

PROPOSED REGULATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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

A workshop has been scheduled for 9:30AM on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at:

Hampton Garden Inn (Las Vegas Strip South)
7830 S Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89123



Videoconference: <https://tinyurl.com/5hahe7av>

Teleconference: +1 (929) 229-5741
Phone conference ID: 837 156 114#

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 ***“Herd,” “Vaccine,” “Vaccination,” “Sedation”, and Registered Veterinary Student”***
- A ***“Registered Veterinary Student”*** defined as enrolled after one semester, registered with the Board, may perform technician duties under supervision.
- Added language for ***storage and disposal of deceased animals.***
- Allowed limited use of ***expired drugs*** under FDA-approved conditions with documentation.
- Expanded acceptable ***payment methods*** and required electronic payment for large transactions.
- Required CE proof to include ***method of delivery.***
- Strengthened ***medical record standards*** — added detail for anesthesia, cloud access, and record completion timelines.
- Broadened misconduct provisions to all licensees and registrants, adding bans on ***false statements or withholding records.***
- Updated ***abandoned animal*** procedures with clearer notice and humane disposition rules.
- Revised technician licensing to include ***accelerated programs*** and clarified supervised clinical hours.
- Added jurisprudence exam and extension option for ***graduates awaiting licensure.***
- Clarified facility requirements, including ***veterinarian-in-charge designation*** and ownership notice.
- Updated ***animal physical therapy and chiropractic*** rules — added jurisprudence exam, 5-day reporting, and record sharing.
- Revised ***dentistry*** section
- Informed consent and revised requirements for technicians notifying veterinarians of abnormal findings.
- Repealed redundant disciplinary section now covered under unified standards.

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

This Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulation has been sent to all persons on the agency's mailing list for administrative regulations, all licensed veterinary facilities, and posted at 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 Examiners Office

Date posted: 10-8-2025

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

LCB File No. R*-25**

October 23, 2025

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 *** of this regulation.

Sec. 2. NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:

1. "Herd" means a group of animals of the same species or epidemiologically linked species that are maintained on the same premises or under common ownership or supervision and are managed as a single epidemiological unit. Animals in a herd share similar risk factors for disease exposure, transmission, and health status due to common housing, feeding, movement, or management practices.

2. ~~["Student Extern"]~~ "Registered Veterinary Student" means a student who has completed at least one ~~[year]~~ semester of education and is actively enrolled in a veterinarian doctoral program accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association and who has obtained a ~~[Student-extern]~~ Registered Veterinary Student registration from the Board.

3. "Sedation" means a controlled state of depressed consciousness caused by a drug or combination of drugs during which the patient maintains [~~response to verbal commands, touch, or painful stimuli.~~] normal neurological responses and normal protective [~~Protective~~] airway reflexes remain intact, including the swallowing and the gag reflex, [~~remain intact,~~] and spontaneous ventilation is adequate without intervention.

4. "Vaccine" means [~~#~~] an FDA-approved suspension of live (usually attenuated) or inactivated microorganisms (e.g., bacteria or viruses), fractions of the agent, or genetic material of the [~~administered~~] agent to induce immunity and prevent infectious diseases and their sequelae.

5. "Vaccination" means:

(a) The physical act of administering a vaccine; and

(b) The creation or entry of a medical record containing identifying information that a vaccine has been administered, including but not limited to: lot number, volume of vaccine, date of administration, manufacturer, and expiration.

Sec. 3. NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:

1. To be registered as a [~~student extern~~] Registered Veterinary Student, a person must:

(a) Submit to the Board an application on a form prescribed by the Board;

(b) Submit to the Board proof of employment where the person is employed or will be employed under the supervision of a veterinarian;

(c) Be 18 years of age or older;

(d) Be of good moral character;

(e) Be currently enrolled in and have completed at least one semester of course work in a veterinary degree program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education;

(f) Submit to the Board proof that he or she has completed at least 1,000 hours of work experience at a veterinary facility.

2. A Registered Veterinary Student may perform the same duties as a veterinary technician under the direct supervision of a veterinarian as set out in NAC 638.053.

Sec. 4. NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:

1. A safe and sanitary method of storage and disposal of deceased animal carcasses must be maintained in each veterinary facility which:

(a) Includes sanitary methods for the disposal of deceased animals; and

(b) Includes a freezer to be used when an owner has not given permission for the disposal of a carcass.

2. A veterinary facility may dispose of the remains of a deceased animal, including cremains, after:

(a) Providing written notice to the owner, if known, at the last known address of the owner that the remains will be disposed unless claimed by the owner within 90 days after the date of the written notice; and

(b) The owner either authorizes the veterinary facility to dispose of the remains or fails to claim the remains or otherwise respond to the written notice.

Sec. 5. NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:

1. A veterinarian may utilize expired drugs under certain circumstances:

(a) The drug is listed on the FDA's current animal drug shortages list; or

(b) The drug has been stored according to manufacturer's instructions at all times; or

(c) The drug's length of expiration date falls within the FDA drug product expiration date extensions; or

(d) The FDA has issued an Emergency Use Authorization for the drug product.

2. Any drug identified under section 1 that is retained and stored in a veterinary facility, must be located in a labelled area distinct from other non-expired animal drugs.

3. Any use of a drug designated under section 1 must be noted in the medical record.

Sec. 5. NAC chapter 638 shall be amended to add the following new language:

~~*[Any person providing direct patient care within a veterinary facility must wear identification during all patient encounters, unless prevented from doing so due to isolation or sterilization protocols. The badge must be of sufficient size and worn in a manner to be visible and must clearly state:*~~

~~*—1. The provider's first or last name;*~~

~~*—2. The type of license or registration held by the person if licensed or registered per NRS 634 or NAC 634; and*~~

~~*—3. If applicable, the person's status as a student, intern, or trainee.]*~~

Sec. 6. NAC 638.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. All communications, payments or documents must be addressed to the Board and shall be deemed to be filed on the date of the postmark on the envelope in which it was mailed, in accordance with NRS 238.100.

2. Fees and remittances to the Board must be paid by ~~[money order, bank draft or check]~~ *debit card, credit card, check or money order* payable to the Board of Examiners in Veterinary Medicine. Remittances in currency or coin are made at the risk of the sender and the Board assumes no responsibility for loss. Postage stamps are not accepted.

3. Pursuant to NRS 353.1467, business entities fees and remittances to the Board in an amount greater than \$10,000 must be paid through an automated clearinghouse transaction, an electronic check transaction, or a wire transfer for the purpose of ordering, instructing or authorizing a financial institution to debit or credit an account.

Sec. 7. NAC 638.041 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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Sec. 8. NAC 638.0425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The Board may perform random audits of licensees to ensure compliance with the requirements for continuing education.

2. If the Board chooses to conduct an audit of a licensee, the Board will notify the licensee, in writing, of its decision to conduct an audit.

3. If audited by the Board:

(a) A licensed veterinarian or a person who is licensed by the Board as a diplomate pursuant to NRS 638.105 shall, not later than 30 days after receiving written notice, provide proof that he or she has participated in at least ~~[20]~~ 40 hours of continuing education during the ~~[12]~~ 24 months immediately preceding the beginning of the new licensing year by submitting to the Board copies of the documentation of completion maintained pursuant to NAC 638.0423.

(b) A veterinary technician shall, not later than 30 days after receiving written notice, provide proof that he or she has participated in at least ~~[10]~~ 20 hours of continuing education during the ~~[12]~~ 24 months immediately preceding the beginning of the new licensing year by submitting to the Board copies of the documentation of completion maintained pursuant to NAC 638.0423.

4. Each copy of the documentation submitted to the Board pursuant to subsection 3 must include:

- (a) The name and license number of the licensee;
- (b) The number of hours of continuing education that were awarded to the licensee;
- (c) A description of the continuing education that was received by the licensee; ~~[and]~~
- (d) The date on which and place where the course or the meeting, as applicable, was conducted ~~[:]~~ ;

and

(e) The method of delivery of the course.

Sec. 9. NAC 638.042 is hereby amended to read as follows:

A course of continuing education shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the course is provided or approved by:

- 1. The American Veterinary Medical Association;
- 2. A specialty group of the American Veterinary Medical Association;
- 3. The Western Veterinary Conference, the Wild West Veterinary Conference or any other regional veterinary conference;
- 4. The State Department of Agriculture;

5. The United States Department of Agriculture;
6. The American Animal Hospital Association;
7. The American Association of Veterinary State Boards *Registry of Approved Continuing Education Program (RACE)*;
8. The Nevada Veterinary Medical Association;
9. An institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education;
10. A school of veterinary medicine that is accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association; or
11. A program for veterinary technicians that is approved by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities of the American Veterinary Medical Association.
12. A board that licenses veterinarians or veterinary technicians in another state;
13. An association or organization consisting of veterinarians or veterinary technicians that is organized on a statewide basis in another state or on a regional basis.

14. For credit earned under subsections 9-11 inclusive, the total continuing education credits that may be earned will be determined as follows:

- (a) For each semester unit completed, the applicant will receive 15 points.*
- (b) For each quarter unit completed, the applicant will receive 10 points.*
- (c) For a college course to be considered for continuing education credit, the person must have earned a grade of not less than a C- in the course.*

Sec. 10. NAC 638.046 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A veterinarian may decline to treat an animal and does not violate the provisions of the principles adopted by reference pursuant to subsection 1 if the veterinarian:

- (a) Notifies the owner of an animal or the person delivering the animal for treatment that the veterinarian may deny to treat the animal if the owner or person exhibits conduct that is threatening, harmful, dangerous or abusive towards the veterinarian or any member of the staff at a veterinary facility; and*
- (b) Believes that the behavior of the owner of the animal or person delivering the animal for*

treatment is threatening, harmful, dangerous or abusive. The belief of a veterinarian may be based on one or more incidents.

[1-] 2. The Board adopts by reference the November 2003 revision of the “Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics” of the American Veterinary Medical Association as a standard for professional conduct. A violation of the provisions of the principles constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

[2-] 3. The November 2003 revision of the “Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics” of the American Veterinary Medical Association is available from the Board at its office, or at the Internet address <https://nvvetboard.nv.gov>, free of charge.

Sec. 11. NAC 638.0465 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The Board adopts by reference the “Veterinary Technician Code of Ethics” of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America as a standard for professional conduct for veterinary technicians. A violation of the provisions of the “Veterinary Technician Code of Ethics” constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

2. The “Veterinary Technician Code of Ethics” of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America is available, free of charge:

(a) By mail from the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, P.O. Box 1227, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007; or

(b) On the Internet at <http://www.navta.net>.

Sec. 12. NAC 638.0475 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Each licensed veterinarian shall maintain in this State for at least 4 years a separate medical record of each animal receiving veterinary services, including, without limitation, an examination conducted pursuant to NAC 638.610, from the licensed veterinarian or under his or her supervision. The records must be *completed within 45 days of each visit of a patient and be made* available for inspection by the Board or its representative or the owner of the animal during normal business hours at least 5 *business* days each week. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the licensed veterinarian shall provide a copy of that record to the Board or its representative or the owner of the animal receiving veterinary services not later than *5 business days* after receiving a request from the

Board or its representative or the owner of the animal. The licensed veterinarian is not required to provide a copy of any radiographs or other diagnostic images in the medical record to the owner of the animal receiving veterinary services.

2. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 10, the* medical record must contain the following information, in legible form:

- (a) The name, address and telephone number of the animal's owner;
- (b) The name or identifying number, or both, of the animal;
- (c) The age, sex, weight and breed of the animal;
- (d) The dates of care, custody or treatment of the animal;
- (e) Documentation of the informed consent of the client for medical treatment of the animal;
- (f) A short history of the animal's condition as it pertains to the animal's medical status;
- (g) The results of and notations from an examination of the animal, including, without limitation, the temperature, pulse and respiration rate of the animal and laboratory data pertaining to the animal;
- (h) The diagnosis or condition at the beginning of custody of the animal, including, without limitation, results of tests;
- (i) The immunization record of the animal;
- (j) All clinical information pertaining to the animal, including, without limitation, sufficient information to justify the diagnosis or determination of the medical status of the animal and to warrant any treatment recommended for or administered to the animal;
- (k) The notes taken during surgery, including, without limitation:
 - (1) The name and quantity of any drug administered ~~[for anesthesia and preanesthesia]~~;
 - (2) The procedure performed;
 - (3) The times at which the surgery begins and ends;
 - (4) If the surgery is performed in a veterinary facility using general anesthesia:
 - (I) The vital signs of the animal at the beginning and end of the surgery that are appropriate to the species and condition of the animal at the time of surgery, which may include, without limitation, the temperature, pulse, heart rate, respiration, blood pressure, capillary refill time and oxygen levels of the animal; ~~[and]~~

(II) The vital signs of the animal recorded at least every 5 minutes during the surgery, including, without limitation, ~~[the pulse,]~~ heart rate and respiration of the animal; and

(III) If any of the information required pursuant to this subparagraph is generated by an automated device, an indication that the information generated by the automated device was regularly reviewed and analyzed by a veterinarian, veterinary technician or veterinary assistant during the surgery;

(l) Any medication and treatment administered, including, without limitation, the amount frequency, *type, volume, and rate;*

(m) The progress and disposition of the case;

(n) The name of each person ~~[who is not an employee of the veterinarian]~~ who provided professional advice or performed treatments, examinations or other services pertaining to the animal;

(o) The signature, initials or other identifying mark of the person who made the entry in the medical record;

(q) Any radiographs other than intraoral dental radiographs. Each radiograph other than an intraoral dental radiograph must be labeled on the image as follows:

(1) The name of the veterinarian or facility that took the radiograph;

(2) The name or identifying number, or both, of the animal;

(3) The name of the animal's owner;

(4) The date on which the radiograph was taken; and

(5) The anatomical orientation depicted by the radiograph; and

(r) Any ~~[intraoral dental]~~ radiographs or other diagnostic images. ~~[For each intraoral dental radiograph or other diagnostic image, the medical record must include the information set forth in subparagraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of paragraph (p) with regard to the intraoral dental radiograph or other diagnostic image. That information may be included:~~

~~(1) In a hard copy of the medical record if the medical record is maintained as a written record; or~~

~~(2) In the computer file which contains the intraoral dental radiograph or other diagnostic image if the medical record is maintained as a computer record.]~~

2. The Board or its representative will evaluate each medical record inspected pursuant to

subsection 1 for compliance with the provisions of this chapter and chapter 638 of NRS.

~~[3. Each radiograph or other diagnostic image is the property of the veterinarian who caused it to be prepared. A radiograph or other diagnostic image may be released to the owner of the animal. A radiograph or other diagnostic image must be released within 48 hours after the request is made to another veterinarian who has the authorization of the owner of the animal to which it pertains. The radiograph or other diagnostic image must be returned within a reasonable time to the veterinarian to whom it belongs.]~~

3. The medical records required by this section must be written records or computer records. If the medical records are computer records:

- (a) The security of the computer must be maintained.
- (b) The computer records must be backed-up daily and cumulatively backed-up monthly using technology designed to store data permanently.
- (c) The computer records must be inalterable or clearly indicate when they have been altered and the manner in which they have been altered.
- (d) The computer records must not contain information relating to a physical examination that is automatically generated by the computer.
- (e) Any such computer records relating to the administration, prescribing or dispensing of a prescription drug must contain the initials of the person who administered, prescribed or dispensed the prescription drug. The initials of the person who administered, prescribed or dispensed the prescription drug may be manually entered into the computer record or automatically generated by the computer.

(f) The Board may request access to internet or cloud based medical records , which access would be secure, time-limited, and read-only.

4. If a medical record is a written record, information contained in the medical record must not be removed, erased, redacted or otherwise made unreadable. Any addition, supplementation or other alteration to a written record must include, without limitation, the date on which the addition, supplementation or other alteration was made and the signature, initials or other identifying mark of the person who made the addition, supplementation or other alteration to the written record.

5. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 10 and in* addition to the requirements of

subsection 2, if a licensed veterinarian is not associated with a veterinary facility, and any controlled substances or prescription drugs are administered to the animal, the medical record required by this section must include the same information that a veterinary facility which:

(a) Maintains a stock of controlled substances for administration and dispensing is required to ensure is contained in a log for the veterinary facility pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection 3 of NAC 638.0628; and

(b) Dispenses prescription drugs is required to ensure is contained in the medical records of the animal pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of NAC 638.0629.

6. In a practice concerned with herds of animals, records must be kept on each herd and may be kept on individual animals.

~~[7. If a veterinarian ceases his or her practice without providing for the continuation of treatment of the animals under the veterinarian's care, the President of the Board may appoint a master to supervise his or her records, the treatment of those animals and the mailing of notices to the owners of the animals which had been under his or her care.]~~

7. If, during an emergency, a veterinary facility requests the medical record of an animal from another veterinary facility, the veterinary facility that is in possession of the medical record must provide the medical record to the other veterinary facility as soon as practicable. Such a medical record:

(a) Does not need to comply with the requirements of subsections 2 and 7, as applicable; and

(b) May be sent to the veterinary facility requesting the medical record in the current state of completion that the medical record is at the time of the request.

8. The medical record of an animal is confidential and may not be released except:

(a) As otherwise provided in subsections 1 and 9;

(b) In response to a court order; or

(c) As required to ensure compliance with any federal, state and local statutes, regulations or ordinances.

9. Nothing in this section is intended to prevent the sharing of veterinary medical information

among veterinarians *in order to facilitate treatment or for legitimate veterinary medical purposes*, law enforcement officials, and members, agents or officers of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals who are acting to protect the welfare of an animal ~~[or the public.]~~

10. As used in this section, “other diagnostic image”:

(a) Includes, without limitation, an ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging and computerized axial tomography scan; and

(b) Does not include a radiograph.

Sec. 13. NAC 638.048 is hereby amended to read as follows:

~~[A veterinarian]~~ *Any person issued a license, registration of certificate under this chapter* shall not:

1. Falsify records of health care;
2. Falsify records so as to indicate his or her presence at a time when he or she was not in attendance or that procedures were performed by the ~~[veterinarian]~~ *person* which were in fact not performed by him or her;
3. Write a prescription for a controlled substance in such an excessive amount as to constitute a departure from prevailing standards of acceptable veterinary medical practice;
4. Consistently use veterinary medical procedures, services or treatments which constitute a departure from the prevailing standards of acceptable veterinary medical practice;
5. Render professional services to an animal while the ~~[veterinarian]~~ *person* is under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or is in any impaired mental or physical condition;
6. Acquire any controlled substances from any pharmacy or other source by misrepresentation, fraud, deception or subterfuge;
7. Operate a veterinary facility in a manner that violates a provision of chapter 574 of NRS; ~~[or]~~
8. Prescribe, dispense, deliver or order another person to deliver any prescription drug, including, without limitation, any controlled substance in schedules I to V, inclusive, as described in chapter 453 of NRS, and any dangerous drug, referred to in NRS 454.181 to 454.371, inclusive, unless the veterinarian first:

(a) Establishes a veterinarian-client-patient relationship; and

(b) Makes a medical determination that the prescription drug is therapeutically indicated for the health and well-being of the animal[-] ;

9. Intentionally or knowingly make a false or misleading statement on an application for a license or registration with the Board, including an application to renew such a license or registration; or

10. Make a false or misleading statement to a staff member of the Board, a member of the Board or the Board during an investigation or disciplinary action.

11. Intentionally or knowingly make a false or misleading statement to a member of the public in a manner to defraud or deceive.

12. Intentionally or knowingly [without] withholding medical records for financial compensation.

Sec. 14. NAC 638.051 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. ~~[If an]~~ *An* animal ~~[is delivered to any]~~ *in the possession of a* veterinarian ~~[pursuant to any written or oral agreement between the veterinarian and the owner of the animal or the person delivering the animal, and the owner or person delivering the animal does not claim the animal within 10 days after the day the animal was due to be claimed, the animal]~~ *or veterinary facility* shall be deemed abandoned [-] if:

(a) The animal is left with the veterinarian or veterinary facility by a person whose identity is unknown or who cannot be reasonably contacted;

(b) The animal is left with the veterinarian or veterinary facility by the owner or person delivering the animal, the veterinarian or veterinary facility has provided the notice required pursuant to subsection 3 and the owner or person has not:

(c) Paid for the services provided by the veterinarian or veterinary facility; or

(1) Claimed the animal; or

(2) The owner or person delivering the animal relinquishes ownership of the animal in writing to the veterinarian or veterinary facility.

2. Unless otherwise provided in a contract between a veterinarian or veterinary facility and the owner of an animal or the person delivering the animal, the veterinarian or veterinary facility may:

(a) Treat or decline to treat the animal in the manner the veterinarian or veterinary facility determines appropriate;

(b) Dispose of an abandoned animal if the animal is not claimed within the period set forth in the notice, if required, pursuant to subsection 3; or

(c) During an emergency, provide emergency care or humane euthanasia to relieve the suffering of the animal in the manner the veterinarian determines appropriate in accordance with ~~[the “Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics” of the American Veterinary Medical Association as adopted by reference in NAC 638.046.]~~ *generally accepted standards of ethical care.*

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, before a veterinarian or veterinary facility may dispose of an abandoned animal, the veterinarian or veterinary facility:

(a) If the identity of the owner of the animal or the person who delivered the animal is known or may be determined by scanning a microchip, must notify the owner of the animal or the person who delivered the animal by telephone, electronic mail, text message or regular mail to the last known contact information or address of the owner of the animal or the person who delivered the animal. The notice must state that the veterinarian or veterinary facility will dispose of the animal if it is not claimed by the date specified in the notice, which must not be sooner than 5 days ~~[animal was left with the veterinarian or the veterinary facility.]~~ *after the notice was sent by the veterinarian or veterinary facility.*

(b) If the owner of the animal or person who delivered the animal cannot be identified or if ownership of the animal was relinquished pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, may dispose of the animal pursuant to subsection 4.

4. The veterinarian or veterinary facility shall dispose of the animal in a humane manner, which may include, without limitation, euthanasia, adoption, fostering or sending the animal to an animal rescue organization.

5. For each animal disposed of pursuant to subsection 4, the veterinarian or veterinary facility shall maintain a separate record in accordance with the requirements of NRS 638.0475 that contains:

(a) A physical description of the animal, which may include, without limitation, a photograph;

(b) The date the animal was delivered to the veterinarian or at the veterinary facility;

(c) A description of the attempts made by the veterinarian or veterinary facility to contact the owner, if applicable;

(d) A list of any treatments or care provided by the veterinarian or veterinary facility; and

(e) A description of the disposition of the animal and the date of the disposition.

6. As used in this section, “claimed” means to remove the animal from the custody of the veterinarian.

Sec. 15. NAC 638.0527 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. In addition to the requirements of NRS 638.122, an applicant for a license to practice as a veterinary technician must submit to the Executive Director of the Board proof that he or she has passed:

(a) The Veterinary Technician National Examination; or

(b) Any other examination approved for this purpose by the Board pursuant to NRS 638.123.

2. In addition to the requirements of subsection 1, an applicant for a license to practice as a veterinary technician must submit to the Board satisfactory proof that the applicant has:

(a) Received a degree as a veterinary technician from a college accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association or the appropriate state agency in the state where the college is located;

(b) Received a bachelor of science;

~~[(c) Received a degree from outside the United States that has been reviewed and approved by the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence administered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards; or]~~

(c) Completed an accelerated program for veterinary technicians approved by the Board.

3. Each applicant who received:

(a) A bachelor of science degree *pursuant to* paragraph (b) of subsection 2 or completed an accelerated program *as* described in paragraph **(c)** of subsection 2 must submit, on a form provided by the Board, proof of completion of at least 4,000 hours of supervised clinical experience in a veterinary facility *located in the United States* that is verified by *one or more* actively practicing *veterinarians who supervised the*

applicant. Not less than 2,001 hours of that supervised clinical experience must have been earned within the 5 years immediately preceding the date on which the applicant submitted his or her application.

(b) A bachelor of science degree pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 must satisfy the requirements of section 1 of this regulation.

4. Each application for a license to practice as a veterinary technician must include:

(a) One letter of recommendation from a person associated with the practice of veterinary medicine; and

(b) A letter of good standing from the licensing agency of each state in which the applicant is licensed or has been licensed, if any. Each such letter must, if applicable, include detailed information concerning any disciplinary action which has been taken against the applicant or which is pending in that state.

Sec. 16. NAC 638.06027 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A veterinary graduate awaiting licensure must be registered with the Board as evidenced by a certificate of registration issued by the Board.

2. To register as a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure, the applicant must submit to the Board:

(a) An application for registration as a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure that includes, without limitation, a list of the veterinary facilities in this State where he or she will perform services;

(b) An application for a license to practice veterinary medicine pursuant to NRS 638.100 and the information required pursuant to NRS 638.103; and

(c) Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:

(1) Has graduated from a school of veterinary medicine and is scheduled to take, or has taken but not yet received a score for, the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination administered by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment;

(2) Has graduated from a school of veterinary medicine that is not accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association and who is presently completing a postgraduate, evaluated clinical year at a school of veterinary medicine that is accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association; or

(3) Is scheduled to take, or has taken but not yet received a score for, the clinical proficiency examination administered by the American Veterinary Medical Association for the purpose of acquiring an educational certificate issued by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates of the American Veterinary Medical Association or its successor organization as described in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 638.100 [·] ; and

(d) Evidence of successful passage of the Board's jurisprudence examination.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a certificate of registration issued to a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure is valid for 1 year after the date of issuance ~~[and may not be renewed]~~. The Board may extend the registration of a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure upon written request and a showing of good cause. Any request to extend the registration of a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure must be received by the Board before the certificate of registration expires.

4. A registration of a veterinary graduate awaiting licensure expires on the earlier of:

(a) When the veterinary graduate awaiting licensure becomes licensed as a veterinarian; or

(b) ~~[The veterinary graduate awaiting licensure does not take the examinations on the date on which the veterinary graduate awaiting licensure represented that he or she would take the examination; or~~
—(e)] Two years after its issuance.

5. A veterinary graduate awaiting licensure whose registration may apply for a two-year extension of his or her registration that would otherwise expire pursuant to subsection 4 if:

(a) The veterinary graduate awaiting licensure is qualified to take the NAVLE; and

(b) Applies for the extension at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the registration.

Sec. 17. NAC 638.0603 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. It is unlawful for a person to operate a veterinary facility unless the facility is registered with the Board and the Board has issued a permit for its operation.

2. *It is unlawful to operate a veterinary facility for a period greater than 30 days without a veterinarian designated as the person in charge of the veterinary facility.*

3. The person in charge of a veterinary facility must be a licensed veterinarian who practices veterinary medicine in this State.

[3.] 4. The veterinarian who will be in charge of the veterinary facility which seeks a permit to operate must submit to the Board ~~[a-notarized]~~ an application for registration in the form provided by the Board.

[4.] 5. Upon receipt of a completed application for registration and the applicable fee required pursuant to NAC 638.035, the Board will issue a permit to operate the facility. The Board will act upon an application for such a permit within 90 days after receipt of the application.

[5.] 6. The permit issued to a facility by the Board must be displayed in a conspicuous place within the facility.

[6.] 7. If a change in the ownership of a facility is anticipated, the veterinarian in charge of the facility for which the permit was issued shall notify the Board, in writing, of the anticipated change 30 days before the date on which the change in ownership is to become effective. The new owner shall register with the Board and apply for a permit to operate the facility pursuant to this section at least 30 days before the date on which the change in ownership is to become effective. The facility shall not, under changed ownership, provide any veterinary services until its permit to operate has been approved.

Sec. 18. NAC 638.063 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A safe and sanitary environment must be maintained in each veterinary facility which:
 - (a) Protects the health of the animals and minimizes the possibility of the transmission of infection;
 - (b) Includes the proper routine disposal of waste materials and proper sterilization or sanitation of all equipment used in diagnosis, treatment or surgery;
 - (c) Meets the requirements of local and state fire prevention codes;
 - (d) Ensures the maintenance of a proper temperature and ventilation of the veterinary facility for the comfort of all animals [5].
 - (e) Includes sanitary methods for the disposal of deceased animals; and
 - (f) Includes a freezer to be used when an owner has not given permission for the disposal of a carcass.
2. The veterinary facility must have the capacity to perform an adequate diagnostic radiological series, in the veterinary facility or through another commercial facility. Radiological procedures must be in accordance with standards for the protection of the public health. Laboratories and prescription drugs must be available in the veterinary facility or through another commercial facility.

Sec. 19. NAC 638.063 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A veterinary facility must maintain the following equipment at all times:

(a) Surgical packs including drapes, sponges and proper instrumentation.

(b) Anesthetic equipment in accordance with the level of surgery performed.

(c) Oxygen.

(d) A library of current journals or textbooks which provides readily accessible reference materials *in print or through electronic means*.

2. All appropriate equipment must be sterilized, and surgical packs must be properly prepared for sterilization by heat or gas which is sufficient to kill bacterial spores for each sterile surgical procedure. Separate sterile surgical packs which are dated and have proof of internal and external sterilization must be used for each sterile procedure.

Sec. 20. NAC 638.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. An accusation in a disciplinary matter must be filed, as an original paper document, *electronically, or via electronic mail* with the Board. The accusation must be served upon the respondent by certified mail *or with electronic proof of receipt* at the last known address on file with the Board and service is deemed to be complete when a copy of the document, properly addressed and stamped, is deposited in the United States mail.

2. An answer, motion, opposition or reply must be filed with the Board by electronic mail and simultaneously served upon the opposing party by electronic mail. An answer, motion, opposition or reply filed and served pursuant to this subsection is deemed to be filed with the Board and served upon the opposing party on the date that the electronic mail was sent if sent by not later than 4 p.m. in the Pacific time zone on that date. An electronic mail sent after 4 p.m. in the Pacific time zone is deemed to have been filed with the Board and served upon the opposing party on the day following the day on which the electronic mail was sent.

3. An answer, motion, opposition or reply transmitted pursuant to subsection 2 must be in a Portable Document Format (PDF). The file may contain a scanned copy of the document signed by the party, or may

be signed by a mark or electronic signature. The file must contain a completed certificate of service indicating that service on the opposing party was completed by electronic mail.

Sec. 21. NAC 638.04505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. “Euthanasic agent” means any prescription drug, regardless of the method in which the drug is administered, that is administered:

(a) To terminate the life of an animal; or

(b) To ease the suffering of an animal at the time the termination of life is performed.

2. The term includes, without limitation, alpha-2 agonists, ketamine and phenothiazine, *and does not include opioids.*

Sec. 22. NAC 638.710 is hereby amended to read as follows:

A veterinarian shall comply with the following requirements when putting an animal under general anesthesia:

1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the animal must be given a physical examination not more than 12 hours before the anesthetic is administered. If the veterinarian determines that the animal is fractious, the veterinarian may conduct the physical examination of the animal after the anesthetic is administered. The physical examination required pursuant to this subsection must include, without limitation, an examination and written notation of:

(a) The temperature;

(b) The pulse rate;

(c) The respiration;

(d) The color of the mucous membrane; and

(e) The thoracic auscultation,

of the animal.

2. The animal must be under continuous observation while it is under general anesthesia until the swallowing reflex of the animal has returned.

3. The animal must not be released until it has been examined by a veterinarian and it is ambulating.

This subsection must not be construed to prohibit the direct transfer of an animal under general anesthesia to an appropriate facility for observation.

4. The following equipment must be available in the veterinary facility and must be in working order at all times:

- (a) An anesthetic machine with breathing bags appropriate to the size of the animal under general anesthesia;

- (b) An assortment of cuffed endotracheal tubes; and

- (c) An oxygen delivery system.

5. ~~[If it is appropriate for the species of animal]~~ *Unless prohibited due to species of the animal*, when the swallowing reflex is impaired, the animal must be intubated and administered an appropriate concentration of oxygen.

6. A method of monitoring respiration must be used, which may include, without limitation:

- (a) Observing the chest movements of the animal;

- (b) Watching the rebreathing bag; or

- (c) Using a respirometer.

7. A method of monitoring cardiac activity must be used, which may include, without limitation, the use of:

- (a) A stethoscope; or

- (b) An electrocardiographic monitor.

8. Adequate surgical support, including, without limitation, an intravenous catheter, fluids and monitoring, as indicated by the status of the animal and the standard of care required of a licensed veterinarian under the circumstances, must be available.

9. A written history must be maintained by the veterinarian for each animal put under general anesthesia, which must include, without limitation:

- (a) The name or identification number of the animal.

(b) The medical history of the animal that is relevant to the administration of general anesthesia, which must include, without limitation, a description of any preexisting medical conditions and tests performed on the animal before surgery.

(c) A description of the general anesthesia used at the time of surgery.

(d) The method of monitoring that was used to comply with subsections 6 and 7.

Sec. 23. NAC 638.715 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A veterinary facility which provides aseptic surgical services must reserve a room *which may be closed by a door or similar partition*, separate and distinct from all other rooms, for aseptic surgical procedures.

2. When performing aseptic surgery:

(a) Each member of a surgical team shall wear the appropriate sanitary cap and sanitary mask;

(b) Any instrument used to perform aseptic surgery must be sterilized; and

(c) Each member of the surgical team who will be handling an instrument or touching the surgical site shall wear a sterilized surgical gown and sterilized gloves.

3. As used in this section, “aseptic surgery” means surgery performed under sterilized conditions to prevent the introduction of infectious microorganisms.

Sec. 24. NAC 638.730 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 638.0525, 638.053 or 638.742, veterinary dentistry may only be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, veterinary dentistry must be performed under general anesthesia with the use of an endotracheal tube with an inflated cuff unless, based on the species of the animal, the Board determines otherwise.

3. ~~[A cleaning of the supragingival portion of the teeth of an animal, including, without limitation, sealing the teeth with dental tools or ultrasound, may be performed without placing the animal under general anesthesia if:~~

~~(a) The procedure is performed at a veterinary facility;~~

~~(b) A licensed veterinarian at the veterinary facility has conducted a full oral examination within the 6 months immediately preceding the supragingival cleaning;~~

~~(c) The licensed veterinarian has determined that the animal is a suitable candidate for the procedure and that the procedure is being performed on an elective basis sought by the client;~~

~~(d) The client has signed a written form acknowledging that the client:~~

~~(1) Understands the difference between a supragingival cleaning and a full dental examination with prophylaxis; and~~

~~(2) Knowingly consents to the supragingival cleaning procedure; and~~

~~(e) The procedure is terminated if:~~

~~(1) The animal becomes resistant or fractious during the cleaning procedure and continuation of the cleaning procedure would potentially harm or cause suffering to the animal; or~~

~~(2)~~ *If during a dental procedure a veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training discovers advanced dental disease, including, without limitation, tooth mobility, advanced gingivitis, abnormal bleeding, stomatitis, advanced gingival recession, furcation exposures, excessive gingival hyperplasia, abnormal probing depths, visual or tactile detection of tooth resorption, tooth fractures, abnormal growths, abscesses, pyorrhea, pulpitis, discoloration or other abnormal findings he or she must notify the supervising veterinarian so that the veterinarian can appropriately address the needs of the animal.*

~~*[If a veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training terminates a cleaning procedure pursuant to paragraph (c), he or she must notify the attending veterinarian of the cause for the termination of the procedure so that the veterinarian can appropriately address the needs of the animal.]*~~

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a licensed veterinarian may perform dental surgery, periodontal surgery, endodontics and exodontia on an animal only in a veterinary facility that has the capacity to perform intraoral radiology. In an emergency, a licensed veterinarian may perform dental surgery, periodontal surgery, endodontics and exodontia on an animal in a veterinary facility that does not have the capacity to perform intraoral radiology if the licensed veterinarian determines, based on his or her professional judgment and the species of the animal, that the radiology which the veterinary facility has the capacity to perform is adequate for the particular procedure.

5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a person from:

(a) Using cotton swabs, gauze, dental floss, dentifrice, toothbrushes or similar items to clean an animal's teeth; or

(b) Practicing as an equine dental provider in accordance with NAC 638.735 to 638.748, inclusive.

6. As used in this section, "veterinary dentistry" means:

(a) The application or use of any instrument or device to any portion of an animal's tooth, gums or any related tissue for the prevention, cure or relief of any wound, fracture, injury or disease of the animal's tooth, gums or related tissue; and

(b) Preventive dental procedures pertaining to an animal, including, without limitation, the removal of calculus, soft deposits, plaque or stains and the smoothing, filing, floating or polishing of the surfaces of the animal's tooth.

Sec. 25. NAC 638.750 is hereby amended to read as follows:

As used in NAC 638.750 to 638.790, inclusive, "animal physical therapy" means the rehabilitation of injuries in a nonhuman animal through the use of ~~[the following]~~ techniques *authorized pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes chapter 640 as determined in consultation between the animal physical therapist and referring veterinarian*, but does not include animal chiropractic ~~[:]~~:

~~1.—Stretching;~~

~~2.—Massage therapy;~~

~~3.—Rehabilitative exercise;~~

~~4.—Hydrotherapy;~~

~~5.—Application of heat or cold; and~~

~~6.—Stimulation by the use of:~~

~~(a) Low level lasers;~~

~~(b) Electrical sources;~~

~~(c) Magnetic fields; or~~

~~(d) Noninvasive therapeutic ultrasound].~~

Sec. 26. NAC 638.760 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A person shall not practice animal physical therapy in this State unless he or she is:

- (a) A veterinarian;
- (b) A licensed veterinary technician who complies with the provisions of [NAC 638.053](#); or
- (c) A physical therapist who has obtained a certificate of registration pursuant to this section and complies with the provisions of [NAC 638.780](#).

2. A physical therapist who desires to secure a certificate of registration to practice animal physical therapy in this State must make written application to the Board.

3. The application must be on a form provided by the Board, include any information required by the Board and be accompanied by satisfactory proof that the applicant:

- (a) Is of good moral character;
- (b) Has been an active licensed physical therapist in any state for at least 1 year;
- (c) Is licensed by and in good standing with the Nevada Physical Therapy Board;
- (d) Has successfully completed at least 100 hours of instruction or course work, or a combination of both, in the area of animal physical therapy, which must include, without limitation, assessment and planning of treatment, behavior, biomechanics, common orthopedic and neurological conditions, comparative anatomy, neurology, and therapeutic modalities and exercises; ~~and~~

- (e) Has completed at least 125 hours of supervised clinical experience in animal physical therapy with a licensed veterinarian ~~[-]~~ ; *and*

- (f) Has passed the Board's jurisprudence examination.*

4. The application must be signed by the applicant and notarized.

5. Except as otherwise provided in [NAC 638.790](#), upon receipt of the application and information required by subsection 3 and payment of the fee required pursuant to [NAC 638.035](#), the Board will issue to the physical therapist a certificate of registration.

Sec. 27. NAC 638.780 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A physical therapist who has been issued a certificate of registration pursuant to NAC 638.760 may practice animal physical therapy only:
 - (a) Under the direction of a veterinarian licensed in this State who has established a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship concerning the animal receiving the animal physical therapy before the animal physical therapy is performed; and
 - (b) If the physical therapist assumes individual liability for the quality of the animal physical therapy performed.
2. The veterinarian under whose direction the physical therapist performs the animal physical therapy:
 - (a) Is not required to supervise the physical therapist during the animal physical therapy.
 - (b) Is not liable for the acts or omissions of the physical therapist who performs the animal physical therapy.
3. Each physical therapist who has been issued a certificate of registration shall:
 - (a) Maintain in this State for at least 4 years a separate written medical record of each animal receiving animal physical therapy from the physical therapist.
 - (b) Within ~~[48 hours]~~ *5 business days* after the initial visit with the animal, mail or transmit electronically a complete copy of the medical record to the veterinarian under whose direction the physical therapist performs the animal physical therapy.
 - (c) Within ~~[48 hours]~~ *5 business days* after each subsequent visit with the animal, mail or transmit electronically a progress report to the veterinarian under whose direction the physical therapist performs the animal physical therapy.
4. Any medical record made pursuant to subsection 3 must be available for inspection by the Board or its representative.
5. The veterinarian shall include the copy of the medical record received pursuant to subsection 3 in the medical record required pursuant to NAC 638.0475. The written medical record must include, without limitation:
 - (a) The name, address and telephone number of the owner of the animal;
 - (b) The name or identifying number, or both, of the animal;

- (c) The age, sex and breed of the animal;
- (d) The dates of care, custody or treatment of the animal;
- (e) The results of a basic rehabilitation examination related to physical therapy;
- (f) The diagnosis and treatment plan related to physical therapy recommended by the physical therapist for the animal; and
- (g) The progress and disposition of the case.

Sec. 28. NAC 638.830 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. A chiropractor who has been issued a certificate of registration pursuant to NAC 638.810 may practice animal chiropractic only:

(a) Under the direction of a veterinarian licensed in this State who has established a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship concerning the animal receiving the animal chiropractic before the animal chiropractic is performed; and

(b) If the chiropractor assumes individual liability for the quality of the animal chiropractic performed.

2. The veterinarian under whose direction the chiropractor performs the animal chiropractic:

(a) Is not required to supervise the chiropractor during the animal chiropractic.

(b) Is not liable for the acts or omissions of the chiropractor who performs animal chiropractic.

3. Each chiropractor who has been issued a certificate of registration shall:

(a) Maintain in this State for at least 4 years a separate written medical record of each animal receiving animal chiropractic.

(b) Within ~~[48-hours]~~ **5 business days** after the initial visit with the animal, mail or transmit electronically a complete copy of the medical record to the veterinarian under whose direction the chiropractor performs the animal chiropractic.

(c) Within ~~[48-hours]~~ **5 business days** after each subsequent visit with the animal, mail or transmit electronically a progress report to the veterinarian under whose direction the chiropractor performs the animal chiropractic.

4. Any medical record made pursuant to subsection 3 must be available for inspection by the Board or its representative.

5. The veterinarian shall include the copy of the medical record received pursuant to subsection 3 in the medical record required pursuant to NAC 638.0475. The written medical record must include, without limitation:

- (a) The name, address and telephone number of the owner of the animal;
- (b) The name or identifying number, or both, of the animal;
- (c) The age, sex and breed of the animal;
- (d) The dates of care, custody or treatment of the animal;
- (e) The results of a basic physical examination related to musculoskeletal manipulation;
- (f) The diagnosis and treatment plan related to musculoskeletal manipulation recommended by the chiropractor for the animal; and
- (g) The progress and disposition of the case.

Sec. 29. Uncodified amendment to NAC chapter 638 is hereby repealed as follows:

~~*[A veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training shall not:*~~

- ~~*1. Falsify records of health care;*~~
- ~~*2. Falsify records so as to indicate his or her presence at a time when he or she was not in attendance or that procedures were performed by the veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training which were in fact not performed by him or her;*~~
- ~~*3. Render professional services to an animal while the veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training is under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or is in any impaired mental or physical condition;*~~
- ~~*4. Acquire any controlled substances from any pharmacy or other source by misrepresentation, fraud, deception or subterfuge;*~~
- ~~*5. Perform or fail to perform any service in a manner that violates a provision of chapter 574 of NRS;*~~
- ~~*6. Perform services which are not authorized by this chapter or chapter 638 of NRS for a veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training or that exceed the training or competence of the veterinary technician or veterinary technician in training;*~~
- ~~*7. Make a false or misleading statement on an application for a license or registration with the Board, including an application to renew such a license or registration; or*~~
- ~~*8. Make a false or misleading statement to a staff member of the Board, a member of the Board or the Board during an investigation or disciplinary action.]*~~