



# ECFVG Program Overview

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# What is ECFVG?

## Overview

- Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates
  - Assessment-based Certificate Program
    - Key is to ensure that candidates meet the same day-one competencies of COE accredited colleges's graduates
  - One route for graduates of non-COE accredited veterinary colleges to gain licensure in U.S.
  - Accepted by all U.S. state veterinary regulatory boards and U.S. federal government
    - Meeting, in part or full, educational prerequisites for certain types of veterinary employment
  - ECFVG certificate holders must also pass NAVLE and any state specific examinations to become licensed

# ECFVG Commission Members

## Representing:

- American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)
- Canadian National Examining Board (NEB)
- State Licensing Boards
- Clinical practitioners holding an ECFVG certificate
- Non-native English speaking clinical practitioner holding an ECFVG certificate
- Public (non-veterinarian/non-veterinary professional)
- AVMA Council on Education (COE)
- American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)
- Medical or Health Educators with expertise in clinical assessment
- Board certified Surgeons or Anesthesiologist
- Government Services
- Public Health or Food Safety

# Steps in ECFVG Program

- Step 1: Registration and Proof of Graduation
  - Candidates must be a graduate from an AVMA ECFVG-listed school with a degree to practice veterinary medicine without restriction in their country
  - If school is not listed, they must follow the review process to have their school listed with ECFVG
- Step 2: English Language Ability
  - Three approve testing vendors to provide proof of comprehension and ability to communicate in English language
- Step 3: Basic and Clinical Sciences Knowledge
  - 225- multiple choice exam; taken at Prometric testing facility
  - Reviewed each year by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and a Psychometrician
- Step 4: Clinical Skills Assessment
  - 3-day, In-person clinical exam, 7 sections assessed
    - Small Animal Medicine
    - Equine Medicine
    - Food Animal Production
    - Radiographic Positioning
    - Necropsy
    - Anesthesia
    - Surgery

# ECFVG by the Numbers

- Number applicants
  - Consistent growth since 2020
  - Currently over 600 new applicants per year
- Number certificates
  - On average 220 certificates issued per year
- Highest Countries receiving certificate
  - India
  - Egypt
  - Brazil

# ECFVG Updates

- Staff Updates
  - ECFVG Program Manager
  - New Role – ECFVG Systems Operations Administrator
- New Certificate management platform
  - Launching this fall
  - Candidate-focused portal
  - Updated interface with clear dashboard to show progress through the program
  - Easier communication options
- Additional Clinical Proficiency Exam (CPE, Step 4) testing dates in 2026
  - Currently 2 CPE testing sites in United States
  - Often rate-limiting step
- Review of CPE
  - Working with Psychometricians and Subject Matter Experts
  - Specific guiding point is that the exam rigor will not be changed (not lowered)
  - What might be moved to technology-based performance exam
  - What needs to remain clinical-based performance exam
  - Multi-year project

# QUESTIONS?



# THANK YOU

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