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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
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MEMORANDUM

DATE	October 7, 2025
TO	California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Alicia Hernandez, Examination/Licensing Unit Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 23.B. Examination/Licensing Report

Examination Updates

International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)
The ICVA administers the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE). ICVA's mission is to provide world-class examinations and other assessment tools to protect the public, and animal health and welfare.

Since the last Board meeting, ICVA has disseminated the following announcements:

NAVLE Practice Analysis Subject Matter Expert Recruitment Survey – August 28, 2025.
ICVA is currently seeking Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to complete a recruitment survey to assist with finding SMEs for the NAVLE Practice Analysis. ICVA will need a wide range of experience to complete the panels at upcoming sessions, so interested veterinarians from all aspects of the profession are encouraged to participate in the survey.

Assessment Development Committee Nominations are Open – July 31, 2025
The ICVA has sent out a call for nominations for one (1) open position on the Assessment Development Committee (ADC). Nominees should have knowledge and experience with bovine-beef in the context of private clinical practice and/or practice of veterinary medicine at accredited veterinary schools.

Changes to the 2025–2026 ICVA Board – July 18, 2025
At June's Board Meeting, ICVA elected a new Executive Committee and welcomed four new members to the Board of Directors.

American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)
The AAVSB administers the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE). The AAVSB's mission is to support and advance the regulation of veterinary medicine.

Since the last Board meeting, the AAVSB disseminated the following announcements:

[JAVMA Article – Informed Consent by Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr. Beth Venit](#) – September 2, 2025

In the September 2025 issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (JAVMA), Dr. Beth Venit shares her thoughts on Informed Consent. "Obtaining and documenting informed consent for recommendations that are at or above the minimum standard of care is critical to practicing along a spectrum of care within the regulatory board's requirements."

Many veterinarians worry that diverting from gold standard medicine will put their license at risk. In the latest issue of JAVMA, our Chief Veterinary Officer, Beth Venit, dispels that myth. She also offers guidance to provide a range of responsible options to animal owners within the context of their situation.

[Launch of New Website](#) – June 4, 2025
Overland Park, KS (June 4, 2025) – The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) is proud to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website, offering a more user-friendly experience, enhanced accessibility, and new features to better serve its community.

[Recipient of 2025 VTNE Celebrating Diversity Award](#) – May 21, 2025
Overland Park, KS (May 15, 2025) – The American Association of   Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) announces the 2025 VTNE Celebrating Diversity Award recipient. Congratulations to Taja Miller, a third-year student entering her final semester of the Vermillion Veterinary Technician program.

The Veterinary Technician National Examination® Celebrating Diversity Award is presented to one graduating veterinary technology/nursing minority student who has been traditionally underrepresented in the veterinary technician profession. The award recipient is selected based on their commitment to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as treating everyone with respect and dignity.

[Latest Recipients of 2025 VTNE Program Director's Award](#) – May 19, 2025
Overland Park, KS (April 25, 2025) – The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) announces the latest recipients of the 2025 Veterinary Technician National Examination® Program Director's Award. The faculty of the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA) and Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) accredited veterinary technology/nursing programs present this award.

Every year, one graduating student receives the award, which covers the cost of the VTNE exam. Each AVMA-CVTEA and CVMA accredited veterinary technology/nursing program receives a VTNE voucher to give to the student of their choice.

To date, 49 candidates have received vouchers and will be able to apply for the VTNE at no cost. Be on the lookout for more winners to be announced later this year.

Licensing Updates

Application Processing Time Webpage Update
In October 2025, the Boad worked with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Office of Information Services to update its Application Processing Time webpage. The new design uses the same format and table as DCA's Licensing Performance Measures webpage.

The Board's updated Application Processing Time webpage provides an overview of initial application and renewal processing times and only includes licenses issued by the Board. The webpage will be updated directly with data from BreEZe.

Board Applications Received
The Board received a total of 887 license applications across all license types in Q1 Fiscal Year (FY) 25/26. The most significant decline was 222 less applications received for veterinary assistant controlled substance permits (VACSP).

Overall, the number of applications received through Q1 FY 25/26 decreased by approximately 281 comparing to Q1 FY 24/25.

Licenses, Registrations, and Permits Issued
The Board issued 924 licenses, registrations, and permits in Q1 FY 25/26. The total represents a slight decrease compared to 1,024 issued in Q1 FY 24/25.

Despite a decline of licenses, registrations, and permits issued overall, the Board issued more veterinarian licenses in Q1 FY 25/26 (225) than it has in Q1 of the past three fiscal years. Similar to applications received, the most significant decline in licenses, registrations, and permits issued was VACSPs, with approximately 101 less issued than in Q1 FY 24/25.

Applications Pending
The Board's pending applications at the conclusion of Q1 FY 25/26 across all license types was 475. That represents at decrease in pending applications by approximately 18% comparing to the number of pending applications at the end of Q1 FY 24/25, which was 570.

<u>License Population</u>
The Board's total license population increased to 48,363 during Q1 FY 25/26 compared to 48,055 at the conclusion of FY 24/25.

<u>Attachments</u>
1. Licensing Statistics

Licensing Statistics

Applications Received				FY 25/26			
	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
VET	903	984	1,040	59	49	37	145
RVT	1,017	968	885	90	48	47	185
VACSP	2,418	2,221	1,939	128	153	159	440
HSP	507	423	368	33	51	20	104
UNI	94	43	25	3	0	0	3
Total	4,939	4,639	4,257	313	301	263	877

Licenses Issued				FY 25/26			
	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
VET	765	813	906	118	48	60	226
RVT	872	815	787	111	39	56	206
VACSP	2,135	1,866	1,709	121	123	141	385
HSP	459	364	334	35	38	23	96
UNI	33	26	23	7	2	2	11
Total	4,264	3,884	3,759	392	250	282	924

Applications Pending				FY 25/26			
	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
VET	113	273	210	149	146	120	120
RVT	181	159	110	87	91	74	74
VACSP	303	392	233	223	236	251	251
HSP	27	52	20	19	29	26	26
UNI	0	12	11	7	5	4	4
Total	624	888	584	485	507	475	475

Licensee Population*				FY 25/26			
	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
VET	16,264	16,711	16,977	17,040	17,039	17,048	17,048
VET-CA	12,430	12,848	13,199	13,277	13,292	13,552	13,552
RVT	11,105	11,687	11,976	12,044	12,043	12,054	12,054
RVT-CA	10,055	10,628	10,981	11,051	11,046	11,256	11,256
VACSP	12,108	13,121	14,241	14,277	14,298	14,335	14,335
HSP	4,446	4,559	4,603	4,622	4,652	4,662	4,662
UNI	219	247	258	263	263	264	264
Total**	44,142	46,325	48,055	48,246	48,295	48,363	48,363

*Includes current active, current inactive, and expired

**Excludes CA-only rows

Application Processing Times