

PROPOSED REGULATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

The State of Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is proposing amendments of regulations in chapter 638 of Nevada Administrative Code.

A workshop has been scheduled for 8:00AM on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at:

Kietzke Plaza Suites
4600 Kietzke Ln.
G “Conference Room”
Reno, NV 89502



Videoconference Link: *(Click the link above or scan the QR code using your phone to join)*

Meeting Link: <https://tinyurl.com/54pjzaup>

Meeting ID: 226 131 379 265 13

Telephone Attendance *(Dial the phone number and then enter the 'Conference ID' to join)*

Teleconference: +1 (929) 229-5741

Conference ID: 949 080 172 #

The purpose of the workshops is to solicit comments from interested people on the following general topics that may be addressed in the proposed regulations:

- Added definitions for “***Veterinary Technician Specialist***”, “***Surgery***”, and “***Veterinary Technician-in-Training Specialist***”.
- Added language for scope of practice, licensure, and renewal of a **Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) and Veterinary Technician Specialist-in-Training (VTS-IT)**.
- Updated language related to advertising.
- Prohibition on the terms ‘board eligible’ and ‘board qualified’.
- Updated language for definition and expectations of “Supervising Veterinarian.”
- Updated fee schedule.

A physical copy of all materials relating to the proposal may be obtained at the workshop or by contacting board staff at:

State of Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
4600 Kietzke Ln. Suite O-265
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 688-1788.
vetbdinfo@vetboard.nv.gov

The Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulation has been sent the agency’s mailing list, all individual licensees, veterinary facilities, and the following locations:

- The Legislative Council Bureau
- nvvetboard.nv.gov
- Clark County Library
- notice.nv.gov
- Sierra View Library (Old Town Mall)
- Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiner’s Office

Date posted: 4-7-2026

Amendment Posted: 4-13-2026

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD
OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

LCB File No. R*-26**

April 30, 2026

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: NRS 638.070.

A REGULATION relating to veterinary medicine. . .

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law. . .

Section. 1 Chapter 638 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth in sections 2 through 14 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. NAC ch. 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

1. “Veterinary Technician Specialist” means a licensed veterinary technician who has obtained advanced education, training, and certification in a recognized area of veterinary specialty practice through a veterinary technician specialty organization accredited by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties (CVTS).

2. A Veterinary Technician Specialist may perform advanced nursing care, diagnostic procedures, and technical skills within the individual’s specialty area under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

3. “Surgery” means the treatment or correction of disease, injury, deformity, or other physical condition of a living animal by an operative procedure that involves the following:

(a) Incision into living tissue for the purpose of exposing, removing, repairing, or altering anatomical structures;

- (b) Excision, resection, or removal of tissue, organs, masses, that materially alter anatomical structures;*
- (c) Entry into a sterile body cavity or compartment;*
- (d) Dissection, transection, or reconstruction of tissue or anatomical structures;*
- (e) Implantation, fixation, or removal of orthopedic devices, prosthetics, or other medical implants;*
- (f) Oral surgery, including but not limited to exodontics, endodontics, orthodontics, prosthodontics, and periodontics; and*
- (g) Any operative procedure that materially alters anatomical structure beyond superficial tissues.*

Nothing in this definition shall be construed to prohibit any licensee from performing duties that are otherwise authorized by statute or regulation.

Sec. 3. NAC ch. 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

“Veterinary Technician Specialist-in-Training” means a licensed veterinary technician who has applied to and is enrolled in a veterinary technician specialty academy accredited by NAVTA-CVTS and is completing required skills verification. All specialty skills must be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian or a Veterinary Technician Specialist credentialed in the same specialty.

Sec. 4. NAC ch. 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

1. In addition to the requirements of NRS 638.122, an applicant for a license to practice as a veterinary technician specialist must submit to the Board an application on a form prescribed by the Board.

2. The application must be accompanied by satisfactory proof that the applicant:

- (a) Be 18 years of age or older;*
- (b) Is of good moral character;*

(c) Holds a current license in good standing as a veterinary technician; and

(d) Is certified and in good standing in a veterinary technician specialty from an organization accredited by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties;

3. Only a person who is a licensed veterinary technician specialist from an approved specialty of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties may use the title “veterinary technician specialist.”

Sec. 5: NAC ch 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

*1. Each license issued pursuant to NAC 638.*** or renewed pursuant to this section expires on June 30 of each odd-numbered year.*

2. Each application for renewal of a certificate of registration must be:

(a) Submitted in the form established by the Board;

(b) Signed by the licensed veterinary technician specialist;

(c) Accompanied by proof that the licensed veterinary technician specialist has completed:

(1) Proof of that his or her membership in their designated veterinary technician specialty accrediting body is current and in good standing; and

(2) Renewal of his or her veterinary technician license.

3. A licensed veterinary technician specialist who fails to renew his or her license before it expires forfeits the certificate of registration.

*4. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 638.***, upon receipt of the application for renewal and the information required by subsection 2 and payment of the renewal fee the Board will renew the license of the veterinary technician specialist.*

Sec. 6: NAC ch 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

1. Veterinary technician specialists shall:

(a) Collaborate with the supervising veterinarian to ensure safe and quality health care

services for all animals.

(b) Assume accountability for individual professional actions and judgments.

(c) Ensure that do not accept or perform any task, responsibility, or activity that is outside of the appropriate scope of practice for his or her license, knowledge, and skill level.

(d) Communicate concerns or refuse tasks, responsibilities, or activities for which they are unprepared or unqualified.

(f) Shall ensure that all registrants and licensees under his or her supervision are performing tasks only within their designated scope of practice.

(g) Shall not unduly pressure or require any individual under his or her supervision to perform tasks for which he or she is not qualified.

(g) Shall facilitate open communication with those under their supervision and allow, without fear of reprisal, to express concerns or to refuse tasks, responsibilities, or activities for which they feel unprepared or unqualified.

Sec. 7. NAC ch 638 shall be amended by adding the following new language:

1. The following tasks are to be provided solely by a veterinarian. A licensed veterinary technician specialist shall may not perform the following tasks of animal health care:

(a) Surgery;

(b) Diagnosis and prognosis; ~~of animal diseases.~~

(c) ~~Prescribe; and Except as authorized by a veterinarian, administer, prepare to dispense or dispense drugs, medicines or appliances.~~

(d) Any other activity ~~which represents the practice of veterinary medicine, or~~ which requires the education, skills, and knowledge of a veterinarian.

2. A licensed veterinary technician specialist, under the direct supervision of a veterinarian, may:

(a) Perform veterinary tasks within the scope his or her license designated specialty.

(b) Perform such tasks in accordance with the knowledge and skills acquired through his or her approved specialty.

(c) Provide immediate supervision of tasks within his or her scope of practice to a veterinary technician specialist-in-training or veterinary technician, provided the supervising veterinarian authorizes such supervision.

Sec. 8. *NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:*

1. Advertising by a veterinarian shall not contain any false, deceptive, or misleading statements or claims. A false, deceptive, misleading statement, or claim in which false information is communicated or is intended, through a material omission, to leave a false impression.

2. Testimonials or endorsements are advertising, and a veterinarian must comply with applicable law and guidelines issued by the Federal Trade Commission on the use of endorsements and testimonials in advertising.

Sec. 9. NAC.016 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Supervising veterinarian” means a veterinarian licensed to practice in this State who employs, supervises, or employs and supervises *a registered veterinary student, a veterinary technician specialist, a veterinary technician specialist-in-training,* a veterinary extern, a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure, a licensed veterinary technician, a veterinary technician in training or a veterinary assistant.

Sec. 10. NAC 638.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The Board will charge and collect the following fees:

For an application and examination for a license to practice veterinary medicine \$500
For an application for a license by endorsement to practice veterinary medicine..... 500
For an application for a license to practice veterinary medicine as a diplomate..... 500
For an application for a license to practice as a veterinary technician.....~~220~~ 250

<i>For an application for a license to practice as a veterinary technician specialist.....</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>For an application for a license to practice as a veterinary technician specialist-in-training-</i>	<i>60</i>
For an application or examination for a license to practice as a euthanasia technician.....	500
For a 2-year registration to practice as a veterinary technician in training.....	[60] 70
<i>For a registration to practice as a registered veterinary student.....</i>	<i>100</i>
For a permit to operate a facility owned by a licensed veterinarian, other than a mobile clinic	[500] 575
For a permit to operate a facility not owned by a licensed veterinarian, other than a mobile Clinic.....	[700] 840
For a permit to operate a mobile clinic	[150] 180
For a permit to operate a nonprofit facility	200
For a registration to practice animal chiropractic	[200] 240
For a registration to practice animal physical therapy	200 240
For a registration to practice as an equine dental provider	220 240
For a temporary license to practice veterinary medicine	[150] 200
For the reinstatement of a veterinary or diplomate license.....	525 640
For the reinstatement of a veterinary technician license	[200] 220
For the biennial renewal of an active license to practice veterinary medicine , including, without limitation, a license by endorsement and a Diplomate License.....	[500] 600
For the biennial renewal of an inactive license to practice veterinary medicine.....	[275] 330
For the biennial renewal of a license to practice as a veterinary technician.....	[150] 180
<i>For the biennial renewal of a license to practice as a veterinary technician specialist.....</i>	<i>75</i>
For the biennial renewal of a license to practice as a euthanasia technician.....	[250] 300
For the biennial renewal of a registration to practice as an animal physical therapist.....	[200] 240

For the biennial renewal of a registration to practice as an animal chiropractor..... ~~[200]~~240

For the biennial renewal of a registration to practice as an equine dental provider..... ~~[200]~~240

For the biennial renewal of a permit for a facility owned by a licensed veterinarian, other than a mobile clinic..... ~~[400]~~ 480

For the biennial renewal of a permit for a facility not owned by a licensed veterinarian, other than a mobile clinic ~~[700]~~ 840

For the biennial renewal of a permit to operate a mobile clinic..... ~~[100]~~120

For the biennial renewal of a permit for a nonprofit facility..... 200

For a duplicate of a license, registration or permit described in this section ~~[20]~~25

2. For the purposes of this section, a facility is “owned by a licensed veterinarian” if one or more licensed veterinarians hold at least 10 percent of the total ownership interest, solely or jointly, of the facility.

Sec. 11 NAC 638.041 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. As a prerequisite for each renewal of his or her license to practice veterinary medicine or to practice veterinary medicine as a diplomate licensed pursuant to NRS 638.105, a licensee must complete:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), at least 40 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 20 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 24-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing; or

(b) If his or her license was issued after October 1 of the immediately preceding even numbered year, at least 20 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 10 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing.

2. As a prerequisite for each renewal of his or her license to practice as a veterinary technician, a licensed veterinary technician must complete:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), at least 20 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 10 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 24-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing; or

(b) If his or her license was issued after October 1 of the immediately preceding even numbered year, at least 10 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 5 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing.

3. As a prerequisite for each renewal of his or her license to practice as a veterinary technician specialist, a licensed veterinary technician specialist must complete:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), at least 10 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 5 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 24-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing; or

(b) If his or her license was issued after October 1 of the immediately preceding even numbered year, at least 10 hours of continuing education approved by the Board, not more than 5 hours of which may be completed in distance learning or correspondence courses, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the beginning of the new period of licensing.

(c) The continuing education required in paragraph (a) are in addition to the continuing education hours required for renewal of the veterinary technician license.

4. ~~[3.]~~ A licensee who does not comply with the requirements of this section may be subject to disciplinary action

Sec. **12** NAC 638.057 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The supervising veterinarian:

(a) Is responsible for determining the competency of the licensed veterinary technician, veterinary technician in training or veterinary assistant under his or her supervision to perform delegated tasks of animal health care.

(b) Shall ensure that the licensed veterinary technician, veterinary technician in training or veterinary assistant performs the tasks of animal health care delegated to the licensed veterinary technician, veterinary technician in training or veterinary assistant in a manner which is consistent with good veterinary medical practice.

(c) Shall make all decisions relating to the diagnosis, treatment, management and future disposition of an animal.

(d) Shall examine an animal before delegating any tasks to the licensed veterinary technician, veterinary technician in training or veterinary assistant. The examination must be conducted at such time as good veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular task of animal health care which is delegated.

(e) Shall not direct or assign any task, responsibility, or activity to any individual under his or her supervision that is outside of the appropriate scope of practice for that individual to perform.

(f) Shall ensure that all registrants and licensees are performing tasks only within their designated scope of practice.

(f) Shall not unduly pressure or require any individual under his or her supervision to perform tasks for which he or she is not qualified.

(g) Shall facilitate open communication with those under their supervision and allow, without fear of reprisal, to express concerns or to refuse tasks, responsibilities, or activities for which they feel unprepared or unqualified.

~~[(1) Unlicensed personnel do not perform duties that are specific to licensed veterinary technicians or licensed veterinarians;~~

~~(2) A person does not perform tasks as a veterinary technician in training unless the person is registered pursuant to NAC 638.0525; and~~

~~(3) A person does not perform tasks as a veterinary assistant except as provided in NAC 638.0602 and 638.06025.]~~

2. A supervising veterinarian who *violates* ~~[does not comply with]~~ the requirements of this section may be subject to disciplinary action.

Sec. 13. NAC 638.0505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Except for a person described in subsection 3 of NRS 638.015, only a person who is a diplomate from an approved specialty board of the American Veterinary Medical Association and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 638.105 may use the title “veterinary specialist.”

2. The terms “board eligible” or “board qualified” shall not be used in advertising.

Sec. 14. NAC 638.0607 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The licensed veterinarian who is in charge of a veterinary facility is responsible for any violation of:

(a) A state or local law, regulation or ordinance related to the practice of veterinary medicine at the veterinary facility or the care, safety or maintenance of animals at the veterinary facility; or

(b) A state or federal law or regulation related to controlled substances and dangerous drugs at the veterinary facility.

~~***2. The licensed veterinarian who is in charge of a veterinary facility shall ensure that at any time he or she is not present at the facility and is open to the public, a supervising veterinarian is present at the facility.***~~

~~3. *Each person who has a direct or indirect ownership interest of 10 percent or more in a business which practices veterinary medicine shall ensure that the facility maintains the minimum standard of practice of veterinary medicine established by this chapter.*~~