical abilities, as well as knowledge
 - Practical examination designed to test the candidate's performance in a clinical setting to safely adjust
- Examination under continuous review and refinement
- For more information
<https://avcaexam.regstep.com/>



ACCC/AVCA CERTIFIED DOCTORS

- Licensed doctor of veterinary medicine or a licensed doctor of chiropractic
- Successfully completed an AVCA approved postgraduate basic animal chiropractic program
- Passed the ACCC/AVCA certification examinations
- Certificants are required to practice animal chiropractic within the laws and regulations of their individual states/provinces
- Recertification is required to maintain the credential
 - Continued competence demonstrates knowledge, skills, or ability to proficiently perform in the profession throughout the certificant's professional career

OVERVIEW

- AVCA is pleased to contribute educational and helpful information to state boards/licensing agencies
- AVCA has seen numerous approaches to appropriately regulating the practice of animal chiropractic
 - AVCA feels that it starts with educated, safe, ethical and professional practitioners
- Certificants are required to practice within the laws and regulations of their individual state/provincial boards/regulatory bodies
- ACCC/AVCA certification requires continuing education hours to maintain certification

- ACCC/AVCA abides by certification industry best practices
 - Certification is separate from membership
 - No certification reciprocity
 - Grandfathering is specifically prohibited in accreditation programs for certification organizations
 - no two certification programs are identical
- ACCC/AVCA shares a common purpose with the veterinary and chiropractic boards
 - to promote and promulgate the practice of our individual professions
 - to protect the public from those who do not have the necessary knowledge or training to practice

THANK YOU

