PROCEDURES FOR CERTIFICATION OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

1. DEFINITIONS
   A. Massachusetts Veterinary Technician Association Executive Council: a committee comprised of certified veterinary technicians from the Massachusetts Veterinary Technician Association (MVTA).
   B. Certification: the confirmation by the MVTA that an individual has documented fulfillment of requirements for certified status as established by the committee.
   C. Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT): a term used to indicate an individual who has been recognized by the MVTA as having documented fulfillment of the requirements for certification.
   D. Veterinary Technician: a person knowledgeable in the care and handling of animals, in the basic principles of normal and abnormal life processes, and in routine laboratory and animal health care procedures. The role of a veterinary technician is to assist in the practice of veterinary medicine under the direction, supervision, and responsibility of a veterinarian.
   E. Full time employment: a minimum of 35 hours per week.

II. CERTIFICATION
   A. Purpose of Certification
      1. To distinguish those within the field of veterinary technology who have attained a professional level of knowledge and skill as demonstrated by the fulfillment of the requirements for certification.
      2. To establish minimum ethical and educational standards for veterinary technicians within the state of Massachusetts.
   B. Requirements for Certification (both II. B1 and II. B2 required)
      1. Documentation of achievement of a qualifying score on the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) (given by the AAVSB).
      2. Documentation of fulfillment of one of the following:
         a. degree from a program in veterinary technology accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).
         b. degree from a program in veterinary technology which is not accredited by the AVMA or a bachelors degree in animal or biological sciences and (1) one year full time (minimum of 1500 hours) practical experience as a veterinary technician.
         c. associate degree in animal or biological sciences and (3) three years full time (minimum of 4500 hours) practical experience as a veterinary technician.
         d. employed (5) five years full time (minimum of 7500 hours) as a veterinary technician plus (18) eighteen semester hours (college credits) in animal or biological sciences.
         e. employed (8) eight years full time (minimum of 12000 hours) as a veterinary technician.
PROCEDURES FOR CERTIFICATION OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS CONTINUED

C. Certification Procedure
Veterinary technicians applying for certification must submit the following to the MVTA:
1. Completed certification application form.
2. Documentation of achievement of a qualifying score on the VTNE (see II,B,1).
3. Documentation of fulfillment of education and/or practical experience requirements as appropriate to the individual (see II,B,2).
4. Application fee of $50.00 which includes (1) one year’s membership in the MVTA.

D. Term of Certification
Each term of certification shall be for one year from January 1 to December 31.

E. Renewal of Certification
To renew certification, an applicant must submit the following to the MVTA before the expiration of the current term of certification:
1. a certification renewal application form.
2. documentation of completion during the current term of (12) twelve CEU’s approved by the MVTA. Documentation must include a CEU certificate or Verification of Continuing Education Form signed by a representative of the organization hosting the seminar. Only 6 CEU’s completed during prior year’s term may be used towards the current CEU requirement.
3. renewal fee of $35.00 which includes (1) one year’s membership in the MVTA.

The MVTA reserves the right to refuse to approve CEU credit from seminars that were not pre-approved by the MVTA if these seminars are deemed to be inappropriate or of poor quality.

F. Reinstatement of Certification
1. A veterinary technician whose certification has expired may apply for reinstatement by submitting the following to the MVTA:
   i. certification renewal application form
   ii. documentation of completion of (12) twelve CEU’s for each term of certification lapsed.
   iii. annual $35.00 renewal fee for each certification term lapsed
   iv. plus a $25.00 late fee for each certification term lapsed

G. Revocation or Suspension of Certification
The MVTA may revoke or suspend the certification of or place on probation a CVT for the following reasons:
1. Gross ignorance or inefficiency in connection with technical procedures in veterinary medicine.
2. Fraud or deceit in procuring certification as a veterinary technician.
3. Representation as a doctor of veterinary medicine.
4. Unprofessional or unethical conduct or engaging in practices which are in violation of the standards set forth by the MVTA.
5. Conviction of a felony in the courts of this state, another state, another territory, or another country, which in this state would be deemed a felony.

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