



Specialist Registration Information Booklet

New Zealand

Revised June 2017

This booklet is provided by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. (AVBC) to assist candidates in their application for registration as a veterinary specialist.

The booklet was prepared by the Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists (ACRVS).

The ACRVS wishes to acknowledge the tremendous work done by Dr. Nicki Fairley, former Convenor of the New Zealand Specialists Registration Committee, in preparing the first draft of this document and the contribution of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists to Section 5.

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Contents

Item No.		Page No.
1	Concept of a Veterinary Specialist	4
2	Purpose of Specialist Registration	4
3	Eligibility for Specialist Registration	4
4	Requirement for Continued Registration as a Specialist	4
5	Minimum Standards Document (MSD) - Minimum Standards as Part of the Requirements for Registration as a Veterinary Specialist in Australia and New Zealand	5
6	Minimum Standards Document (MSD) - Minimum Standards for Founding Members of New Specialties	10
7	Referee Requirements	12
8	Appeals Process	12
9	Privacy Policy	12
10	Registration Process for NZ Applicants	13
11	Fees	13
Annexe A	Examples of qualifications whose formal full time training programs generally meet the standards accepted for specialist registration	15
Annexe B	History and Rules of the ACRVS	21
	Extract from the AVBC By-Laws as at December 2011	22
	Addresses of Registering Authorities in New Zealand and Australia	24

1 CONCEPT OF A VETERINARY SPECIALIST

A veterinary specialist is a registered veterinarian with an exceptionally high level of skills well above those of a general practitioner in the same discipline. A specialist must have undergone extensive advanced supervised training, culminating in the passing of a rigorous set of examinations. The specialty must be a branch of veterinary practice having sufficient depth and breadth to allow one to practise solely in that field.

2 PURPOSE OF SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

A system for specialist registration has been established by the registering authorities in Australia and New Zealand under the provisions of their respective legislation, to ensure that the public has access to advanced veterinary expertise. Veterinarians must meet stringent requirements relating to qualifications, experience and training to be registered as specialists. Under legislation in Australia and New Zealand, only registered specialists may claim specialist status.

3 ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

Applicants must:

- a) hold a current registration certificate issued by their registering authority in Australia or New Zealand; and
- b) normally have been practising as a veterinarian for a minimum of five (5) years; and
- c) have completed a suitable training program as set down in Section 5; and
- d) have successfully completed an examination at the conclusion of the training program as set down in Section 5.5.7; and
- e) be accepted by colleagues and peers as possessing knowledge and skills at the level of a specialist; and
- f) be currently working (including teaching) a minimum of twenty-five hours per week in the field of specialty.

4 REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUED REGISTRATION AS A SPECIALIST

The general principle of minimum standards for re-registration as a specialist is being considered by the Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists (ACRVS) at the request of the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. (AVBC).

MSD

Section 5 :The **Minimum Standards Document**

5 MINIMUM STANDARDS DOCUMENT (MSD)

Minimum Standards as part of the requirements for registration as a veterinary specialist in Australia and New Zealand.

5.1 Minimum time from graduation

An applicant would normally have been practising as a veterinarian for at least five (5) years before being eligible to be registered as a specialist.

5.2 Minimum time working in the specialty

An applicant must have worked for at least three (3) years full time equivalent, including training, in his/her specialist area before being eligible to be registered as a specialist.

5.3 Current clinical activity

An applicant must be currently working (including teaching) a minimum of twenty-five hours per week in the specialty.

5.4 Professional activities

An applicant must be able to show evidence of current professional activities and contribution to profession including:

5.4.1 Publications

Publications are a form of evidence of contribution to the profession and must demonstrate the candidate's scholarship in the discipline and ability to communicate scientific information.

5.4.1.1 Refereed publications

Original scientific papers, reports, review articles or case studies published in scientific journals that utilise a system of scientific peer review prior to publication.

5.4.1.2 Books and theses

5.4.1.3 Unrefereed publications

Scientific papers, reports and case studies published in journals or magazines that do not utilise a system of scientific peer review prior to publication.

5.4.1.4 Unpublished reports

Papers and reports that have not been published in a publicly accessible publication.

5.4.2 Teaching in the discipline

5.4.3 Attendance, speaking or presentations at conferences/workshops/courses:

5.4.4 Committee participation, memberships, etc.

5.5 Training Programs

5.5.1 Approval of the training program

Certifying Bodies are those organisations that approve training programs and administer examinations in veterinary specialties for the purpose of specialist recognition. Examples of Certifying Bodies include the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, American Board of Veterinary Specialties, the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation, and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The ACRVS expects that Certifying Bodies would have standards for approval of training programs in their respective disciplines and provide a means to assess the professional competence of candidates who have completed an approved training program.

Applicants must submit information on their training program. If the training program does not appear in Annexe A of the *Specialist Registration Information Booklet* then that training program will need to be assessed by the ACRVS before the candidate's application for registration can be assessed. This can take some time.

The ACRVS would expect the requirements for training programs of the Certifying Bodies to include as follows:

5.5.2 Supervised training

A period of supervised training is an essential part of preparation for the final examination. This may involve either:

- a) a formal directly supervised structured training program such as a University training program; **OR**
- b) an alternate training program considered to provide an equivalent level of training to a formal training program.

5.5.3 The period of supervised training

Training programs would normally include ninety-six (96) weeks of full-time, directly supervised training or its equivalent in the clinical and technical aspects of the relevant discipline (excluding vacation time).

a) *Formal Training Program:*

Training occurs continuously in a full-time training program of two (2) years or more.

MSD

b) *Alternative Training Program:*

The alternative training program would most likely consist of at least seventy- six (76) weeks of full time directly supervised training. Directly supervised training would be in blocks of at least six (6) weeks duration. The remaining twenty (20) weeks may be indirectly supervised training where five (5) weeks indirect supervised training is equivalent to one (1) week directly supervised training. Therefore up to one hundred (100) weeks of indirectly supervised training may be taken. Indirectly supervised training is defined as follows:

- i) Training must be in the appropriate discipline and would normally occupy at least twenty-five (25) hours per week; **AND**
- ii) There would normally be weekly discussion of cases with the supervisor.

c) *Completion of training*

Regardless of the type and structure of the training program, training would normally be accomplished within six (6) years. The proportion of the candidate's weekly time spent in the practice of the discipline would normally be not less than twenty-five (25) hours per week during training.

5.5.4 The selection and role of supervisors

- a) Supervisors should be approved by the certifying body.
- b) Supervisors shall be recognised experts in the candidate's chosen discipline and must be actively working in the candidate's chosen discipline. Supervisors shall be either registered as specialists in the discipline or have qualifications deemed equivalent by the ACRVS.
- c) Supervisors shall be responsible for both instruction and continuing assessment of candidates and for providing feedback as required by the certifying body.

5.5.5 Prerequisites of an approved centre

- a) Approved centres for the purpose of training would normally be expected to have:
 - i) An adequate workload in the specialty
 - ii) Adequate facilities for the performance of the specialty
 - iii) Adequate access to other professional expertise
 - iv) The written permission of the principal of the centre providing the facility.
- b) A description of the centre should be detailed in the training program submitted to the certifying body.
- c) The certifying body will provide approval of the centre.

5.5.6 Scholarship

- a) The training program should include evidence of scholarship which may include:
 - i) Case reports
 - ii) Presentations at national or international scientific meetings
 - iii) The completion of research project/s
 - iv) Published manuscripts
- b) Written evidence of completion of the above should be provided to the certifying body for scrutiny by the certifying body and/or the examiners.
- c) The number and content of the above will be prescribed by the certifying body.

5.5.7 Examinations

Although the certifying body will set and grade examinations, it is expected that examinations will be rigorous and comprehensive covering theoretical and applied aspects of the discipline. It is expected that a range of examination techniques, such as written, oral, practical, case studies, and interpretative studies will be employed to assess professional competence. The Certifying Body may also take into account referees' reports, research manuscripts and further evidence of a candidate's contributions to the specialty such as publications, invited talks, teaching and professional interaction.

5.6 Higher degrees

Under normal circumstances, PhDs and Masters degrees will not be considered as suitable qualifications to support a claim for specialist registration.

Under special circumstances it may be possible for a candidate to request that part or all of a higher degree program be assessed as contributing to their specialty training program requirements. Recognition of equivalence to a formal training program will only be given where the candidate provides documentation to allow assessment of the training at the same level as that of any other formal training program.

MSD

6. MINIMUM STANDARDS DOCUMENT (MSD) FOR FOUNDING MEMBERS OF NEW SPECIALTIES

*These Minimum Standards only apply to Founding Members of New Specialties. These standards form part of the requirements for registration as a veterinary specialist in the new specialty in Australia and New Zealand. The key to invoking Section 6 of the MSD is when applicants for specialist registration have not completed a formal training program within a recognised specialty college. That would only occur when there is a brand new area of specialisation and there is no clearly defined opportunity to have undertaken a training program for that new specialty. **You will need to contact the registrar for the State or Territory in which you intend to practise for a copy of the Founding Members of New Specialties application form.***

The AVBC Founding Member of a New Specialty (Chapter, College or new specialty) must provide evidence that:

- 6.1** The nominated specialty is deemed relevant and to the benefit of animals and their owners in Australia and New Zealand. The onus is on the applicant and those intending to establish a new specialist category to demonstrate the public need (in the Australian and New Zealand context).
- 6.2** The new specialty Chapter or College and its Charter or de facto Diplomates or Fellows were approved by the ABVS, EBVS, RCVS or ANZCVS. This approval was granted during or after 2010.
- 6.3** The applicant has achieved distinction in the field and has qualifications exceeding those proposed as necessary for future candidates desiring to apply for Fellowship or Diplomate training.
- 6.4** The applicant is recognised for their specialist-level skills and practice within the discipline by their peers, and is an author of relevant publications including refereed publications from peer reviewed journals resulting from research or practise in the specialty.

AND either a., b., or c., as follows:

- a.** Must have at least ten years' experience in the specialty, and, by teaching, research, or practise have contributed significantly to the development of the specialty; **OR**
 - b.** Be a Professor or Associate Professor of the specialty in a college or department of veterinary medicine whose graduates are registerable without further examination in Australia or New Zealand and have contributed significantly to the development of the specialty; **OR**
 - c.** Have advanced training (PhD or equivalent) in the specialty; and have demonstrated competency through teaching, research or practise in the specialty to which the individual devotes most of his or her professional time.
- 6.5** The applicant is currently registered in Australia or New Zealand and in good professional standing with the registration board through which the application is made.

- 6.6** The applicant is currently working (including teaching) a minimum of 25 hours per week in the specialty.
- 6.7** Demonstrate a contribution to the growth/establishment of the specialty through a commitment to specialist training programs (eg training residents). Applicants must commit to, and provide evidence of supervision of candidates in the new specialty within five (5) years of a successful recommendation from AVBC for specialist registration (in Australia and New Zealand). The training program must have been approved by ABVS, EBVS, ANZCVS or RCVS.
- 6.8** The applicant has passed an approved rigorous and comprehensive certifying examination process which constitutes the certifying examination of the specialty college. (Details of the rigor of this examination are referred to in Section 5.5.7 of the MSD.)
- 6.9** Time limit: The founding member must apply to the AVBC for consideration of their eligibility for specialist registration within five (5) years of their certification date as a Charter or de facto or Founding Member of the new College, Chapter or specialty.
- 6.10** Statement of intent: The ACRVS expects that founding member applicants will make a commitment to expanding the number of specialists in their discipline. A founding member applicant is required by the ACRVS to submit a Statement of Intent to provide training programs for future specialists in the discipline.
- 6.11** Applicants must submit a detailed application and CV to clearly address the AVBC's requirements for a Founding Member.
- ACRVS would expect the application to address in detail items 6.1 to 6.10 above (also summarised below):
- i. Relevance; Benefit; Public Need
 - ii. Specialty has ABVS, EBVS, ANZCVS or RCVS approval
 - iii. Distinction in the new field
 - iv. Peer Recognition
 - v. Currently registered and in good standing
 - vi. Professional activity
 - vii. Commitment to a training future specialists (e.g. residency program)
 - viii. Completion of an approved certifying exam
 - ix. Time limit
 - x. Statement of Intent to provide training programs for future specialists in the discipline

7 REFeree REQUIREMENTS

Referee requirements as required by the Certifying Body.

8 APPEALS PROCESS

Any appeals must be made through the registering authority to which an application is submitted. Each authority has its own appeals mechanism and an appellant should contact the Registrar or Executive Officer of that authority in the first instance.

9 PRIVACY POLICY

The AVBC Inc. will collect information from applicants with their prior knowledge and consent. By signing this application you give AVBC Inc. permission to make enquiries to assist in the assessment of your application for registration as a specialist and to use any information supplied in this application for that purpose. You may apply to the AVBC Inc. for access to information collected by AVBC Inc. in relation to your application.

The AVBC Inc. will not disclose your personal information to a third party with the exception of providing your information to the any subsequent registration authority with whom you may seek registration as a specialist. The AVBC Inc. will not disclose your information to other state institutions and authorities except if required by law or other regulation. We have implemented technology and security policies, rules and measures to protect the personal information that AVBC Inc. has under its control from unauthorized access, improper use, alteration, unlawful or accidental destruction and accidental loss. AVBC Inc. will remove personal information from our systems where it is no longer required.

10 REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR NZ APPLICANTS

The Veterinary Council of New Zealand (VCNZ) considers and makes decisions on applications for specialist registration, following an assessment of the applicant's qualifications, training and experience conducted on its behalf by the Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists (ACRVS), a committee of the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc (AVBC).

There are therefore two steps to the specialist registration application process:

1. Direct application to the AVBC for *assessment* by ACRVS for the eligibility of qualifications, training and experience for specialist registration (as covered in this Information Booklet).
2. Direct application to VCNZ for consideration of specialist *registration* application following receipt of the ACRVS assessment. Information on this process is available from the VCNZ office or www.vetcouncil.org.nz.

On completion of the ACRVS assessment, AVBC will notify you and VCNZ of its recommendation on your eligibility for specialist registration.

If you wish to proceed with your specialist registration application, you must at this point, complete the VCNZ specialist registration application and forward it with the current fee to VCNZ for consideration. Application forms are available from VCNZ offices or at www.vetcouncil.org.nz.

The final registration decision is made by VCNZ.

In circumstances where ACRVS has not recommended specialist registration you have the option of appealing this assessment, by completing and forwarding the specialist registration application form for VCNZ's consideration. You should include reasons why you disagree with the ACRVS assessment. Alternatively you may decide to accept the ACRVS recommendation and not proceed any further.

11 FEES

You may be required to pay more than one fee for registration as a veterinary specialist.

You will be required to pay an *assessment fee*, directly to the AVBC, to cover the costs of the assessment of your qualifications, training and experience. This fee is set by the AVBC and, for NZ applicants, is not subject to Australian GST. It must accompany your application to the AVBC and is to be paid in Australian dollars and made out in the name of Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. This fee is not refundable. Please refer to Section 9 of the application form for more information and payment methods.

The *specialist registration fee* is set by your local registration authority. Please contact your local registering authority for their current registration fee structure.



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10/11/17

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Item	Value	Unit	Item	Value	Unit
Vol. Time	180.0		Max. Power	888.0	
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Annexe A

Examples of qualifications whose **formal full time training programs** generally meet the standards accepted for specialist registration.

Certifying Bodies which set the standards acceptable for specialist registration stated in Section 5 are:

The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS);

The American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS);

The European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS);

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

The holding of a particular qualification by an applicant does not in itself constitute eligibility for specialist registration.

Examples of qualifications whose **formal full time training programs** generally meet the standards acceptable for specialist registration stated in Section 5 are listed below. This list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. **This list is to be used as a GUIDE only.**

A training program not on the list needs to be assessed/evaluated before an application can be considered, **as does a program NOT recently assessed.** Non-standard or alternative programs should be assumed **NOT** to be approved unless specified.

Annexe A

SPECIALIST CATEGORIES:	QUALIFICATION:
1. Animal Behaviour	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary behavioural medicine
2. Avian Medicine	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - avian medicine
3. Cattle Management and Diseases	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cattle management and diseases
4. Equine Medicine	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - equine medicine Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large animal internal medicine (equine) Diplomate of the European College of Equine Internal Medicine (ECEIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - equine medicine * * * * * (6)
5. Equine Surgery	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - equine surgery Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large animal (equine)
6. Feline Medicine	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - feline medicine
7. Laboratory Animal Medicine	Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM)

Annexe A

SPECIALIST CATEGORIES:	QUALIFICATION:
8. Large Animal Medicine	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large animal internal medicine (food animal)
9. Large Animal Surgery	Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large animal surgery (Standard and Alternate)
10. Small Animal Medicine	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal medicine Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal internal medicine Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine - Companion Animals (ECVIM-CA) ** (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal medicine
11. Small Animal Surgery	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal surgery Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal surgery Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small animal surgery
12. Veterinary Anaesthesia	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists (ACVA) European College of Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia (ECVAA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary anaesthesia *** (3)

Annexe A

SPECIALIST CATEGORIES:	QUALIFICATION:
13. Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia (or Anaesthesia and Critical Care)	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - anaesthesia and analgesia (from 2017) - veterinary anaesthesia and critical care (until 2016)
14. Veterinary Emergency Medicine & Critical Care	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care (ACVECC) Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary emergency medicine & critical care
15. Veterinary Anatomical Pathology	Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - anatomical pathology Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - anatomic pathology
16. Veterinary Clinical Pathology	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clinical pathology
17. Veterinary Cardiology	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine – CA (ACVIM-CA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cardiology Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine – Companion Animals (ECVIM-CA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cardiology
18. Veterinary Dentistry	Diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College (AVDC)

Annexe A

SPECIALIST CATEGORIES:	QUALIFICATION:
19. Veterinary Dermatology	<p>Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary dermatology <p>Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary dermatology
20. Veterinary Radiology (or Diagnostic Imaging)	<p>Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - radiology (from 2012) - veterinary diagnostic imaging (until 2012) <p>Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Radiology (ACVR)</p> <p>Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging (ECVDI) ****(4)</p> <p>Diplomate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)</p>
21. Veterinary Epidemiology	<p>Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary epidemiology
22. Veterinary Microbiology	<p>Diplomate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary pathology (microbiology)
23. Veterinary Neurology	<p>Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - neurology <p>Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Neurology (ECVN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - neurology *(1)

Annexe A

SPECIALIST CATEGORIES:	QUALIFICATION:
24. Veterinary Nutrition	Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Nutrition (ACVN)
25. Veterinary Oncology	<p>Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary oncology <p>Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - oncology
26. Veterinary Ophthalmology	<p>Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (FANZCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary ophthalmology <p>Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary ophthalmology ***** (5) <p>Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ECVO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary ophthalmology ***** (7) <p>Diplomate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - veterinary ophthalmology
27. Veterinary Reproduction (species)	Diplomate of the American College of Theriogenologists (ACT)

* (1) Approved in April 2009 (ECVN)
 ** (2) Approved in April 2009 (ECVIM-CA)
 *** (3) Approved in August 2009 (ECVAA)
 **** (4) Approved in June 2010 (ECVDI)

***** (5) Approved in December 2010 (ACVO)
 ***** (6) Approved in May 2012 (ECEIM)
 ***** (7) Approved in December 2012 (ECVO)
 Feb 2015 Alignment with ANZCVS review

Annexe B

Annexe B History and Rules of the ACRVS

HISTORY OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY SPECIALISTS (ACRVS)

The ACRVS is a standing committee of the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. (AVBC). It was first established by the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS) in 1985 to advise on the suitability of the training, experience and qualifications of applicants for registration as specialists. The ACRVS became a standing committee of the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. (AVBC) on its incorporation on 20 December 1999.

The purpose of the ACRVS is to establish uniformity between the registering authorities in terms of the standards applied to assessment of applications for specialist registration.

Veterinary registration authorities normally send applications to the ACRVS for assessment and ACRVS advises the authority if the application meets the criteria accepted by the AVBC.

The ACRVS reports annually to the AVBC and communicates with the AVBC as necessary on issues such as new fields of specialist registration and training, experience and qualifications for specialist registration. The ACRVS also contacts (and is contacted by) individual registering authorities occasionally on specific issues.

The ACRVS handles the assessment of applications by mail, email, facsimile, teleconference and face to face meetings.

As a standing committee of the AVBC the ACRVS has no inherent authority or power. Registering authorities are not obliged to use the ACRVS to assess applications, but all have agreed to do so.

Recognised categories for specialist registration are determined by the AVBC. Introduction of new categories may be a slow process and is done in consultation with the ANZCVS.

Criteria for assessing applications were developed in consultation with the AVBC and with advice from the ANZCVS. This latter advice is essential, as the ANZCVS is the major provider of supervised training and assessment for veterinarians seeking specialist registration in Australia and New Zealand. The criteria applied to applications are essentially the same regardless of the area in which specialist registration is sought.

The ACRVS has no role to play in any appeal other than to provide advice to the registering authority involved if asked to do so. Appeal mechanisms are administered by the applicants' registering authority.

Annexe B

Extract from the AVBC By-Laws as at December 2011

EXTRACT OF BY-LAWS of the AUSTRALASIAN VETERINARY BOARDS COUNCIL INC (AVBC) as at DECEMBER 2011

2.2 Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists

- (1) The Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists (ACRVS) shall:
 - (a) advise the registration authorities in Australia and New Zealand on all matters relating to the registration of veterinary specialists;
 - (b) receive and review applications from veterinarians applying for specialist registration, forwarded through their registering authority or in the case of New Zealand applicants, forwarded directly to AVBC, and ensure that they meet the criteria for specialist registration approved by the Council;
 - (c) periodically review the criteria for specialist registration to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Australian and New Zealand public and profession;
 - (d) advise the Council on the appropriate categories and branches for specialist registration, and
 - (e) present a report to each annual general meeting of Council and provide a copy of such report to each organisation recommending appointment of the members of such committee.
- (2) Membership of the (ACRVS) shall consist of seven members each of whom shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years as follows:
 - (a) The convenor appointed by the Council;
 - (b) one member appointed on the recommendation of the Council of Veterinary Deans of Australia and New Zealand;
 - (c) one member appointed on the recommendation of the Australian Veterinary Association Ltd;
 - (d) one member appointed on the recommendation of the New Zealand Veterinary Association Inc;

- (e) one member appointed on the recommendation of the Veterinary Council of New Zealand;
 - (f) one member appointed on the recommendation of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists; and
 - (g) with a view to balance on the committee: one member, a currently registered veterinary specialist, appointed by the Council.
- (3) In the event that a casual vacancy occurs, the replacement must be appointed upon nomination from the same organisation by which the ceasing member was nominated;
- (4) Any recommendation shall be confidential to the registering authority submitting the application, and to any other registering authority which may subsequently submit an application for the same candidate. The ACRVS may seek expert advice on a confidential basis regarding the application for specialist registration and on any other matters relating to the registration of veterinary specialists.

Annexe B

Registering Authorities

Addresses of Registering Authorities in New Zealand and Australia

Should you have any queries about your application for assessment, please contact the AVBC office, or for registration, contact your local registering authority, the VCNZ.

Veterinary Council of New Zealand

Tel 0011 64 4 473 9600
Fax 0015 64 4 473 8869
email vet@vetcouncil.org.nz
www.vetcouncil.org.nz

POSTAL ADDRESS

Box 10 563
WELLINGTON 6143
NEW ZEALAND

Veterinary Practitioners Board of New South Wales

Tel 02 8338 1177
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