ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 930-X-1 GENERAL RULES

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930-X-1-.01 Introduction/Definitions.

(1) The Alabama Veterinary Practice Act of the general statutes of Alabama establishes and authorizes the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners hereafter referred to as the Board.

(2) In order to promote the public health, safety and welfare by safeguarding the people of this state against unqualified or incompetent practitioners of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology it is hereby declared that the right to practice veterinary medicine and veterinary technology is a privilege conferred by legislative grant to persons having the personal and professional qualifications specified in the Alabama Practice Act and this Administrative Code.

(3) **Definitions** – for the purposes of defining and clarifying the following terms in the Administrative Code 930-X-1, the following definitions shall be ascribed by this rule.

(a) **Licensed Veterinary Technician.** Only LVT's that have been issued a certificate of qualification by the ASBVME shall be allowed to use the title of LVT.

(b) **Veterinary Technician.** For the purpose of clarification in the Administrative Code the term "veterinary technician" shall be interpreted as "licensed veterinary technician".

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-29-62, 34-29-63.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.02 Organization.

The Board shall meet at least two times each year at a time and place fixed by the Board. Other meetings may be called by the president of the Board by giving notice as may be required by rule or by the vice-president, if the president is disqualified. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum. At the last regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year, the Board shall organize by electing a president and a vice-president, and other such officers deemed necessary. The executive director shall serve as secretary- treasurer. Officers of the Board shall serve for terms of one year or until a successor is elected without limitation on the number of terms an officer may serve. The Board shall consist of eight members appointed by the Governor as provided for in the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-66.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 30, 2004; effective January 4, 2005.

930-X-1-.03 Applicability Of The Administrative Code Of The Board.

The administrative code adopted and published by the Board and the Veterinary Practice Act shall be binding upon every individual holding a license from this Board and upon all partnerships, firms or corporations legally authorized to offer or to perform veterinary services in this state. This act is also binding upon all non-licensed individuals offering or engaged in the unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine in this state. All licensees of the Board are charged with having knowledge of existence of the Board's administrative code and shall be charged to be familiar with its provisions and to understand them.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.04 Current Information Required By The Board.

Each licensee has a continuing responsibility of keeping the Board advised as to his or her proper and current mailing address. All changes of professional association or dissolution of a

professional relationship should be reported promptly to the executive director together with the new status and addresses of the individuals or firms.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-68.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.05 Forms.

Forms used by the Board and available from the Board office upon request include the following:

(a) Application for examination for individual or temporary licenses as a veterinarian.

(b) Application for individual faculty or temporary faculty licenses as a veterinarian.

(c) Application for controlled substance registration for veterinary practice.

(d) Applications for renewal of individual active, inactive and faculty licenses and premise permits to practice veterinary medicine.

1. Annual Fee Schedule.

2. Continuing Education Reporting Form.

3. Disciplinary Data Questionnaire

(e) Application for new and periodic premise evaluations and permits.

(f) Application for examination for individual licenses as a veterinary technician.

(g) Application for renewal of veterinary technician's license.

1. Annual Fee Schedule.

2. Continuing Education Reporting Form.

3. Disciplinary Data Questionnaire

(h) Application for Certification as a Euthanasia Technician.

(i) Application for renewal of certified euthanasia technician license.

1. Annual Fee Schedule.

2. Training and Employment Reporting Form

(j) Application for Registering Animal Euthanasia Facilities.

(k) Application for new and periodic animal euthanasia facility evaluations and permits.

(l) Application for renewal of registered animal euthanasia facility license.

1. Annual Fee Schedule.

2. Facility and Employee Reporting Form

(Examples of each form can be obtained by request or at the Board's website www.absvme.alabama.gov.)

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.06 Fees.

Fees needed for licensing and examinations, renewal of licensing and other services of the Board are payable in advance to the executive director of the Board. Current amounts will be indicated where practicable upon appropriate forms or schedules or made available by the Board upon request. The Board hereby adopts and establishes the following fees:

(1) Fees applying to veterinarians:

(a) Application and examination fee - $250.00 plus cost of national examinations.

(b) Annual renewal of active license fee - $200.00.

(c) Penalty for late renewal of license - $200.00.

(d) Premise permit fee - $150.00.

(e) Penalty for late renewal of premise permit - $150.00.

(f) New Premise Evaluation fee - $200.00

(g) Premise evaluation failure reevaluation fee - $150.00.

(h) Controlled substance fee - $35.00.

(i) Reinstatement fee - $275.00.

(j) Annual renewal of inactive license fee – $100.00.

(k) Penalty for late renewal of inactive license – $100.00.

(l) Reactivation Fee of Inactive License to Active Status - $100.00.

(m) Annual renewal of faculty license fee – $100.00.

(n) Penalty for late renewal of faculty license – $100.00.

(o) Temporary License –$100.00.

(p) Temporary Faculty License –$100.00.

(2) Fees applying to veterinary technicians:

(a) Application and examination fee - $100.00 plus cost of national examination.

(b) License renewal fee - $75.00.

(c) Penalty for late renewal of license - $75.00.

(d) Annual renewal of inactive license fee – $37.50.

(e) Penalty for late renewal of inactive license – $37.50.

(3) Fees applying to registered animal euthanasia facilities:

(a) Application fee –$300.00.

(b) Facility renewal fee –. $200.00.

(c) Penalty for late renewal of license – $200.00.

(4) Additional service fees:

(a) Additional copies of the Veterinary Practice Act - $30.00.

(b) Directories of Licensing Information - $50.00

(c) Certified Notices - $10.00

(d) Return Check Fee – Will charge the maximum allowed by Code of Ala. 1975, Section 8-8-15.

(e) Duplicate Certificate of Qualification (License) Fee - $25.00

(5) Current fees will be posted along with renewal and reinstatement fees on the ASBVME website www.ASBVME.alabama.gov and the ASBVME Board Office

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013. **Amended:** Published July 31, 2026; effective September 14, 2026.

930-X-1-.07 Applications For Licensing.

(1) The application for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Alabama shall be written and signed by the applicant and shall contain the information set forth below and any other information as deemed necessary by the Board:

(a) A current photograph of the applicant.

(b) A copy of the applicant's diploma from an AVMA accredited veterinary medical school or an affidavit from the dean of such veterinary school certifying the applicant's ability to graduate if he or she has not graduated at the time of application.

(c) Certification by the applicant that he or she has not been arrested nor indicted for or been convicted, pleaded guilty or pleaded Nolo Contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor (other than minor traffic violations), and in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, may need the applicant to explain in full or provide further documentation.

(d) Certification by the applicant that he or she has never had any license to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended or denied and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the Board may request or need full explanation and documentation concerning such revocation, suspension or denial.

(e) A list of and verification of good standing of all veterinary licenses, which the applicant currently holds or has held.

(f) The score on any previous national examination or state examination, whether the State of Alabama examinations or examinations from other states, previously taken by the applicant as reported by the Interstate Reporting Service or equivalent.

(g) A list of three licensed veterinarians from any state for reference and letters of recommendation furnished upon request of the Board, for the purpose of determining the applicant's professional capabilities and ethical standards.

(h) Certification by the applicant that he or she has received, read and understands the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act and the Administrative Code promulgated by the Board.

(2) Veterinary Faculty License: The application for faculty licensure to practice veterinary medicine related to the regular functions within an Alabama college or school of veterinary medicine shall be written and signed by the applicant and shall contain the information set forth below and any other information as deemed necessary by the Board:

(a) A current photograph of the applicant.

(b) A copy of the applicant's diploma from a veterinary medical college or school.

(c) A letter of proof of faculty appointment from an authorized administrative official of an Alabama school or college of veterinary medicine teaching veterinary students.

(d) Certification by the applicant that he or she understands and agrees that the Veterinary Faculty License is valid only for the practice of veterinary medicine as a faculty member of the college or school where employed.

(e) Demonstrate competency in the English language.

(f) Take and pass the State Board Jurisprudence Examination.

(g) Certification by the applicant that he or she has not been arrested nor indicted for or been convicted, pleaded guilty or pleaded Nolo Contendere to either a felony or misdemeanor (other than minor traffic violations). In the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the applicant will be required to explain the violations in full or provide further documentation.

(h) Certification by the applicant that he or she has never had any license to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended or denied and, in the event that the applicant is unable to so certify, the Board may request or need full explanation and documentation concerning such revocation, suspension or denial.

(3) The Board may require the licensure application to be sworn to by the applicant, notarized, or attested to by the applicant under penalty of perjury.

(4) The Board may reject any application, which does not contain full and complete answers, or information as may be requested and may reject any application if any of the information furnished in the application is determined to be fabricated, false, misleading or incorrect.

(5) Graduates of foreign veterinary colleges must, in addition to the above, provide the State Board with a current Educational Commission on Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate of qualification from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). This certificate may be no older than three years from the date of issue unless supporting documentation is provided, subject to Board approval, to demonstrate current clinical skills.

(6) Military Spouses.

(a) This rule implements the requirements of §31-1-6(a) of the Code of Alabama, the Military Family Opportunity Act, to provide for licensing of eligible spouses of active-duty military personnel.

(b) Any person who is considered to be an "eligible individual" under §31-1-6(c)(1)-(3) of the Code of Alabama will be issued a license, if the requirements of the original state or governing body issuing applicant's license are substantially equivalent to those required by the Board. The Executive Director of the Board will make the determination of equivalency to ensure the license is issued expeditiously, within 30 days of the date of the application.

(c) When the applicant requests approval for licensure, the Board will waive its initial licensing fee when the applicant has already paid a licensing fee for the year to another jurisdiction. The applicant will need to inform the Board that the applicant has previously paid for an annual license; otherwise, applicant may request a fee waiver for the initial licensing fee and the Executive Director will have 30 days to process a request for a fee waiver.

(d) Whenever it is necessary for the Board to deliberate upon an application to obtain a license in this state as provided in §31-1-6(d) of the Code of Alabama, the Board will issue

within 30 days a temporary permit authorizing an eligible individual to perform regulated professional services in this state for at least 360 days. During the 360 days, all deliberations must be reviewed and expedited to ensure that an eligible individual obtains a license prior to the expiration of the temporary permit.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-72.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Published July 31, 2026; effective September 14, 2026.

930-X-1-.08 Inactive License/Temporary License.

The Board may issue an inactive license to any veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician, providing the license is in good standing and the licensee meets all conditions and requirements for the otherwise active renewal of his or her license each year. This license is provided only to those who wish to maintain a license veterinary medicine in Alabama.

(1) The inactive license holder shall not resume the practice of veterinary medicine in Alabama until he or she has contacted the Board office for activation of his or her license. Practicing veterinary medicine without holding an active license is grounds for disciplinary action.

(2) Continuing education requirement is not waived for inactive license holders and should be maintained in a file in the event the licensee is audited by the Board.

(3) The fee for inactive license and late renewal fee will be in accordance with Rule 930-X-1-.06.

(4) The board may issue a temporary license to practice veterinary medicine to an unlicensed applicant providing the applicant meets all conditions and requirements of the Veterinary Practice Act relating to qualifications of applicants for license to practice veterinary medicine. The temporary license fee shall be posted in fees (930-X-1-.06).

(5) The Board may issue a temporary faculty license to practice at an Alabama college or school of veterinary medicine to an unlicensed applicant providing the applicant meets all conditions and requirements of the faculty license. The temporary license fee shall be posted in fees (930-X-1-.06).

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-71.

History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.09 Examinations.

(1) The Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners hereby adopts the examination approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB), hereafter referred to as the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (N.A.V.L.E.), and requires that all applicants for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Alabama shall pass the N.A.V.L.E. or have passed the National Board Examination and the Clinical Competency Test in addition to any and all state examinations herein defined and such written examinations, oral examinations, or practical demonstrations as the Board may request or require.

(2) A passing score on the N.A.V.L.E. or the National Board Examination and the Clinical Competency Test shall be determined by the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME) using a national criterion referenced scoring technique using an Alabama converted scale score of 70.

(3) Every applicant shall be subjected to a written state examination on material found in the Alabama Practice Act and the Administrative Code of the Board. A passing score on the state written examination shall be deemed to be the correct answering of at least seventy percent of the questions. A comprehensive oral or practical examination may be given at the discretion of the Board.

(4) Examinations shall be conducted in such a manner that the results shall be entirely fair and impartial. Should any applicant fail the state written examination, he or she shall upon application be re-examined at the next regular examination with payment of an additional fee. Successful completion of the examinations shall, at the Board’s discretion, constitute admission to the practice of veterinary medicine provided all other requirements for licensing are met. A maximum of three retakes of the state written exam will be permitted.

(5) The state written examination may be prepared, administered and graded by the members of the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners or may be prepared, administered and graded in whole or in part by any person, firm, corporation of other entity selected, requested or designated to do so by the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(6) The state examinations may be administered to applicants at any time deemed appropriate by the Board.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-73.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.10 Rules Of Professional Conduct/Grounds For Discipline.

(1) It is unprofessional and a violation of the administrative code to represent conflicting interests except by express consent of all concerned, given after a full disclosure of the facts. Within the meaning of this rule, a member represents conflicting interests if employed by a buyer to inspect an animal for soundness when he or she accepts a fee from the seller. Acceptance of a fee from both the buyer and the seller is prima facie evidence of fraud.

(2) It is the right of any veterinarian without fear or favor to give proper advice to those seeking relief against unfaithful or negligent veterinary services, generally after communication with the veterinarian of whom the complaint is made. However, any deceptive disparagement of the practice of a veterinarian is a violation of the administrative code.

(3) Veterinarians shall expose without fear or favor before the proper tribunal of the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners corrupt or dishonest conduct in the profession.

(4) A veterinarian upon his or her own responsibility must decide what employment he or she will accept in his or her professional capacity and what course of treatment will be followed once he or she has accepted employment. The responsibility for advising questionable or unusual treatment rests upon the veterinarian. No veterinarian shall give any service or advice involving disloyalty to the law. A veterinarian must also observe and advise his or her client to observe the state and federal law. A veterinarian shall not give any service or advice directly towards the corruption of any person or persons exercising a public office or private trust or deception or betrayal of the public.

(5) Each veterinarian shall have posted or displayed in his or her office or place of employment in full view of his or her clients, his or her original Alabama license to practice veterinary medicine, current year’s display license and premise permit. Alabama State Controlled Substance Registration shall be posted in or near controlled substance cabinet or safe for inspection by state and federal representatives.

(6) Veterinarians shall exercise the same degree of care, skill and diligence in treating patients as are ordinarily used in the same or similar circumstances by members of the veterinary medical profession in good standing in the locality or community in which they practice or in similar communities.

(7) A licensed veterinarian shall not use or display any college degree, certificate or title granted by any institution not approved by the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(8) A licensed veterinarian shall not use any certificate, college degree, or title to which he or she is not entitled.

(9) A licensed veterinarian shall not promote, aid, or abet the practice of veterinary medicine by an unlicensed person or promote, aid, or abet any illegal or unethical act on the part of any veterinarian.

(10) Except as otherwise provided by law, a licensed veterinarian shall not allow a person not licensed under the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act to issue certificates with the veterinarian's signature affixed thereto, nor shall he or she permit a person not licensed under the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act to vaccinate or treat animals unless under the immediate supervision of the licensed veterinarian.

(11) A licensed veterinarian in this state shall not issue a certificate of health unless he or she shall know of his or her own knowledge by actual inspection and appropriate test of the animals that said animals meet the requirements of the issuance of such certificate.

(12) It is professionally dishonest for licensed veterinarians to guarantee a cure. A veterinarian must avoid bold and confident assurances to a client, especially where the employment may depend upon such assurance.

(13) A licensed veterinarian shall treat all animals entrusted to him or her by his or her clients in keeping with the professional standards of humane treatment and care.

(14) A licensed veterinarian shall conduct his or her practice on the highest plane of honesty, integrity, and fair dealing with his or her clients, in time and services given, and the amount charged for his or her services, facilities, appliances and drugs.

(15) A licensed veterinarian shall not violate the confidential relationship between himself or herself and his or her client.

(16) A veterinarian is obligated to report to the proper authorities any grossly inhumane treatment to animals of which he or she has direct knowledge.

(17) Advertising. A veterinarian may advertise his or her services, facilities, training, and fees provided he or she follows the current "Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics on Advertising" as adopted by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(18) Any veterinarian who uses a present or past position or office of trust to deceptively create for himself or herself any individual professional advantage or to coerce or to deceive the public shall be in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct. This is not to prohibit a licensed veterinarian from providing educational information to the public as a practitioner or a member of a veterinary association.

(19) A licensed veterinarian is required to maintain his or her entire premises in such a state of sanitation as to comply with the public health requirements of the city and county in which it is located, the public health laws of the State of Alabama, and the Board's requirements for maintenance of a premise permit.

(20) Upon complaint and within its discretion, the Board may revoke or suspend the license of or otherwise discipline any licensed veterinarian under this rule. Grounds for disciplinary action shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Practicing veterinary medicine without holding an active license to practice veterinary medicine.

(b) Using the name or title "licensed veterinarian" if the person has not been licensed pursuant to this chapter.

(c) Presenting as his or her own the license of another.

(d) Giving false or forged information to the Board or a member thereof for the purpose of getting a license.

(e) Using or attempting to use a veterinary license which has been suspended or revoked.

(f) Knowingly employing unlicensed persons in the practice of veterinary medicine.

(g) Knowingly hiding information relative to violations of this chapter.

(h) The employment of fraud, misrepresentation or deception in getting a license.

(i) Adjudication of insanity or incompetency.

(j) Chronic inebriation or habitual use of drugs.

(k) The use of advertising or solicitation, which is false, misleading or deceptive.

(l) Conviction of a felony or other public offense involving moral turpitude.

(m) Incompetence, gross negligence, or other malpractice in the practice of veterinary medicine.

(n) Having professional association with or knowingly employing any person practicing veterinary medicine unlawfully.

(o) Fraud or dishonesty in the application or reporting of any test for disease in animals.

(p) Failure to keep veterinary premises and equipment in a clean and sanitary condition.

(q) Failure to report as required by laws and regulations of the state or the false reporting of any contagious or infectious disease.

(r) Dishonesty or gross negligence in the inspection of foodstuffs or the issuance of health or inspection certificates.

(s) Willful failure to display a license.

(t) Fraud, deception, misrepresentation, dishonesty or illegal practices in or connected with the practice of veterinary medicine.

(u) Conviction of cruelty to animals.

(v) Revocation of a license to practice veterinary medicine by another state, territory or district of the United States, but only if the grounds for revocation in such other jurisdiction would also result in revocation of the practitioner’s license in this state.

(w) A violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct as prescribed in the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act or the Administrative Code.

(x) Performing or prescribing unnecessary treatment.

(y) Permitting or allowing another to use a veterinarian’s license for the purpose of treating or offering to treat sick, injured or afflicted animals.

(z) Refusing to permit the Board’s authorized representative(s) to inspect the business premises of the

licensee during regular business hours or failure to comply with Board recommendations for mandatory facility requirements after notification and elapse of a reasonable grace period.

(aa) Failure to pay an administrative fine imposed by the Board in a timely manner.

(bb) Failure to obey a disciplinary order of the board.

(cc) Practicing veterinary medicine in a premise without a premise permit or which is not up to premise permit standards as prescribed by the Veterinary Practice Act and the Administrative Code.

(dd) Failure to relinquish state or federal controlled substance registration upon the retirement or discontinuance of practice.

(ee) Failure to use childproof packaging or special packaging in accordance with all state and federal codes.

(ff) Misrepresenting continuing education hours to the Board.

(gg) Failure to comply with the State Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

(hh) Failure to comply with the recommendations of the Alabama Veterinary Professional's Wellness Committee (AVPWP).

(ii) Providing veterinary drugs and medicines for resale to veterinary practitioners and other veterinary wholesalers without a Wholesale Veterinary Drug Distributor's permit issued by the Alabama Board of Pharmacy.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
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930-X-1-.11 Prescribing And Dispensing Drugs.

(1) A licensed veterinarian shall not prescribe or dispense, deliver or order delivered:

(a) Any drug or medicinal agent carrying the legend "Federal (USFDA) law restricts this drug to the use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian" to be administered to animals with which he or she has not established a veterinary-client-

patient relationship, or as defined by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

(b) Any controlled substance as defined by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration without first having established a veterinary-client-patient relationship by having personally examined the individual animal, herd or representative segment or consignment lot thereof and determined that such controlled substance is therapeutically indicated following said examination.

(2) Veterinary-client-patient relationship as used in this rule shall be defined as a relationship created by actual examination by the veterinarian of the animal or a representative segment of a consignment or herd.

(3) Any veterinarian who violates this rule shall be guilty of unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this section.

(4) Veterinarians retiring from or otherwise discontinuing the practice of veterinary medicine shall voluntarily surrender their Alabama State Controlled Substance Registration Number immediately and shall notify the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency of license status change, retirement or discontinuance of practice for instructions regarding their federal DEA Registration.

(5) To protect children from serious personal injury or serious illness resulting from handling, using, or ingesting controlled substances, legend drugs and other potentially harmful medicinal agents dispensed for animal use that is in a dosage form intended for oral administration shall be dispensed in childproof containers by all practitioners of veterinary medicine. The containers are to be designed and constructed to be significantly difficult for children under 5 years of age to open or obtain a toxic or harmful amount of the substance contained therein.

If the substance is dispensed to elderly or handicapped clients in households where young children are not present, containers must be of impervious nature and must contain the following additional labeling statement, "This Package for Households Without Young Children".

(6) All veterinarians must comply with Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) requirements.

(7) All veterinarians providing veterinary drugs and medicines for resale to veterinary practitioners and other veterinary wholesalers must obtain an Alabama Board of Pharmacy's Wholesale Veterinary Drug Distributor's Permit.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000;

effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.12 **Continuing Education Requirements.**

(1) For Veterinarians:

(a) Veterinarians are required to earn twenty credit hours of continuing education each year before becoming eligible for license renewal. Ten of the hours may be obtained online through completion of RACE (Registry of Approved Continuing Education) approved courses.

(b) Veterinarians unable to earn credits because of sickness or other justifiable reasons may, at the discretion of the Board, be granted an extension of time to finish credit hours. The board may require the hours to be completed at a later date. Requests for extension must be made in writing to the Board before the renewal period of licensure. Failure to make an extension request prior to the Board's last meeting of the year may require a personal appearance before the Board to make such a request. The board may, at its discretion, exempt requirements for continuing education in exceptional circumstances.

(c) At the Board's discretion, non-practicing veterinarians over seventy years old may be exempted from the continuing education requirements.

(d) At the discretion of the Board, credit hours may be earned as follows: One hour of credit for each hour of attendance at an in-depth seminar such as seminars sponsored by the AVMA, the AAHA, AAVSB CE Taskforce, State Association, various academies, schools of veterinary medicine, and other State Veterinary Associations. The Board will require twenty (20) hours per year in which a minimum of sixteen (16) hours must be in the area of scientific programs approved by the Board. A maximum of four (4) hours may be in the area of practice management programs that are approved by the Board. All courses are subject to review by the Board.

(e) Each veterinarian must keep a record of credit hours earned and proof of attendance of said hours. CE audits for practicing licensed veterinarians will be conducted at the time of premises evaluation. Each year he or she will be required to certify the number of credit hours earned on a form provided by the Board. The form will be mailed to each veterinarian at the time of annual renewal.

(f) New graduates do not have to comply with this continuing education requirement until the next full calendar year after licensure.

(g) The ASBVME may periodically review national, regional, state, local, or online CE programs to determine whether they meet the standard expected by the Board.

(2) For Licensed Veterinary Technicians:

(a) The applicant must verify yearly that he or she has finished at least eight hours of continuing education during the preceding year. A minimum of six (6) hours of continuing education must be in the area of scientific programs approved by the Board. All eight hours may be obtained online through completion of RACE-approved courses.

(b) At the discretion of the Board, credit hours may be earned in person as follows: A minimum of six hours of continuing education in scientific programs approved by the Board, the remaining two hours may be in verifiable audio, video, compendium journal and computer review, or one of the two hours may be given for state or local association meetings.

(c) Licensed veterinary technicians unable to earn credits because of sickness or other justifiable reasons may, at the discretion of the Board, be granted an extension of time to complete the CE requirements. The board may require the hours to be completed at a later date. Requests for an extension must be made in writing to the Board before the renewal period of licensure. Failure to make an extension request prior to the Board's last meeting of the year may require a personal appearance before the Board to make such a request. The board may, at its discretion, exempt the requirement for continuing education in exceptional circumstances.

(d) Hours will be accumulated on a yearly basis from January to December.

(e) Each licensed veterinary technician must keep record of credit hours earned and proof of attendance of said hours shall be submitted annually. Each year he or she will be required to certify as to the number of credit hours earned on a form to be provided by the Board.

(f) New graduates do not have to comply with this continuing education requirement until the next full calendar year after licensure.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 30, 2004; effective January 4, 2005. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007;

effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013. **Amended:** Filed June 18, 2018; effective August 2, 2018.

930-X-1-.13 Controlled Substances.

(1) All licensed veterinarians who handle controlled substances must register annually with the State Board and get a state controlled substance number from the Board. In addition:

(a) Such number must be on all of his or her written prescriptions.

(b) A controlled substance fee is due at the time of the annual license renewal.

(c) Controlled substance violations will be prosecuted as prescribed by law.

This Rule is promulgated by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners pursuant to Alabama Act No. 699 and Alabama Act No. 1407, the Controlled Substances Act of 1976, as amended.

(2) All veterinarians are required to comply with current PDMP (Prescription Drug Monitoring Program) requirements.

(3) All veterinarians are required to comply with current federal DEA regulations (C.F.R. 21) which includes regular inventories and a biennial inventory report must be readily available for inspection by state and federal representatives.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.14 License Renewal.

(1) It is the responsibility of each licensee to renew all licenses, permits and registrations on or before December 31 of each year. Failure to renew on or before December 31, shall prompt the Executive Director to send a final notice of expiration by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address. An additional fee will be assessed to cover the certified mailing. Late penalties will be assessed on January 1 and the license will be suspended for non-renewal.

(2) The application for renewal shall include the required renewal fee together with current name and address of the applicant and such additional information as may be requested by the Board. Practice after expiration and before renewal shall be a violation of the Veterinary Practice Act and cause for suspension of license.

(3) Licenses will remain suspended until the receipt of all fees and penalties. Any applicant that has not completed renewal forms or has not paid all applicable fees or penalties by the date of the Board's first meeting of the New Year will be required to appear before the Board for reinstatement pleas. Absolutely no practice can occur until the license has been reinstated by the Board.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-75.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.15 Types Of Discipline.

Misconduct as defined in Rule 930-X-1-.10. may be grounds for:

(a) Revocation of license.

(b) Suspension of license for a fixed period.

(c) Public censure.

(d) Private reprimand.

(e) Private informed admonition.

(f) An Administrative Fine ranging from $250.00 to $1000.00 per violation.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998.

930-X-1-.16 Disciplinary Proceedings.

(1) Powers of the Board: The Board shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred and imposed upon it under law including the power and duty to consider and investigate any alleged ground for discipline or alleged incapacity of any

licensee or any other individual who falls under the jurisdiction of this practice act; called to its attention or upon its own motion, and may take such action with respect thereto as shall be appropriate to effectuate its purposes as prescribed by law.

(2) Disqualification of Members of the Board.

(a) If for any reason a Board member determines that personal bias or other factors make him or her unable to conduct a hearing and perform all duties in an impartial manner, he or she shall submit to the Board in writing, his or her reasons for disqualification.

(b) If for any reason any party in a contested case believes that a Board member is personally biased or otherwise unable to conduct the hearing and perform all duties in an impartial manner, the party may file a sworn, notarized affidavit with the Board.

(c) The affidavit must state all facts the party deems relevant to the disqualification of the Board member.

(d) An affidavit of disqualification will be considered timely if filed before commencement of the hearing. An otherwise untimely affidavit will be considered timely provided it is filed at the first opportunity after the party becomes aware of facts which give rise to a reasonable belief that the Board member may be disqualified under this rule.

(e) Procedure for determining disqualification follows:

1. The Board, with the advice of such assistants as it deems appropriate, shall decide whether to disqualify the challenged individual;

2. The person whose disqualification is to be determined will not participate in the decision but may be called upon to furnish information to the Board;

3. A record of proceedings and the reasons for decisions reached will be maintained as part of the contested case record.

(f) If by reason of personal interest, bias or like causes a Board member is disqualified after the hearing has begun, a new hearing will be initiated if requested by the party who filed the affidavit of disqualification. Absent such a request, the case will be resumed or continued provided a quorum is present.

(g) If for reasons other than personal interest, bias, or like causes a Board member is unable to continue the hearing, and a quorum is present, the hearing will be resumed except:

1. If continuation of the hearing would result in substantial prejudice, for whatever reasons, to the rights of the parties, either a new hearing will be initiated or the case will be dismissed without prejudice.

(h) If a member of the Board is unable to continue the hearing either by disqualification or any other reason and the Board is unable to reach a quorum, the Governor of the State of Alabama shall appoint as many ex-officio members as is necessary to reach a quorum from a list of three persons submitted for each place by the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. Such ex-officio members shall serve on the Board only for that hearing for which they were appointed but may be reappointed for later hearings if necessary. The hearing will be resumed except:

1. If oral testimony has already been given, and it is determined by the new ex-officio members that the viewing of such witness is an important element of the case, that part of the testimony and evidence will be repeated.

2. If continuation of the hearing would result in substantial prejudice, for whatever reasons, to the rights of the parties, either a new hearing will be initiated or the case will be dismissed without prejudice.

(i) The determination of whether continuation of the case will result in substantial prejudice is to be made by the Board.

(j) Notification of decisions of disqualification, continuation of the hearing, re-hearing of a part or all of a contested case, or dismissal of a case without prejudice, together with a statement of reasons therefor, will be part of the record of the case, and communicated to all parties promptly.

(3) Notice shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the most current address provided to the Board by the veterinarians to be notified. Notices of administrative hearings of the Board:

(a) shall give the name, position, address and telephone number of a person in the Board office to contact for further information or discussions;

(b) shall include a statement that failure to inform the Board office within twenty-one days after notice is received of intent to appear at any hearing or pre-hearing conference scheduled in the hearing notice will be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing;

(c) shall advise the respondent that he or she is entitled to be represented by counsel, to cross-examine witnesses and to present evidence in his or her own behalf;

(d) may give notice of date and place for a pre-hearing conference, if any;

(e) may schedule the date of the hearing;

(f) may include any other information deemed relevant to informing the party or parties as to the procedure of the hearing;

(4) Failure to appear:

(a) If a party fails to appear in a contested case after proper service of notice, the Board, if no adjournment is granted, may go ahead with the hearing and make its decision in the absence of the party.

(b) Continuances, adjournments and like dispositions will be granted only in compelling circumstances.

(c) If a hearing is conducted or a decision is reached in an administrative hearing in the absence of a party, that party may file a written petition with the Board for a reopening of the case.

(d) Petitions for reopening a case will not be granted except if the petitioner can show that the reasons for his or her failure to appear were justifiable and unavoidable and that fairness requires reopening the case. Such petitions, however, will have no effect on the running of the thirty-day period for seeking judicial review as provide in the Veterinary Practice Act.

(e) The decisions of the Board will be in writing and a copy will be sent to the petitioner and made a part of the record of the hearing.

(5) Simplification of issues:

(a) Except as prohibited by statute, the parties to a contested case, including the Board, may agree in advance to simplify the hearing by:

1. decreasing the number of the issues to be contested at the hearing;

2. accepting the validity of certain proposed evidence;

3. accepting the findings in some other case with relevance to the case at hand;

4. or agreeing to such other matters as may expedite the hearing.

(b) All investigations, whether upon complaint or otherwise, shall be initiated and conducted by the Board as provided in Chapter 930-X-1-.17.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-79.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.17 Investigations.

The Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and its staff shall have the right to conduct investigations of alleged professional misconduct of a licensee or any other individual who falls under the jurisdiction of this practice act. Upon the conclusion of an investigation, the Board or its authorized representatives with Board approval shall determine whether the matter warrants dismissal, with or without a private informed admonition, a private reprimand, public censure, or the filing of a formal complaint. The licensee or any other individual, who falls under the jurisdiction of this practice act, within fourteen days after being advised of the decision as to a proposed private reprimand or public censure, shall be entitled to demand that he or she be given the right to a hearing as provided herein.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.18 Refusal of Complainant To Proceed, Compromise, Etc..

Neither unwillingness nor neglect of a complainant to sign a complaint or to prosecute a charge, nor settlement, nor compromise, nor restitution by or between the complainant and the licensee or any other individual, who falls under the jurisdiction of this practice act, shall necessarily abate disciplinary action.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.19 Matters Involving Related Pending Civil Or Criminal Litigation.

Disciplinary proceedings shall not be deferred or abated because of substantial similarity to the material allegations of pending criminal or civil litigation, unless authorized by the Board, in its discretion, for good cause shown.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-68.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.20 Filing And Service Of Formal Charges.

(1) Complaints in a disciplinary proceeding shall be filed with the executive director of the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and served upon the licensee or any other individual who falls under the jurisdiction of this practice act, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, at his or her last known address; and if service cannot be perfected by registered or certified mail, service may then be perfected by the Board by publication once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of respondent's last known residence.

(2) Service of any other papers and notices required by these rules shall, unless otherwise provided by these rules, be made in accordance with procedure for service in a civil suit.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-79.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.21 Subpoena Power, Witness And Pre-Trial Proceedings.

(1) Any member of the Board in matters under investigation or in any disciplinary proceeding, may administer oaths and affirmations and compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of any books, records, papers or documents. Subpoenas shall be issued by the Executive Director of the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(2) Subpoenas shall clearly indicate on their face that the subpoenas are issued in connection with a confidential proceeding under these rules and that it is regarded as contempt of the Board enforceable by a court or grounds for discipline under these rules for a person subpoenaed to breach in any way the confidentiality of the proceedings. It shall not be regarded as breach of confidentiality for a person subpoenaed to consult with an attorney.

(3) Any circuit court may, upon proper application, enforce the attendance and testimony of any witness and the production of any documents so subpoenaed. Subpoena and witness fees and mileage shall be the same as in the circuit court in civil cases.

(4) Any attack on a subpoena so issued shall be heard and determined by the Board or by the court wherein enforcement of the subpoena is being sought.

(5) With the approval of the Board, testimony may be taken by deposition if the witness is not subject to service of subpoena or is unable to attend or testify at the hearing because of age, illness or other infirmity. A complete record of the testimony as taken shall be made and kept.

(6) The subpoenas and deposition procedures shall be subject to the protective requirements of confidentiality provided in Chapter 930-X-1-.27. herein.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998.

930-X-1-.22 Revocation of License by Consent of Licensee.

(1) A licensee, who is the subject of an investigation into, or a pending proceeding involving, allegations of misconduct, may consent to the revocation of his or her license, but only by delivering to the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners an affidavit stating that he or she desires to consent to revocation and that:

(a) His or her consent is freely and voluntarily given; he or she is not being subjected to coercion or duress; he or she is fully aware of the implications of submitting his or her consent; and;

(b) He or she is aware that there is presently pending an investigation into, or proceeding involving, allegations that there exist grounds for his or her license revocation, the nature of which he or she shall specifically set forth.

(c) He or she is aware that Board's jurisdiction shall not be divested by revocation by consent.

(2) Upon receipt of the required affidavit, the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may enter an order removing the license of the licensee on consent.

(3) The order removing the licensee's license on consent shall be a matter of public record. However, the affidavit required under (1) above shall not be publicly disclosed or made available for use in any other proceeding except upon order of the Board.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.23 Reciprocal Discipline.

(1) All licensees' subject to the provisions of this Rule shall, upon being subjected to other professional disciplinary action in another jurisdiction, promptly inform the Board. Upon being informed that a licensee subjected to the provisions of these Rules has been subject to discipline in another jurisdiction, the disciplined licensee shall get a certified copy of such disciplinary order and file it with the Board.

(2) Upon receipt of a certified copy of an order demonstrating that a licensee licensed to perform in this state has been disciplined in another jurisdiction, the Board shall forthwith issue a notice directed to the licensee containing:

(a) A copy of said order from the other jurisdiction; and

(b) An order directing that the licensee inform the Board, within twenty-eight days from service of the notice, of any claim by the licensee predicated upon the grounds set forth in section (4) hereof that the imposition of the identical discipline in this state would be unwarranted and the reasons therefore.

(3) In the event the discipline imposed in the other jurisdiction has been stayed there, any reciprocal discipline imposed in this state shall be deferred until such stay expires.

(4) Upon the end of forty-two days from service of the notice issued pursuant to the provisions of (2) above, the Board shall impose identical discipline, unless the Board finds:

(a) That the procedure was so lacking in notice of opportunity to be heard as to constitute a deprivation of due process; or

(b) That there was such an infirmity of proof establishing the misconduct as to give rise to the clear conviction that the Board could not, consistent with its duty, accept as final the conclusion on that subject; or

(c) That the misconduct there established either does not constitute grounds for discipline in this state, or warrants substantially different discipline here.

Where the Board determines that any of said elements exist, it shall enter such other order as it deems appropriate.

(5) In all other respects, a final adjudication in another jurisdiction that a licensee has been guilty of misconduct shall establish conclusively that misconduct for purposes of a disciplinary proceeding in this state.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.24 Licensees Who's Licenses Have Been Suspended or Revoked.

(1) Orders imposing suspension or license revocation shall be effective forty-two days after entry unless a different period is specified in the order of suspension or license revocation. The licensee, whose license has been revoked after entry of the license revocation or suspension order, shall not accept any new client or work as a veterinarian in any capacity. However, during the period from the entry date of the order and its effective date, he or she may wind up and finish, on behalf of any client, all matters which were pending on the entry date.

(2) Within fourteen days after the effective date of the license revocation or suspension order, the licensee, whose license has been suspended or revoked shall file with the Board an affidavit showing that he or she has fully complied with the provisions of the order and with these rules to which he or she is admitted to practice. Such affidavit shall also set forth the residence or other address of the licensee whose license has been revoked or suspended where communications may thereafter be directed to him or her.

(3) The Board shall cause a notice of the revocation or suspension to be published in the official state veterinary publication and in a newspaper of general circulation in each county of the State of Alabama in which the disciplined veterinarian maintained an office for the practice of veterinary medicine or the disciplined veterinary technician or euthanasia technician was employed.

(4) A licensee whose license has been suspended or revoked shall keep and maintain records of the various steps taken by him or her under these rules so that, upon any later proceeding instituted by or against him or her, proof of compliance with these Rules and with the revocation or suspension order will be available. Proof of compliance with these rules shall be a condition precedent to the filing or consideration of any petition for reinstatement.

(5) The perfection of an appeal shall operate as a stay of any discipline, sanction, duty, requirement or other act imposed or required by these rules, and such stay shall continue until the appeal is finally determined; provided, however, the Board may, for good cause shown, petition the court to terminate the stay before the final determination of the appeal.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-79.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.25 Reinstatement.

(1) No licensee suspended for more than three months or whose license has been revoked or who has voluntarily resigned or surrendered his or her license may resume practice until reinstated by order of the Board.

(2) A person who has been suspended for more than three months may not apply for reinstatement until the period of suspension has been terminated. A person who has had his or her license revoked after hearing or by consent may not apply for reinstatement until the end of at least one year from the effective date of the revocation or surrender of license.

(3) Petitions for reinstatement by a licensee whose license has been revoked or suspended under this rule shall be filed with the executive director. Upon receipt of such petition by the Board, the executive director shall promptly set the petition for a hearing within twenty-eight days. At the hearing, the petitioner shall have the burden of demonstrating by clear and convincing evidence that he or she has the moral qualifications to practice veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology in this state and that his or her resumption of the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology within the state will not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the licensed veterinarians, veterinary technicians or euthanasia technicians in the state.

(4) Upon reinstatement, the Board shall transmit notice of such reinstatement to all parties to whom notice of discipline or

transfer to inactive status due to disability were sent as provided herein.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-81.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.26 Proceedings In Which A Licensee Is Declared To Be Incompetent Or Is Alleged To Be Incapacitated.

(1) Where a licensee has been judicially declared incompetent or has been voluntarily confined by judicial action on the grounds of incompetency or disability, the Board, upon proper proof of the fact, shall enter an order transferring such licensee to disability inactive status. A copy of such order shall be served upon such licensee and his or her guardian, if any, and, if he or she has been committed to an institution, upon the director of such institution, in such manner as the Board may direct.

(2) Whenever a petition shall be filed to determine whether a licensee who is engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology is incapacitated from continuing the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology by reason of mental or physical infirmity or illness or because of addiction to drugs or intoxicants, such petition shall be referred to the Board. The Board shall provide for notice to the respondent of any proceedings in the matter and may appoint an attorney to represent the respondent if he or she is without adequate representation. The Board may take or direct such action as it deems necessary or proper to determine whether the licensee is so incapacitated, including the examination of the licensee by such qualified medical experts as the Board shall designate. If, upon due consideration of the matter, the Board concludes that the licensee is incapacitated from continuing to practice veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology, it shall enter an order transferring him or her to disability inactive status on the ground of such disability. Any pending disciplinary proceeding against the veterinary shall be held in abeyance.

(3) If, during the course of a disciplinary proceeding, the respondent contends that he or she is suffering from a disability by reason of mental or physical infirmity, illness, or addiction to drugs or intoxicants which makes it impossible for the respondent to adequately defend himself or herself, the Board thereupon may in its discretion enter an order transferring the respondent to disability inactive status until a determination is made of the respondent's capacity to continue to practice veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia

technology in a proceeding started in accordance with the provisions of (2) above. If the Board shall determine that the respondent is not incapacitated from practicing veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology, it shall take such action as it deems proper and advisable, including a direction for the resumption of the disciplinary proceeding against the respondent.

(4) No licensee transferred to disability inactive status under this rule may resume active status until reinstated by order of the Board. Any licensee transferred to disability inactive status under this rule shall be entitled to petition for reinstatement to active status once a year or at such shorter intervals as the Board may direct in the order transferring the respondent to disability inactive status or any modification thereof. Such petition shall be granted upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the licensee's disability has been removed and that he or she is fit to resume the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology. Upon such application, the Board may take or direct such action as it deems necessary or proper to a determination of whether the licensee's disability has been removed, including a direction for an examination of the licensee by such qualified medical experts as the Board shall designate. At its discretion, the Board may direct that the expense of such examination shall be paid by the licensee, and that the licensee establish proof of competence and learning in veterinary medicine, veterinary technology or euthanasia technology, which proof may include certification by the Board of his or her successful completion of an examination for admission to practice.

(5) If a licensee has been transferred to disability inactive status by an order in accordance with the provision of (1) above and, thereafter, has been judicially declared to be competent, the Board may dispense with further evidence that his or her disability has been removed and may direct his or her reinstatement to active status upon such terms as are deemed proper and advisable.

(6) In a proceeding seeking to transfer a licensee to disability inactive status under this rule, the burden of proof shall rest with the petitioner. In a proceeding seeking an order of reinstatement to active status under this rule, the burden of proof shall rest with the licensee seeking active status.

(7) The filing of a petition for reinstatement to active status by a licensee transferred to disability inactive status because of disability shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of any doctor-patient privilege with respect to any treatment of the licensee during the period of his or her disability. The licensee shall be required to disclose the name of every psychiatrist, psychologist, physician and hospital or other institution by whom or in which the licensee has been examined or treated since his or her

transfer to disability inactive status, and he or she shall furnish the Board written consent to each to divulge such information.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-62.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.27 Confidentiality.

(1) All proceedings involving allegations of misconduct by or the disability of a licensee shall be kept confidential until and unless a decision for the imposition of public discipline or disability is made by the Board. Provided, however, where the decision is that the respondent licensee shall receive a public censure, this decision shall remain confidential until the time of appealing the decision shall have elapsed or until the conclusion of an appeal, if one is taken. There shall be no confidentiality if the respondent licensee requests that the matter be made public, or if the investigation is predicated upon a conviction of the respondent licensee for a crime or if in matters involving alleged disability, the Board enters an order transferring the respondent licensee to a disability inactive status pursuant to Chapter 930-X-1-.26. All participants in the proceeding shall maintain the confidentiality of the proceeding. This provision shall not be construed to deny access to relevant information to authorized agencies investigating the qualifications of candidates, or to other jurisdictions investigating qualifications for admission to practice, or to law enforcement agencies investigating qualifications for government employment.

(2) In cases of extreme notoriety, the Board may in its discretion, upon majority vote of the Board, authorize its president to make a brief statement to the media that the matters asked about are under investigation and outlining the procedures for the handling of grievances under the administrative code; provided that such release shall not disclose (by name, position, address or otherwise) the identity of any person involved in the investigation.

(3) This rule has no application to disclosure incident to service pursuant to Chapter 930-X-1-.20.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-68.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.

930-X-1-.29 Declaratory Rulings.

(1) Any person substantially affected by a statute administered or rule promulgated by the Board may request a declaratory ruling as to either the manner in which a statute or rule applies to a given factual situation, if at all, or whether a particular Board rule is valid.

(2) All requests for declaratory rulings shall be written and mailed to the Board. The request must include the following information:

(a) name and address of petitioner;

(b) statute or rule to which petition relates;

(c) concise statement indicating manner in which petitioner is aggrieved.

(3) If, in the discretion of the Board, the Board deems it appropriate to issue a declaratory ruling, it shall issue such declaratory ruling within sixty days of receipt of the petition.

(4) A declaratory ruling proceeding may consist of written submissions, an oral hearing, or other procedure as may be appropriate in the circumstance of the particular request.

(5) Whenever the Board believes for good cause that the issuance of a declaratory ruling is undesirable, it may refuse to issue such ruling. The Board will notify the petitioner of its decision in writing, stating the reasons for the denial of the declaratory ruling.

(6) For purposes of this rule, the Board may refuse to issue a declaratory ruling for reasons including but not limited to the following:

(a) the subject matter of the request is involved in pending litigation in any state or federal court.

(7) A record of all declaratory ruling proceedings will be maintained in the Board office for as long as the ruling is in effect and for five years thereafter. This record shall contain: the request, the notice, all written submissions filed in the request, whether filed by the petitioner or any other person, and a record or summary of oral presentations, if any. Records of declaratory ruling proceedings will be available for public inspection during the regular office hours of the Board office.

(8) For the purpose of paragraph (7) of this section, a declaratory ruling shall be deemed to be in effect:

(a) until the statute or rule interpreted by the declaratory ruling is amended, altered or repealed;

(b) until the Board changes the declaratory ruling prospectively for good reasons;

(c) or until any court sets aside the ruling in litigation between the Board and the party requesting the ruling.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998.

930-X-1-.30 Procedure For Removal Of A Board Member.

In the event a Board Member does any of the items listed in §34-29-64(b) the Board will notify the appointing authority.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-64.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.31 Premises Permits.

(1) All veterinary facilities must acquire a premises permit. The owner and all associate veterinarians must be listed on the premises permit.

(2) All licensed veterinarians owning or associated with the premises shall be individually responsible for management of the premises. Short term relief veterinarians without management responsibilities will not be required to be listed on the premises permit.

(3) Premises permits must be displayed within the practice in such a manner as to be easily viewed by the public.

(4) All service agreements for any premises, including after hour emergency agreements and other supportive agreements, must be displayed with phone numbers and addresses within the practice in such a manner as to be easily viewed by the public.

(5) All licensed veterinarians owning or the primary administrative contact veterinarian with the premises, shall be

individually responsible for immediately reporting to the Board any changes, modifications, or terminations of any service agreements.

(6) An applicant for an initial premises permit must allow ample time for the Board to process the premises permit application. When an application, which is not for a renewal or change in ownership or association, requires an evaluation or inspection, the applicant must file a complete application at least 90 days before the permit is needed. All new veterinary facilities must complete a premises permit application and remit the inspection fee along with all required documents to the Board office. Evaluations or inspections will not be scheduled for incomplete premises applications even when the applicant believes that the missing information is minor, incidental, or unimportant. The Board has a limited number of inspectors and to ensure that all applicants receive premises permits timely, the Board will strictly adhere to an inspection schedule. An Inspector/Compliance Officer will contact the veterinarian to schedule an inspection date. Upon meeting or exceeding all mandatory minimum standards the Board will issue a premises permit.

(7) In the event a facility fails to pass an initial premises inspection/evaluation, applicant must correct any deficiencies, complete a new premises permit application, and pay the premises evaluation failure reinspection fee. An Inspector/Compliance Officer will contact the veterinarian to schedule the reinspection. It may be up to 120 days after the Board is notified that the premises are ready for reinspection before the premises are reevaluated.

(8) The application must designate one veterinarian as the primary administrative contact to work with the Board. The administrative contact veterinarian for the facility shall be the individual responsible for ensuring and coordinating administrative compliance with the practice act and the rules of the administrative code. The administrative contact veterinarian is individually responsible for written, telephonic, and electronic communication to and from the Board. This may not be delegated to administrative staff.

(9) Upon meeting the requirements of the practice act and the administrative code, including applicable mandatory minimum standards for facilities, the following types of premises permits are available:

(a) Veterinary or Animal Hospital or Clinic- available only for a facility providing quality examination, diagnostic, and health maintenance services for medical and surgical treatment of animals, including housing and nursing care for animals during illness and convalescence. Veterinarians working out of these facilities may make occasional house or farm calls to treat animals at the owner/client’s premises without becoming

a mobile clinic when reasonable circumstances prevent an owner/client from bringing an animal to the facility. A Mobile Small Animal Clinic may be permitted as a full-service clinic by meeting or exceeding all mandatory requirements for both full-service and mobile premises;

(b) Specialty Practice or Specialty Clinic- available only for a facility where veterinarians have advanced training in a specialty, are diplomats of an approved specialty college, and provide complete specialty services. These facilities must meet the minimum standards applicable for all facilities in addition to any minimum standards applicable to the specialty;

(c) Central Hospital- available only for a full-service facility, mainly utilized as a referral facility, and providing specialized care, including 24-hour nursing care and specialty consultation on a permanent or on-call basis, and the facility must also meet the requirements of subsection (a) by providing quality examination, diagnostic, and health maintenance services for medical and surgical treatment of animals, including housing and nursing care for animals during illness and convalescence;

(d) Satellite Clinic- available only for a supportive facility owned by or associated with, by having a service agreement with a permitted veterinary hospital, clinic, or full-service central hospital designated on the premises permit as the primary facility. Veterinarians on the premises permit of the primary facility must verify in the outpatient premises permit application that its outpatient clinic, if offering limited services, has ready access to the primary facility and is located within one hour or 45 miles of the primary facility, and that a veterinarian from the primary facility will be on call during and after the operation of the satellite to render aid, if necessary. In exceptional circumstances, upon approval of the board, the one hour or 45-mile limitation may be extended to a reasonable distance based upon the geographic location of the satellite clinic. Satellite clinics are primarily fixed branch locations of the primary facility and may be full or limited services facilities with necessary service agreements. The operation of any satellite clinic must be under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian who remains on the premises during the entire time of operation;

(e) Outpatient Clinic- available only for a supportive facility owned by or associated with, by having a service agreement with a permitted veterinary hospital, clinic or full-service central hospital designated on the premises permit as the primary facility. An outpatient clinic is mainly utilized for wellness and minor medical issues not requiring general anesthesia, surgery, or hospitalization. Veterinarians on the premises permit of the primary facility must verify in the outpatient premises permit application that its outpatient

clinic, if offering limited services, has ready access to the primary facility and is located within one hour or 45 miles of the primary facility, and that a veterinarian associated with the primary facility will be on call during and after the operation of the outpatient clinic to render aid, if necessary. In exceptional circumstances, upon approval of the board, the one hour or 45-mile limitation may be extended to a reasonable distance based upon the geographic location of the outpatient clinic. The operation of any outpatient clinic must be under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian who remains on the premises during the entire time of operation;

(f) Mobile Small Animal Clinic-available only for a supportive facility owned by or to be associated with by having a service agreement with a permitted veterinary hospital, clinic, or full-service central hospital. The Mobile Small Animal Clinic, the supportive facility, must be added to the premises permit of the primary facility. The veterinarians of the Mobile Small Animal Clinic, the supportive facility, must be listed as veterinarians on the premises permit of the primary facility. Veterinarians on the premises permit of the primary facility must verify in the mobile small animal clinic premises permit application that its mobile small animal clinic, if offering limited services, has ready access to the primary facility and is located within one hour or 45 miles of the primary facility, and that a veterinarian associated with the primary facility will be on call during and after the operation of the mobile small animal clinic to render aid, if necessary. In exceptional circumstances, upon approval of the board, the one hour or 45-mile limitation may be extended to a reasonable distance based on the geographic location of the mobile small animal clinic. The operation of any Mobile Small Animal Clinic must be under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian who remains on the premises during the entire time of operation;

(g) Large Animal Mobile Clinic- available only for a facility providing examination, diagnostic, preventive medicine, and minor surgical services for large animals not requiring confinement of hospitalization, including any other surgeries required by emergencies in the field. Large animal mobile units may be, but are not required to be, self-contained units. Complete hospital facilities may be provided without a service agreement by the nearest large animal hospital or veterinary school. Veterinarians operating out of a Large Animal Mobile Clinic may diagnose and treat an owner/client’s small animals on the owner/client’s premises without becoming a Mobile Small Animal Clinic;

(h) Emergency Clinic- available only for a treatment facility specializing in emergency veterinary medicine, established to receive patients from the public without prior appointments and to accept referrals from other veterinary facilities, to

treat acute injuries and illnesses which require immediate attention, to provide diagnostic and treatment during hours when local veterinary hospitals are normally closed. Emergency clinics shall meet or exceed all mandatory requirements for a full-service facility as provided in subsection (a) as well meet all other requirements of the practice act and the administrative code. Emergency clinics are not required to enter into service agreements with referring veterinarians who are within the same locale.

(10) All licensed veterinarians shall comply with all federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances and regulations.

(11) Field Compliance Officers/Inspectors will periodically inspect all veterinary practices operating under a premises permit in accordance with the provisions of the practice act and the administrative code. Inspections will be conducted during normal hours of operation.

(12) The premises permit may be revoked, suspended, or denied and penalties imposed for violations of the practice act, the administrative code, or other applicable law.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: **New Rule:** Filed June 18, 2018; effective August 2, 2018.

930-X-1-.31.01 Minimum Standards For Veterinary Facilities.

All locations in which veterinary medicine is practiced shall be adequate for the maintenance of good hygiene and the practice of veterinary medicine. All areas of a veterinary facility shall be maintained in a clean, inoffensive, odor free condition at all times. The minimum standards for all facilities in which veterinary medicine is practiced shall be:

(a) General facility requirements:

1. adequate space and safeguards for each patient

2. kept clean and in good repair

3. grounds clean and well maintained

4. parking area sufficient for clients and staff

5. facilities for the separation of inpatients

6. signs and exterior lighting in good taste and useful in identifying the hospital

7. hospital names not confusing to hospital identification

8. adequate heating, cooling and ventilation necessary to maintain a state of relative comfort for patients and staff

9. proper lighting in rooms used for the practice of veterinary medicine, increased lighting in the surgery area, and available emergency lighting

10. hot and cold running water

11. adequate sanitary storage relative to building size

12. floors and walls must be easily cleaned and sanitized

13. small animals (example: dogs) housed outside must have adequate shelter and bedding

(b) Records must be:

1. maintained on every animal and be legibly documented in an accurate and timely manner.

Exception: Herd or flock animal records may be kept on a per client rather than a per animal basis.

2. readily accessible and permit prompt retrieval of information.

3. kept for a minimum of three years following the last office visit or discharge of the animal from the veterinary facility.

4. identify the patient’s problem and condition as specifically as possible.

5. filed in an adequate filing system.

6. Paperless recordkeeping should meet all recording criteria and proof of periodic backup must be provided.

(c) Examination Facilities:

The following must be provided:

1. Table constructed of impervious and smooth material which can be sanitized between patients

2. Waste receptacle or chute

3. Adequate lighting and space to include available emergency lighting

4. Laboratory aides and diagnostic equipment (including an otoscope, ophthalmoscope, stethoscope, thermometer, and microscope)

5. Adequate equipment for administration of oxygen

(d) Pharmacy: The following must be provided:

1. Administration in accordance with ethical practice

2.. Storage, safekeeping and preparation of drugs in accordance with all state and federal laws

3. Labels on all dispensed drugs (with the exception of pre-labeled manufactured drugs with proper instructions) which include:

(i) Name, address and telephone number of the prescribing and dispensing facility

(ii) Name of client

(iii) Name of animal

(iv) Date dispensed

(v) Direction for use

(vi) Name and strength of drugs

(vii) Name of prescribing veterinarian

(viii) The Following Warnings

(I) Veterinary Use Only!

(II) Keep Away From Children!

4. Records of all drugs administered or dispensed shall be kept on the client's records and shall include dispensation reports made to the Public Health Department's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. (if for a companion animal, such record shall be on the individual patient's record)

5. Distribution and administration of controlled drugs must be adequately documented and placed in childproof packaging or special packaging in accordance with all state and federal codes

6. Periodic Controlled substance inventory must be performed and the DEA Biennial Inventory report must be readily accessible for inspection by both state and federal representatives.

7. Blood storage or blood donor availability

(e) Clinical Pathology: The following must be provided:

1. Either available on premise when the animal is brought in the hospital for treatment or provided by a pathology service outside the hospital within a reasonable time:

(i) Blood chemistry

(ii) Culture and antibiotic sensitivity

(iii) Complete blood count

(iv) Histopathology

(v) Complete necropsy

2. Within the hospital:

(i) Refrigeration

(ii) Urinalysis (Dipstick is adequate but specific gravity determination must be provided)

(iii) Mechanical method of determination of anemia

(iv) Flotation tests for internal parasite ova

(v) Adequate test to diagnose heartworm infestation

(vi) Skin scrapings for external parasites

3. Instrumentation for in hospital tests must be adequate.

(f) Radiology must provide:

1. Functioning radiographic equipment adequate to produce diagnostic radiographs which are appropriate to conventional practice needs.

2. Compliance with all State Health Department regulations including the use of a film badge service, the posting of safety regulations, and the use of leaded aprons and gloves.

3. Film which is adequately and permanently identified with the premise name, name of the owner, patient name, and date. Case identifier is recommended.

(g) Surgery must:

1. Be performed in a manner compatible with current veterinary medical practice with regard to anesthesia, asepsis, life support and monitoring procedures as well as recovery care, while always maintaining a level of safe humane care to patients.

2. Be performed in a room designed and reserved for surgery which is clean, orderly, well lighted and have available emergency lighting.

3. Provide and use gas anesthesia and a positive pressure oxygen delivery system for small animal patients where medically indicated. Large animal anesthesia may be performed compatible with current local veterinary practice.

4. Provide sterilization of instruments with steam pressure sterilization or autoclave. Gas sterilization is acceptable only for those instruments which cannot be autoclaved. Cold sterilization is acceptable under field conditions.

5. Provide instruments and equipment commensurate with the type of surgical services being provided.

6. Provide emergency drugs readily available to the surgical area.

7. Provide a table constructed of impervious and smooth material.

8. Provide a separate prep area outside the surgical suite.

9. Sterilize and use for surgery; instruments, gowns, towels, drapes, gloves, caps, and masks. Surgical packs should be routinely sterilized and dated and re-sterilized at a minimum of every forty-five (45) days.

(h) Housekeeping must provide:

1. A safe, functional, pleasant environment for clients, patients, and staff.

2. Clean, sanitary living quarters for patients. Bedding must be changed often to keep patients clean and dry and to minimize odors.

3. Daily cleaning and disinfecting of feeding bowls, instruments, cages, runs, etc.

4. Waste collection and removal in a safe, sanitary manner, utilizing interior and exterior waste receptacles which are removed often.

5. Prompt, sanitary and esthetic disposal of dead animals, biological waste, and medical waste (including sharps) which comply with all federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances and regulations. Those dead animals not claimed within five calendar days by the owner or agent, shall be disposed of at the discretion of the veterinarian.

6. Elimination or control of vermin and insect pests.

7. Adequate and daily feedings of wholesome, nutritional, and palatable food (except where medically contra-indicated).

8. Adequate and daily fresh water within easy reach of all patients (except where medically contra-indicated).

9. Adequate storage of animal foodstuffs to avoid contamination and spoilage.

(i) Maintenance must provide:

1. Constant upkeep of grounds and facilities to provide a safe, functional and pleasant environment for clients, patients and staff.

2. Constant upkeep of patient cages and other housing to maintain a safe, sanitary environment for inpatients.

3. Fire protection equipment within easy access.

(j) A library shall be provided with basic textbooks and periodicals as necessary to remain updated and accessible.

(k) Emergency service must be provided and readily available. After hours and emergency information provided by answering machines should be clear and concise as to whom will be responding or what facility will be accepting the referral.

(l) Use of sterilization to be per manufacturer’s recommendations including use of protective eye, outerwear and posting of hazard warning signs.

(m) New facilities must pass evaluation before opening.

(n) A practice must be inspected and approved immediately following a change in ownership and before any further operation of the facility.

(o) A premise permit may be revoked, suspended or denied if evaluation reveals that the premises do not meet the standards set by administrative code or if the license of the responsible veterinarian has been suspended or revoked.

(p) Failure to pass evaluation will constitute a warning and a period of fourteen days will be given before reevaluation. Failure to pass the second evaluation will result in suspension of the premise permit and closure of the facility until the necessary changes are made. The veterinarian in such a facility can request reevaluation no sooner than seven days after the closure. If significant progress towards correction of deficiencies are noted during the requested evaluation, a request for extension to correct deficiencies can be made to the Board. A detailed plan for compliance must accompany this request for extension and approved by the Board.

(q) The Board may, after notice and a hearing, impose a penalty against any owner, operator or responsible veterinarian of any premises operating without a premise permit in violation of this section or any rule promulgated by the Board. No penalty so imposed shall exceed $1,000.00 for each count or separate offense.

(r) Imposition of penalties under this Rule shall not prohibit other disciplinary proceedings by the Board.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013. **Amended (Rule number only):** Filed June 18, 2018; effective August 2, 2018.

930-X-1-.32 Minimum Standards For Mobile Premise.

The minimum standards for all mobile premise facilities in which veterinary medicine is practiced shall be as follows:

(1) General facility:

(a) Shall be kept clean and in good repair

(b) Shall have access to water

(2) Records must be:

(a) maintained on every animal and be legibly and accurately documented in a timely manner

(b) readily accessible and permit prompt retrieval of information

(c) kept for a minimum of three years following the last visit or discharge of the patient

(d) maintained on every patient treated and the patient's condition and problem(s) identified as specifically as possible

(e) filed in an adequate filing system

(f) Paperless recordkeeping should meet all recording criteria and proof of periodic backup must be provided.

Exception: Herd or flock animal records may be kept on a per client rather than a per animal basis. Mobile units may keep these records at a permanent base rather than on the mobile premise

(3) Equipment required on mobile premise:

(a) Sterile syringes and needles

(b) Properly stored biologics

(c) Antiseptic intravenous equipment

(d) Laboratory aides and diagnostic equipment, adequate for the type of practice

(e) Refrigeration (i.e., cooler with cold pack, etc.)

(4) Pharmacy must provide:

(a) Administration in accordance with ethical practice

(b) Storage, safekeeping and preparation of drugs kept in accordance with all state and federal laws

(c) Labels on all dispensed drugs (with the exception of pre-labeled manufactured drugs with proper instructions) which include:

1. Name, address and telephone number of the prescribing and dispensing facility

2. Name of client

3. Name of animal

4. Date dispensed

5. Direction for use

6. Name and strength of drugs

7. Name of prescribing veterinarian

8. THE FOLLOWING WARNINGS

(i) Veterinary Use Only!

(ii) Keep Away From Children!

(d) Records of all drugs administered or dispensed shall be kept on the clients records and shall include dispensation reports made to the Public Health Department's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. (if for a companion animal, such record shall be on the individual patient's record)

(e) Distribution and administration of controlled drugs must be adequately documented and placed in childproof packaging or special packaging in accordance with all state and federal codes

(f) Periodic Controlled substance inventory must be performed and the DEA Biennial Inventory report must be readily accessible for inspection by both state and federal representatives

(5) Clinical Pathology service shall provide the following:

(a) Blood chemistry

(b) Culture and antibiotic sensitivity

(c) Complete blood count

(d) Histopathology

(e) Complete necropsy

(f) Urinalysis

(6) Radiology must provide:

(a) Functioning radiographic equipment adequate to produce diagnostic radiographs which are appropriate to conventional practice needs

(b) Compliance with all State Health Department regulations including the use of a film badge service,

the posting of safety regulations, and the use of leaded aprons and gloves

(c) Film which is adequately and permanently identified with the premise name, name of the owner, patient name, and date. Case identifier is recommended.

(d) If radiological services are not available on the mobile premise, then a written, signed agreement must be provided to and pre-approved by the Board, demonstrating that arrangements have been made to provide the service outside the mobile premise. Referrals are acceptable to another veterinary practitioner or a college of veterinary medicine. A letter affirming acceptance of referral from the practitioner receiving the referral or college of veterinary medicine must be provided to the Board.

(7) If surgery is to be performed, the following shall be provided:

(a) Large Animal (Food Animal & Equine)

1. Sterile surgical instruments

2. Access to a means of sterilization (cold sterilization is acceptable only in field conditions)

3. Suture material

4. Intravenous equipment

5. Anesthesia compatible with current veterinary practice

6. Readily available emergency drugs, adequate to the type of practice

(b) Small Animal (any animal not defined as large animal above.

1. Be performed in a manner compatible with current veterinary medical practice with regard to anesthesia, asepsis, life support and monitoring procedures as well as recovery care, while always maintaining a level of safe humane care to patients.

2. Be performed in an area designed and reserved for surgery which is clean, orderly, well lighted and have available emergency lighting.

3. Provide and use gas anesthesia and a positive pressure oxygen delivery system for small animal patients where medically indicated.

4. Provide sterilization of instruments with steam pressure sterilization or autoclave. Gas sterilization is acceptable only for those instruments which cannot be autoclaved.

5. Provide instruments and equipment commensurate with the type of surgical services being provided.

6. Provide emergency drugs readily available to the surgical area.

7. Provide a table constructed of impervious and smooth material.

8. Provide a separate prep area outside the surgical area.

9. Sterilize and use for surgery; instruments, gowns, towels, drapes, gloves, caps, and masks. Surgical packs should be routinely sterilized and dated and re-sterilized at a minimum of every forty-five (45) days.

(8) Housekeeping must provide:

(a) Constant upkeep of mobile premise to provide a safe, functional, and sanitary environment

(b) Prompt, sanitary and esthetic disposal of dead animals, biological waste, and medical waste (including sharps) in compliance with all federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances and regulations. If working with known diseases within a herd, precautions shall be used to prevent transmission of infectious agents to another animal whether or not within the herd

(9) Emergency Services must be provided and readily available. After hours and emergency information provided by answering machines should be clear and concise as to who will be responding or what facility will be accepting the referral.

(10) Use of sterilization to be per manufacturer’s recommendations including use of protective eye, outerwear and posting of hazard warning signs.

(11) New mobile premises must pass evaluation before operation.

(12) This section shall not be construed to prohibit the administration of animal antirabies vaccines to domestic animals by any licensed veterinarian as provided for in Code of Alabama 1975, 3-7A-1-15, or to otherwise conflict with provisions of that Act, routinely generally known as The Alabama Rabies Law.

(13) All mobile premises must pass evaluation before operation and a valid premises permit must be obtained and displayed for each locale in which the mobile clinic operates.

(14) Large Animal Mobile Clinics must be equipped with or have access to all the following: water, proper cooling for the storage of drugs, medications and immunization products and a secure and sanitary area for the storage of instruments.

(15) Large animal veterinarians may, in addition to treating large animals, treat small animals residing at the location where the veterinarian provides services to large animals provided a valid VCPR exists.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: Repealed and New Rule: Filed December 18, 1997; effective January 22, 1998. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013. **Amended:** Filed June 18, 2018; effective August 2, 2018.

930-X-1-.33 Inactive License.

The Board may issue an inactive license to any veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician, providing the license is in good standing and the licensee meets all conditions and requirements for the otherwise active renewal of his or her license each year. This license is provided only to those who wish to maintain a license in Alabama but who are not currently practicing veterinary medicine in Alabama.

(1) The inactive license holder shall not resume the practice of veterinary medicine in Alabama until he or she has contacted the Board office for activation of his or her license. Practicing veterinary medicine without holding an active license is grounds for disciplinary action.

(2) Continuing education requirement is not waived for inactive license holders and should be maintained in a file in the event the licensee is audited by the Board.

(3) The fee for inactive license and late renewal fee will be in accordance with Rule 930-X-1-.06.

(4) The board may issue a temporary license to practice veterinary medicine to an unlicensed applicant providing the applicant meets all conditions and requirements of the Veterinary Practice Act relating to qualifications of applicants for license to practice veterinary medicine. The temporary license fee shall be posted in fees (930-X-1-.06).

(5) The Board may issue a temporary faculty license to practice at an Alabama college or school of veterinary medicine to an unlicensed applicant providing the applicant meets all conditions and requirements of the faculty license. The temporary license fee shall be posted in fees (930-X-1-.06).

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: New Rule: Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.34 Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee.

(1) Under the provision of Act 2000-453 of the 2000 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature, the Alabama Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners shall have the duty and obligation to promote early identification, intervention, treatment and rehabilitation of veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians impaired by reason of illness, inebriation, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, alcohol, chemicals, or other substances, or as a result of any physical or mental condition.

(2) In order to carry out this obligation, the Board hereby establishes the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee. The purpose of the committee is to develop, maintain and make available to all licensed veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians, a program to render assistance to impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians who voluntarily or involuntarily seek medical intervention, treatment and rehabilitation for their impairment. The committee shall consist of not less than nine (9), nor more than fifteen (15) veterinarians or licensed veterinary technicians licensed to practice in Alabama. The members of the committee will be appointed by the Board, from a list of candidates submitted by the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. The members of the committee will be eligible for reappointment. The committee initially will consist of 1/3 of the members to serve a one (1) year term, 1/3 of the members to serve a two (2) year term, and 1/3 of the members to serve a three (3) year term. Subsequent to the initial appointment procedure, appointments will be made for three (3) years. Appointments made for vacant positions will be

appointed for the remainder of that term. Members cannot serve more than nine (9) consecutive years.

(3) The Board is authorized under the provisions of Act 2000-453 to contract with any non-profit corporation or medical professional association for the creation, support, and maintenance of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee.

(4) The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may enter into an agreement with a nonprofit corporation or medical professional association for the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee to undertake those functions and responsibilities specified in the agreement which may include any or all of the following:

(a) Contracting with providers of treatment programs.

(b) Receiving and evaluating reports of suspected impairment from any source.

(c) Intervening in cases of verified impairment.

(d) Referring impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians to treatment programs.

(e) Monitoring the treatment and rehabilitation of impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians.

(f) Providing post-treatment monitoring and support of rehabilitated impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians.

(g) Performing other activities as agreed by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee.

(5) The Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee shall develop procedures in consultation with the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for the following:

(a) Periodic reporting of statistical information regarding impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians' program activity.

(b) Periodic disclosure and joint review of the information as the Board deems appropriate regarding reports received, contracts or investigations made, and the disposition of each report, provided however, that the committee shall not disclose any personally identifiable information except as provided in this act.

The Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee shall render an annual report to the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners concerning the operations and proceedings of the committee for the preceding year.

(6) It is the purpose and intent of the Board that the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee be a non-punitive alternative to disciplinary sanction for impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians who seek medical intervention, treatment, counseling or rehabilitation for their impairment. To that end, the Board hereby adopts the following policy guidelines to be used by the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee in implementing their duties:

(a) A veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician voluntarily seeking the assistance of the committee for treatment of an impairment who successfully completes the recommended course of treatment and therapy and who continues to abide by the terms and conditions of the committee's after-care agreements for the period of time specified and thereafter continues to practice veterinary medicine or veterinary technology with reasonable skill and safety and free from impairment will not be reported by the committee to the Board unless otherwise provided by the law.

However, a veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician participating in programs of treatment and/or rehabilitation and after-care must always truthfully answer all inquiries concerning such treatment made by employers, state or federal licensing and/or regulatory agencies, hospital medical staff credentialing bodies, medical malpractice insurance carriers and medical specialty Boards. The Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee will serve as an advocate on behalf of and lend support to veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians participating in programs sponsored or recommended by the committee before such agencies and organizations.

(b) Should the Board as a result of an investigation determine that there is cause to believe that a veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician is impaired, the Board may report that fact to the committee with a request that the individual be evaluated to determine whether an impairment exists. The Board will make available to the committee such information as is necessary to accomplish an intervention and evaluation. The committee will report its findings and recommendations to the Board and provide follow-up reports upon request.

(c) The committee shall report to the Board the name of any veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician the committee has reason to believe may be impaired and/or;

1. who has failed or refused to participate in programs of treatment or rehabilitation recommended by the committee, or

2. who is in breach of contract with the committee or has discontinued such treatment or rehabilitation against medical advice, or

3. who has failed to abide by the terms and conditions of an after-care agreement with the committee, or

4. whose continuation in practice, in the opinion of the committee, constitutes a threat to the safety of his or her patients or to the public, or

5. who has failed to honestly disclose information in accordance with subsection (a) paragraph two of this section.

(d) A report to the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee shall be deemed to be a report to the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for the purposes of any mandated reporting of veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician impairment otherwise provided by the law.

(7) All information, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, or other documents furnished to or produced by the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee and any findings, conclusions, recommendations or reports resulting from the investigations, interventions, treatment, or rehabilitation, or other proceedings of such committee are declared to be privileged and confidential. All records and proceedings of the committee pertaining to the impaired veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians shall be confidential and shall be used by the committee and the members thereof only in the exercise of the proper function of the committee and shall not be public records nor available for court subpoena or for discovery proceedings.

In the event of a breach of contract between the committee and the impaired veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician, any and all records pertaining to the conduct determined to cause the breach of contract will be disclosed to the regulatory board upon its request for disciplinary purposes only. Nothing contained herein shall apply to records made in the regular course of business of a veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians and information, documents, or records otherwise available from original sources are not to be construed as immune from discovery or use in any civil proceedings merely because they were presented or considered during the proceedings of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee.

(8) In support of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee, the Board may expend available funds as necessary to

adequately provide for the operational expenses of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee, including but not limited to the actual cost of travel, office overhead, and personnel expense. The funds provided by the Board for the purpose of operating expenses shall not be subject to any provision of law requiring competitive bidding.

(9) Any veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician licensed in Alabama who shall be duly appointed to serve as a member of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee and any auxiliary personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other volunteers or employees of the committee taking any action authorized by this act, engaging in the performance of any duties on behalf of the committee, or participating in any administrative or judicial proceeding resulting therefrom, shall, in the performance and operation thereof, be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

Any nonprofit corporation or medical professional association or state or county veterinary medical association that contracts with or receives funds from the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for the creation, support and operation of the Alabama Veterinary Professionals Wellness Committee shall, in so doing, be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.
Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69, as amended.
History: **New Rule:** Filed November 13, 2000; effective December 18, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.35 Certified Euthanasia Technicians (CET) For The Humane Euthanasia Of Animals.

For the purposes of Act No. 2004-523, the following terms shall have the following meanings ascribed by this section:

(1) **CERTIFIED EUTHANASIA TECHNICIAN (CET).** A person employed by a registered animal euthanasia facility (RAEF) that has been trained and has obtained a certified level of competency and knowledge of:

(a) the pharmacology and proper method of humanely euthanizing animals by injecting solutions for euthanasia or use of alternative euthanasia methods approved by the board;

(b) proper storage and security precautions of euthanasia solutions and chemical restraint agents;

(c) the federal and state laws regulating the storage, accountability and record keeping procedures of scheduled drugs;

(d) OSHA Safety and Material Safety Data Sheet Regulations;

(e) Euthanasia stress management;

(f) Proper disposal of euthanized animals

(2) **CHEMICAL RESTRAINT DRUGS.** Drugs that are administered prior to a lethal drug to reduce aggressiveness and/or mobility of the subject animal.

(3) **DIRECT SUPERVISION.** Veterinarian, Veterinary Technician or CET responsible for the training of a prospective CET and being physically present during euthanasia when performed by a prospective CET.

(4) **DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (DEA).** Federal agency responsible for enforcement of controlled narcotics laws.

(5) **EUTHANASIA SOLUTION.** A solution used for the humane death of an animal; accomplished by a method, that produces rapid unconsciousness and subsequent death without evidence of pain or distress, or a method that utilizes anesthesia produced by an agent that causes painless loss of consciousness and subsequent death. The solution shall be approved by the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia.

(6) **LETHAL DRUG.** Drugs that, when administered to an animal, cause humane death.

(7) **REGISTERED ANIMAL EUTHANASIA FACILITY (RAEF).** Any facility that operates for the collection, care and/or euthanization of stray, neglected, abandoned, or unwanted dogs and cats or any federally licensed wildlife rehabilitation centers that employs a CET.

(8) **CONSULTANT VETERINARIAN.** An Alabama licensed veterinarian who holds a currently active license and a current State and Federal Controlled Substance Registration and who acts as primary veterinary consultant to any registered animal euthanasia facility for matters involving euthanasia procedures used in the RAEF.

(9) **INITIAL CERTIFICATION OF TECHNICIANS:**

(a) Applicants for initial certification as euthanasia technicians must be at least 21 years of age, and must complete or provide the board with proof of the following:

1. Satisfactory completion of an approved euthanasia training course which may include but not be limited to:

(i) The theory of euthanasia methods;

(ii) Proper animal handling to ease trauma and stress;

(iii) Dosages, record keeping and documentation of usage of euthanasia solutions and chemical restraint drugs;

(iv) Proper injection techniques.

2. Satisfactory completion of a supervised training period of not less than two months within the past twelve months.

3. Satisfactory completion of an oral and practical examination.

4. Proof of employment at an approved RAEF;

5. A sworn affidavit that he or she does not have any drug-related convictions, and which discloses any pending drug-related criminal charges.

6. A sworn affidavit stating the applicant has received, read and understands the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act and the Administrative Code promulgated by the Board.

(b) CETs will receive a certificate which will expire on December 31 of each year. The certificate will be displayed on the wall of the euthanasia room of the RAEF.

(10) **RECERTIFICATION OF EUTHANASIA TECHNICIANS:**

(a) CETs must submit on or before December 31 of each year an application for recertification with the following information:

1. Proof of satisfactory completion of an approved euthanasia course or refresher course within the previous three years.

2. Proof of employment at an approved RAEF.

3. A sworn affidavit that he or she does not have any drug-related convictions, and which discloses any pending drug-related criminal charges.

(11) **CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR EUTHANASIA TECHNICIANS:**

(a) The CET administering euthanasia solutions or supervising others in training is fully responsible for all actions that take place in the euthanasia area.

(b) Each animal shall be held with the least amount of restraint necessary but human safety shall always be the primary concern. The use of chemical restraint is the option and the decision of the CET.

(c) No animal shall be left unattended between the time euthanasia procedures are first begun and the time that death occurs, nor may the body of the animal be disposed of until death has been confirmed by a licensed veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician or a CET.

(d) Injection techniques for euthanasia solutions and chemical restraint drugs:

1. Intravenous injections: The CET shall be able to perform intravenous injections humanely. Intravenous injections on cats are not required but if performed shall meet the standards for dogs.

2. Intraperitoneal injections: The CET shall be able to efficiently insert the needle into the proper injection sites. After the injection the animal shall be placed in an appropriate enclosure separated from other animals. *Exception: Litters of less than six weeks of age may be housed in the same enclosure after the injection*. The front of the enclosure shall be covered with a cloth or other material that can keep the cage isolated from the normal activities in the euthanasia area. The animal shall be observed regularly until death occurs.

3. Intracardiac injections are acceptable but can only be used on unconscious animals.

4. No other injection procedure for euthanasia solution is permitted in any type of animal.

5. Chemical restraint drugs administered prior to euthanasia solutions may be given intravenously, subcutaneously, intramuscularly or orally.

(e) Acceptable euthanasia alternatives to the use of injectable agents:

1. Inhalant anesthetics

2. Oral euthanasia solution

(f) The CET must understand the concern for individual animal needs:

1. Injected animals shall be lowered to the surface on which they are being held after they have collapsed. Injected animals shall not be permitted to drop or otherwise collapse without human support except when the animal is restrained by a mechanical restraint device.

2. All animals shall be handled with minimum stress while maximizing personal safety. Animals that cannot be handled with a limited amount of physical restraint shall be given an approved chemical restraint drug. Under these circumstances, if the facility has insufficient chemical restraint drugs available, it should contact the consulting veterinarian. Handling includes all aspects of moving an animal from one area to another.

3. Animals awaiting euthanasia shall not be placed in cages or kennels with other breeds or species that are incompatible with the animal in question. The animals shall not be overcrowded in any cage or kennel.

(g) The CET must have:

1. The ability to verify death. Each animal shall be checked to verify death. The verification is the responsibility of the CET and shall be made by physical examination of the individual animal. One or more of the following three indicators of death shall be met:

(i) Complete lack of palpebral, corneal and pupillary reflexes, complete lack of heartbeat determined by use of a stethoscope and complete lack of respiration; or

(ii) Cardiac standstill as indicated by a complete lack of movement of the previously placed intracardiac needle; or

(iii) Rigormortis.

2. The ability to handle difficult situations if they arise during the euthanasia process.

3. The ability to communicate with handlers during the euthanasia process.

(h) Use of Assistants:

1. To assure safe and humane euthanasia technique, a minimum of two persons shall be required for any intravenous injection. One person shall be a CET and one or more persons shall be handler(s). The handler does not have to be a CET but the handler should be trained in human safety and in animal handling techniques.

2. Intraperitoneal injections and intracardiac injections may be administered by a CET without a handler to unconscious animals.

(i) Chemical restraint drug: Xylazine, acetylpromazine and other board approved chemical restraint drugs shall be used according to their label instructions. The storage requirements for controlled substances and non-controlled substances shall apply to euthanasia and chemical restraint drugs according to their classification.

(j) Proper Record Keeping:

1. CET of record shall record all euthanasia and chemical restraint drugs received and used by the RAEF shall be kept in a consecutively numbered bound book. The record for controlled substances shall meet the requirements of the DEA.

The records shall contain at least the following information:

(i) The species, weight and individual identification number of each animal on which the drug is used.

(ii) The amount of the drug that was used and the total amount of drug left after use.

(iii) The date and name or initials of the person who administered the drug.

2. All records shall be filed in chronological order and labeled with the name of the RAEF.

3. Outdated Drugs: Outdated drugs shall be labeled as such and properly disposed of. Outdated drugs shall not be injected into living animals.

4. All records shall be kept for a period of three years from the purchase date of the drug.

(12) **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.**

(a) All CETs or RAEFs that handle or house controlled substances must register annually with the State Board and get a state controlled substance number from the Board. In addition:

1. A controlled substance fee is due at the time of the annual renewal.

2. The controlled substance fee for RAEF's will be $35.00 annually.

3. Controlled substance violations will be prosecuted as prescribed by law.

4. CET's may use their State Controlled Substance Registration and DEA Number for the purpose of ordering only those drugs approved and listed by the Board for euthanasia or restraint.

Euthanasia drugs currently approved are:

(i) sodium pentobarbital

(ii) sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine

(iii) any other approved drug

Chemical restraint drugs currently approved are:

(i) xylazine

(ii) acetylpromazine

(iii) any other approved drug

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69 (Act 2004-523 being codified).
History: New Rule: Filed November 30, 2004; effective January 4, 2005. **Amended:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013. **Amended:** Published July 31, 2026; effective September 14, 2026.

930-X-1-.36 Registered Animal Euthanasia Facility (RAEF) For The Humane Euthanasia Of Animals.

(1) **STANDARD FOR INITIAL APPROVAL OF A RAEF:**

(a) An approved RAEF must employ a CET. A CET shall be responsible for the security and use of euthanasia and chemical restraint drugs; the verification of animals for

euthanasia; and the euthanasia procedures used by the RAEF. Any change in employment status by a CET must be reported in writing to the board within three (3) working days.

(b) A RAEF must demonstrate that the facility has a consulting veterinarian. Any change in the consulting veterinarian must be reported to the board in writing not to exceed three working days.

(c) A RAEF must pass a facility inspection by the Board. This inspection will include but not be limited to:

1. A DEA approved record system for controlled and non-controlled substances.

2. A DEA approved storage system for controlled and non-controlled substances.

3. An approved euthanasia area.

4. Sufficient supplies and equipment to perform euthanasia humanely.

(d) The RAEF must provide to the board, forms and information pamphlets used by the RAEF for animal surrender, animal adoption, euthanasia services and other pertinent activities of the RAEF.

(e) The RAEF must demonstrate to the board the proper animal identification procedures to insure euthanasia of the proper animal.

(f) The fee for initial certification of RAEF will be set at a cost of $300.

(2) **PROCEDURE FOR INITIAL APPROVAL OF A RAEF:**

(a) The Board will review the request for initial approval of the RAEF during its regular business meetings.

(b) Approved RAEF will receive a certificate which will expire on December 31 of each year. The certificate will be displayed on the wall of the reception area in clear view of the public of the RAEF.

(3) **STANDARDS FOR THE EUTHANASIA AREA:**

(a) Each facility shall have a specific area designated for euthanasia. That area:

1. shall be a separate room; or

2. an area that is physically separated from the rest of the facility by a wall, barrier or other divider; or

3. an area that is not used for any other purpose while animals are being euthanized.

4. shall provide a separate entrance to the euthanasia area for injured or contagious animals.

5. shall provide a safe, quiet environment in which to perform euthanasia.

6. shall provide adequate space for two persons to perform euthanasia.

(b) The following information shall be posted in the euthanasia area of a RAEF:

1. a dosage chart for each euthanasia solution or chemical restraint drug maintained.

2. response protocols for accidental exposure of humans to euthanasia or chemical restraint drugs maintained.

(c) The euthanasia area shall meet the following minimum standards:

1. Lighting shall be adequate and even to provide sufficient illumination to aid in maintaining good housekeeping practices, adequate inspection and identification of animals, and safe working conditions for personnel.

2. The air temperature shall be within reasonable comfortable range for both personnel and animals. A minimum of 64 degrees and a maximum of 84 degrees Fahrenheit are recommended.

3. The area shall have adequate ventilation that prevents accumulation of odors.

4. The area shall have holding cages available to hold an animal while waiting for the drug to take effect. These cages shall be clean and sanitized.

5. The floor of the area shall provide dry non-slip footing to prevent accidents.

6. Drains should be capped and sealed or able to be flushed and disinfected.

(d) The euthanasia area shall have the following equipment:

1. A table or other work area where animals can be handled safely when euthanasia is performed.

2. A cabinet, table, or work bench where the drug, needle, syringe and clippers can be placed. This surface shall be separate from the area where the animals are being handled.

3. A sink or faucet shall be available.

4. All equipment shall be in good working order.

5. All equipment shall be stored so that it does not create a safety hazard for the personnel.

(f) The following equipment shall be kept in the euthanasia area or shall be brought to the area each time euthanasia is performed:

1. A first aid kit which meets VOSHA standards.

2. One or more tourniquets.

3. Standard electric clippers with a number 40 blade or an equivalent blade.

4. Humane restraint devices for dogs and cats.

5. Stethoscope.

6. Towels, sponges and disinfectant.

7. Sharps disposal system which is ADEM approved.

(g) All drugs and other chemical agents used in the euthanasia area shall be clearly labeled.

(4) **HANDLING OF EUTHANASIA AND CHEMICAL RESTRAINT DRUGS:**

(a) Approved drugs.

1. Consideration has been made for the pharmacological action of the drugs; the ease of humane administration of the drugs; the animal species for which the drug can be used to perform euthanasia; and human safety issues relative to use of the drug. The following are approved lethal drugs for use as injectable euthanasia solutions:

(i) sodium pentobarbital

(ii) sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine

(iii) any other board approved drug

2. The following are approved chemical restraint drugs for use in the euthanasia process:

(i) xylazine

(ii) acetylpromazine

(iii) any other board approved drug

3. The following are approved orally administrated drugs for use in the euthanasia process:

(i) xylazine

(ii) acetylpromazine

(iii) any other board approved drug

4. The list of approved euthanasia and chemical restraint drugs will be reviewed by the board periodically as new drugs become available and updated as required. This list will:

(i) include the generic and the trade name of the drug.

(ii) indicate for record keeping purposes whether the drug is a controlled or non-controlled substance.

(iii) indicate the species for which the drug is approved and the approved route of administration.

(b) Storage of Euthanasia Solutions:

1. The CET shall be responsible for compliance with storage requirements for euthanasia solutions at the RAEF. Any violation of storage requirements should be immediately reported to the board.

2. Controlled substances shall be stored in accordance with current DEA regulations and any DEA or state regulations promulgated in the future.

(i) Inventories of controlled substances will be stored in a locked safe attached to a wall in the building and in a room other than the euthanasia room.

(c) Safes:

1. The safe shall be securely attached to the building in which it is housed.

2. If a controlled substance is stored in a safe that can be opened by employees other than the CET, the controlled substance shall be kept in a separate locked metal container within the safe. Access to this container shall be available only to the CET and the consulting veterinarian.

3. The environmental temperature of the safe or storage cabinet shall be adequate to ensure the proper maintenance of the drugs.

(d) Controlled substances for day use may be stored in a locked cabinet in the euthanasia room with non-controlled substances, syringes, the daily log and the record book. The controlled substance must be returned to the safe at the end of the business day or whenever the CET is not on duty. The key to the cabinet shall be available only to the CET or veterinarian on duty.

(e) Non-controlled substances may be stored in a locked cabinet in the euthanasia room or secured under lock in another room at the RAEF. Non-controlled substances may be kept with syringes, inventory records and daily logs.

(f) Sodium pentobarbital in powder form shall be reconstituted according to the manufacturer's instructions. Each container of sodium pentobarbital shall be labeled with the name and strength, the date the drug was received and prepared, a drug warning label and the name and address of the RAEF.

(g) The State Controlled Substance Registration and the DEA license are in the name of the Lead CET and not the RAEF. If a Lead CET ceases to be employed by a RAEF, the RAEF is no longer allowed to obtain euthanasia or chemical restraint drugs with said licenses, until another Lead CET is designated on the license.

(5) **STANDARDS FOR NEEDLES AND SYRINGES:**

(a) Needles - four (4) different needle sizes are required; 18, 20, 22 and 25 gauge. A RAEF may have other needle sizes according to its needs. Needles shall be of medical quality and shall not be used more than once. Proper ADEM Disposal System is required for the disposal of all sharps.

(b) Syringes - three (3) different syringe sizes are required; 3, 6 and 12 cc. A RAEF may have other syringe sizes according to its needs. Syringes shall be of medical quality and may be reused only for euthanasia after proper cleaning.

(c) The temporary storage cabinet shall be used to store all needles and syringes when not in use.

(6) **CARCASS DISPOSAL**

(a) All carcasses shall be disposed of in a manner according to law and the RAEF procedures.

(b) Until the carcass can be disposed of it shall be kept in a freezer used only for this purpose.

(7) **REAPPROVAL OF REGISTERED ANIMAL EUTHANASIA FACILITY:**

(a) A RAEF may submit a request for reapproval to the board on or before December 31 of each year with the following information:

1. A list of CETs employed by the RAEF, their employment status (including part time, full time, hours on duty) and indicate which CET is responsible for all aspects of euthanasia at the RAEF.

2. The name and address of the consulting veterinarian and an indication of the veterinarian's consent to serve the RAEF as the consulting veterinarian.

(i) There may be an inspection prior to reapproval.

(ii) The Board may recommend the revocation or suspension of certification based upon investigation of complaints, an inspection revealing deficiencies that are not corrected, or any other violations of these rules.

(iii) Renewal of certification of a RAEF will be set at a cost of $200 and penalty for late renewal of certification will be set at $200.00.

(8) **INSPECTION DEFICIENCIES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE CORRECTION:** - If there are deficiencies with either a CET or a RAEF, the inspecting representative of the board shall document areas for correction on an inspection reporting form. The RAEF and CET shall make corrections within 30 days and the CET or a RAEF may be re-inspected or re-examined within that 30 days if the board deems appropriate. If the deficiencies have not been corrected the board may:

(a) deny certification or approval,

(b) revoke the certification of the CET and/or the RAEF as may be applicable.

(9) **WHO MAY ADMINISTER EUTHANASIA AND CHEMICAL RESTRAINT DRUGS:**

(a) No person shall administer euthanasia and/or chemical restraint drugs to an animal in a RAEF in Alabama unless that

person is a licensed veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician or a CET.

(b) A person in training as a CET who is employed by a RAEF, may administer a lethal euthanasia or chemical restraint drug under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, licensed veterinary technician or a CET.

(c) In the event of an emergency which requires immediate euthanasia of an injured, diseased, or dangerous animal, a law enforcement officer, a veterinarian, a licensed veterinary technician or an agent or designee of a local animal control unit may humanely destroy the animal if the animal is deemed to be useless, suffering or imminently near death and cannot be cured or rendered fit for service as long as the officer has made a reasonable and concerted but unsuccessful effort to locate the owner or agent.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69 (Act 2004-523 being codified).
History: **New Rule:** Filed November 30, 2004; effective January 4, 2005. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.37 Rules Of Professional Conduct For Licensed Veterinary Technicians/Grounds For Discipline.

(1) The following conduct is unprofessional and violates Section 34-29-94(j) of the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act and is grounds for disciplinary action by the board.

(a) Practicing or offering to practice as a licensed veterinary technician without being employed and supervised by a licensed veterinarian;

(b) Accepting payment for services rendered as a licensed veterinary technician from someone other than the veterinary technician's employer;

(c) Compromising the confidentiality of the veterinarian-client-patient relationship;

(d) Failing to acknowledge that the licensed veterinary technician is not a licensed veterinarian or that the veterinary technician is an employee of a veterinarian;

(e) Undertaking procedures or performing treatment that has not been authorized by the supervising veterinarian;

(f) Undertaking procedures or performing treatment that the licensed veterinary technician is not trained or competent to perform;

(g) Soliciting patients for any practitioner of veterinary medicine;

(h) Willfully or negligently divulging professional information or discussing a veterinarian's diagnosis or treatment without the express permission of the veterinarian;

(i) Being unable to practice as a licensed veterinary technician with reasonable skill and safety to patients because of the use of drugs, alcohol, narcotics, chemicals or as a result of any mental or physical condition;

(j) Fraud or misrepresentation in applying for or procuring a license to practice as a licensed veterinary technician in the State of Alabama, or for any other purpose;

(k) Impersonating another person licensed as a licensed veterinary technician or allowing any person to use the licensee's license;

(l) Aiding or abetting the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology by a person not licensed by the board;

(m) Gross negligence or malpractice in the performance of duties, tasks or functions assigned to a licensed veterinary technician by a licensed veterinarian;

(n) Demonstrating incapacity or incompetence to perform as a licensed veterinary technician,

(o) Giving false sworn information in testimony or affidavit about the content of clinical records or the rendering of patient care in the course of practice as a licensed veterinary technician;

(p) Cruelty to animals;

(q) Any conduct unbecoming a person identified as a licensed veterinary technician, reflecting negatively on the veterinary medical profession or detrimental to the best interests of the public;

(r) Conviction of a felony or conviction of any offense punishable by incarceration in either a state or federal penitentiary. A copy of the record of conviction, certified by the clerk of the court entering the conviction, shall be conclusive evidence of such punishment;

(s) Failure of a licensed veterinary technician to annually renew the license to practice veterinary technology or to satisfy the annual continuing education requirement;

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: **New Rule:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007. **Amended:** Filed November 28, 2012; effective January 2, 2013.

930-X-1-.38 Rules Of Professional Conduct For Certified Euthanasia Technicians/Grounds For Discipline.

(1) The following conduct is unprofessional and violates Article 6 of the Alabama Veterinary Practice Act and is grounds for discipline by the board.

(a) Failure to effectively carry out the duties of a Certified Euthanasia Technician;

(b) Abuse of any chemical substance, including;

1. Personally using any addictive or controlled substance;

2. Selling or otherwise providing other people with any addictive or controlled substance;

3. Stealing or otherwise illegally procuring any addictive or controlled substance;

4. Aiding or abetting anyone in any of the foregoing activities;

(c) The exercising of fraud or misrepresentation or deception in obtaining certification as a euthanasia technician;

(d) Conviction of a felony; conviction of any offense punishable by incarceration in either a state or federal penitentiary; or conviction of any other criminal act that in any way reflects negatively on other euthanasia technicians. A copy of the record of conviction, certified by the clerk of the court entering the conviction, shall be conclusive evidence of such punishment;

(e) Failure to follow proper record keeping procedures as outlined and required by the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (ASBVME);

(f) Failure to maintain and store equipment as outlined and required by the ASBVME;

(g) Failure to properly secure, store and record the use of restraint drugs and approved controlled substance preparations as required by the ASBVME and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA);

(h) Representing ones self to the public as a licensed Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or as a Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT);

(i) Allowing anyone else to use your status as a euthanasia technician to represent themselves as a euthanasia technician;

(j) Utilizing drugs approved for animal euthanasia for purposes other than to accomplish animal euthanasia or using approved euthanasia drugs contrary to the manufacturers label instructions;

(k) Violation of any federal or state law relating to the administration, prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances;

(l) Engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct, including but not limited to the following;

1. Working in conjunction with any agency or person illegally practicing as a euthanasia technician; aiding or abetting a person practicing as a euthanasia technician without ASBVME certification;

2. Failing to provide sanitary facilities or to employ unsanitary procedures in performing animal euthanasia;

3. Performing euthanasia of animals in a manner that endangers the health and welfare of the public;

4. Demonstrating incapacity or incompetence to perform as a euthanasia technician;

5. Being unable to practice as a euthanasia technician with reasonable skill and safety because of the use of drugs, alcohol, narcotics, chemicals or as a result of any mental or physical condition;

6. Gross negligence or malpractice in the performance of duties, tasks and functions assigned to euthanasia technicians;

7. Cruelty to animals;

8. Swearing falsely in any testimony or affidavit relating to practicing as a euthanasia technician;

(m) Failure of a euthanasia technician to annually renew certification and pay the annual certification fee;

(n) Failure of a euthanasia technician to satisfy the annual continuing requirement for re-certification.

Author: Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-29-69.
History: **New Rule:** Filed January 10, 2007; effective February 14, 2007.