NVAP: How Do I Become Accredited?

Last Modified:

Veterinarians seeking accreditation must complete the steps listed below.

Complete the Initial Accreditation Training

Veterinarians applying for veterinary accreditation and those seeking to attend an Orientation Program will need to complete the Initial Accreditation Training (IAT). IAT is web-based and composed of an introduction followed by three Veterinary Accreditation lessons, four Emerging and Exotic Diseases of Animals lessons, and seven Transboundary Disease incursions. The lessons and incursions each have a corresponding multiple-choice quiz. A passing score of 80 percent on each of the 14 quizzes is required to earn an IAT certificate of completion. An IAT certificate of completion earned in the IAT web course will be required for admission to the Orientation Program. Both IAT and the Orientation Program must be completed in order to apply for accreditation.

- For graduate and licensed veterinarians who have already received their degrees from a U.S. or foreign school or college of veterinary medicine and who are seeking veterinary accreditation for the first time, IAT is available **only** through the NVAP coordinator in the State where you're seeking accreditation.
- For students currently enrolled or matriculated in a U.S. school or college of veterinary medicine, IAT is incorporated into the regulatory and/or foreign

animal disease curricula. Veterinary students can access the course content through the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

Note: Documentation indicating your completion of IAT will be required for admission to the Orientation Program.

Attend an Orientation Program

After the completing Initial Accreditation Training, applicants for accreditation must attend an Orientation Program. Upon completion of the Orientation Program, application for accreditation must be completed within 3 years. **Your initial renewal date will be three years from the date you completed your orientation.** The elements of the Orientation Program are listed below:

A. Federal animal health laws, regulations, and rules
B. Interstate movement of animals
C. Import and export requirements for animals
D. USDA animal disease eradication and control programs
E. Laboratory support in confirming disease diagnoses
F. Ethical and professional responsibilities of an accredited veterinarian
G. Foreign animal disease awareness
H. Animal health emergency management
I. Animal health procedures, issues, and information resources relevant to the State in which the veterinarian wishes to perform accredited duties

The Orientation Program may be taken during veterinary medical school or during a session scheduled by the NVAP coordinator.

Orientation Programs

You must contact the NVAP coordinator to register and confirm. This listing may not reflect all orientation programs for all States. Contact your NVAP coordinator for up-to-date information.

Additional Requirements

- Complete a State specific Orientation *if required* by the Area Veterinarian in Charge in cooperation with the State Animal Health Official (SAHO).
- Graduate with a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or equivalent degree from a College of Veterinary Medicine.
- Be licensed or legally able to practice veterinary medicine in the State in which you are applying.

Submit Your Application

- Complete VS Form 1-36A (362.85 KB). Please read the instructions thoroughly before completing this application. Either electronic or hand signatures are acceptable.
- Submit your completed VS Form 1-36A (362.85 KB) application to the NVAP Coordinator of the State in which you want to become accredited. The application must be submitted within three (3) years of your completion of an Orientation Program; if more than three years have lapsed since your completion of an Orientation Program, you are required to complete another Orientation Program.
- You may submit your application via:
    - Password-protected email as a pdf document with electronic or hand signature
    - Paper via USPS, FedEx, UPS, etc., or

The Area Veterinarian in Charge and SAHO will review and evaluate the application. If the application is approved, an accreditation letter will be sent authorizing the veterinarian to perform accreditation work in that State.

Note: The veterinarian may not perform any accreditation duties until written approval by the Area Veterinarian in Charge is received.

Contact Us

NVAP Coordinators

NVAP coordinators are available to assist you with obtaining, maintaining, and updating your accreditation. As an accredited veterinarian, you must notify APHIS when your home or business contact information changes, one of your veterinary licenses expires or otherwise lapses, or you need to become authorized to perform accredited duties in an additional State.

Contact your NVAP coordinator for help with these needs or anything else related to your accreditation.

- Select a State - ▼

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All Contacts

Export requirements frequently change. Obtain current export requirements for live animals or animal products before each shipment.

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