

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
CHAPTERS 700-1, 700-2, 700-3, 700-5, 700-6, 700-7, 700-8, 700-10, 700-11, AND 700-12
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1) **Rule 700-1-.02. Meetings**
- 2) **Rule 700-1-.03. Election of Officers**
- 3) **Rule 700-2-.02. Application for Licensure**
- 3) **Rule 700-2-.03. Examination**
- 4) **Rule 700-3-.01. Examination**
- 5) **Rule 700-5-.01. Application for Faculty License**
- 6) **Rule 700-6-.01. Application for Registration of Veterinary Technician**
- 7) **Rule 700-7-.01. Renewal of License**
- 8) **Rule 700-7-.02. Reinstatement of Expired Licenses**
- 9) **Rule 700-7-.03. Continuing Veterinary Education**
- 10) **Rule 700-8-.01. Unprofessional Conduct**
- 11) **Rule 700-10-.01. Fees**
- 12) **Rule 700-11-.01. Inactive Status**
- 13) **Rule 700-12-.01. Definitions**
- 14) **Rule 700-12-.02. Facility Standards**
- 15) **Rule 700-12-.03. Housing**
- 16) **Rule 700-12-.08. Surgical Standards**
- 17) **Rule 700-12-.09. Examination Area**
- 18) **Rule 700-12-.11. Patient Care**
- 19) **Rule 700-12-.12. Renewal Statement**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to Board Rules 700-1-.02, 700-1-.03, 700-2-.02, 700-2-.03, 700-3-.01, 700-5-.01, 700-6-.01, 700-7-.01, 700-7-.02, 700-7-.03, 700-8-.01, 700-10-.01, 700-11-.01, 700-12-.01, 700-12-.02, 700-12-.03, 700-12-.08, 700-12-.09, 700-12-.11, and 700-12-.12 (hereinafter "proposed rule amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendments and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being disseminated to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board website <http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/53>, or by contacting the Board office at (844) 753-7825.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **9:30 a.m.** on **December 2, 2020**, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment. If the Board offices remain closed as a result of the public health emergency, the hearing will take place via Zoom at Zoom at 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID 938 9088 1260, then Passcode: 798164.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature,

as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on **November 25, 2020**. Written comments should be addressed to La Trenda Tyler Jones, Director, Office of Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217; Fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendments for adoption at its meeting scheduled to begin at **9:30 a.m. on December 2, 2020** at the Georgia Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. If the Board offices remain closed as a result of the public health emergency, the hearing will take place via Zoom at 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID 938 9088 1260, then Passcode: 798164. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 700 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k), 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-1-31, 43-50-20(e-f), 43-50-21;43-50-31, 43-1-34, 43-50-40, 43-50-21, 43-50-41, 43-50-43, 43-50-52(2)(D), 43-50-55, 43-50-90, 43-50-110, 50-14-1(d)(2) and (3).

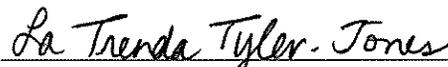
At its meetings on February 20, 2019, June 19, 2019, August 14, 2019 and August 12, 2020, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rules do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee; and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-50-21 and 43-50-41.

Additionally, at its meetings on February 20, 2019, June 19, 2019, August 14, 2019 and August 12, 2020, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-50-21 and 43-50-41 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of veterinary medicine.

For further information, contact the Board office at (844) 753-7825.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 5th day of October 2020.



La TREND TYLER-JONES

Director

Professional Licensing Boards

Posted:

October 8, 2020

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-1, MEETINGS, RULE 700-1-.02.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to provide clarity as it relates to the manner in which special meetings will be held, which is in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, instead of with two weeks' notice. It omits the statement requiring the Board to schedule examination dates annually as the Board no longer administers the national examination for licensure.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-1, MEETINGS, RULE 700-1-.02.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-1-.02. Meetings

- (1) Board meetings shall be held on dates as scheduled by the Board at its annual meeting. The last meeting of each year shall be the annual meeting.
- (2) Special meetings shall be held ~~on two weeks notice from the president to other members of the Board, except in case of emergency~~ in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.
- ~~(3) The Board shall schedule examination dates at its annual meeting for the following year.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-25; 43-50-20(e); 43-50-21; 43-50-110; 50-14-1(d)(2) and (3).

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-1, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, RULE 700-1-.03.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to clarify that the election of officers and subcommittee members will occur a minimum of annually and removes the requirement that the elections occur only at the last meeting of each year.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-1, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, RULE 700-1-.03.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-1-.03. Election of Officers

~~At the last meeting of each year~~ At its annual meeting, the ~~B~~board shall elect ~~a president and vice president~~ officers and subcommittee members for the following year ~~a minimum of once per year.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25; 43-50-20(f); 43-50-21; 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-2, APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE, RULE 700-2-.02.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to expedite application processing by allowing the Board to act on an application when the school transcript is not yet available and providing for electronic submission of proof of graduation as an alternative means for schools to demonstrate that their graduates meet the educational requirements for licensure. The amendment further allows the submission of exam scores from an equivalent exam acceptable to the Board.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-2, APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE, RULE 700-2-.02.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-2-.02. Application for Licensure for Veterinarians

- (1) An applicant for licensure as a veterinarian shall make application on forms provided by the Board.
- (2) With the completed application form(s) the applicant for licensure shall submit:
 - (a) The application fee in an amount established by the Board;
 - (b) Proof of graduation submitted directly from an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine certifying completion of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and the award of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree;
~~(c) If an applicant has not yet graduated, a letter, from the Dean of the college or school of veterinary medicine certifying the date of the expected graduation of the applicant and agreeing to provide proof of such graduation directly to the Board when available~~ If a transcript is not yet available, the Board will accept a letter from the Dean of the college or school of veterinary medicine certifying the date that graduation occurred; or, an electronic submission of proof of graduation submitted directly from the accredited college or school of veterinary medicine followed by the submission of an official transcript within thirty days;
 - ~~(d) (c)~~ All scores of the applicant from the North American Veterinary Licensure Examination (NAVLE) or the Clinical Competency Test (CCT) and the National Board Examination (NBE) or an equivalent examination acceptable to the Board.
 - (d) Proof of a passing score on the Georgia Veterinary Law Exam.
- (4) In addition to meeting the requirements stated above, if an applicant is a graduate of a foreign college or school of veterinary medicine, must submit one of the following:
 - (a) The Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate from the American Veterinary Medical Association; or,
 - (b) Proof of completion of the PAVE program from the American Association of Veterinary State Boards; or,
 - (c) An equivalent document acceptable to the Board;
 - ~~(e) All scores of the applicant from the North American Veterinary Licensure Examination (NAVLE) or the Clinical Competency Test (CCT) and the National Board Examination (NBE).~~
- ~~(3)~~ (5) An applicant must furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board of all qualifications for licensure.
- (6) All applications for licensure expire one year from the date of receipt of the application and non-refundable fee.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-31; 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-2, EXAMINATION FOR VETERINARIANS, RULE 700-2-.03.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to move some provisions from Rule 700-3-.01 into this rule since the Board is seeking to repeal Rule 700-3-.01. The provisions include the reservation of the Board's right to adopt other examinations similar in nature and scope to the NAVLE and replacing of the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME) with International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) as it is the new title of the entity that administers the examination.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-2, EXAMINATIONS FOR VETERINARIANS, RULE 700-2-.03.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-2-.03. Examinations for Veterinarians

- (1) The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine has adopted the North American Veterinary Licensure Examination (NAVLE) administered by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment ~~National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners~~ ~~(NBVME/ICVA)~~ as its examination for licensure. All applications and fees for the NAVLE must be sent directly to the NBVME/ICVA. The Board reserves the right to adopt other examinations similar in nature and scope.
- (2) The NAVLE candidate must abide by all rules and regulations established by the NBVME/ICVA concerning the NAVLE.
- (3) A NAVLE score of 75 or greater is required for licensure consideration.
- (4) An applicant for licensure who does not obtain a NAVLE score of 75 or higher may reapply to sit for the NAVLE, pay the appropriate fee and submit a new application directly to the NBVME/ICVA.
- ~~(5) No person shall take the required examination(s) more than three times without review and approval by the Board. Approval may be provided under such circumstances, as the board deems appropriate.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-31(a), and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-3, EXAMINATION, RULE 700-3-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to repeal Rule 700-3-.01 as the language of this rule has been moved into other 700-2-.03.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-3, EXAMINATION, RULE 700-3-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-3-.01, Examination

- ~~(1) The Board adopts the NAVLE, as developed by the National Board Examination Committee of the American Veterinary Medical Association, as the required test for licensure consideration. The Board reserves the right to adopt other examination similar in nature and scope.~~
- ~~(2) To qualify for Georgia licensure the candidate must take and pass the NAVLE. The Board will adopt a passing score to be used for the NAVLE examination. Applicants who have previously taken and passed the NBE and CCT must have their scores reported to the Board by the Interstate Reporting Service (IRS). A score of 75 or greater is required on each examination.~~
- ~~(3) Passing text scores from previous National Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) and Clinical Competence Test (CCT) will be accepted for licensure consideration.~~
- ~~(4) Applicants for Georgia licensure must have applied for licensure and submitted the required documents and fees to be considered eligible to take the NAVLE.~~

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 700-3-.01

Authority: O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-50-21.

History. Original Rule entitled "Ethics" was filed and effective on June 30, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Examination" adopted. Filed October 8, 1974; effective October 28, 1974.

Amended: Filed April 16, 1976; effective May 6, 1976.

Amended: Filed March 18, 1980; effective April 7, 1980.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed September 14, 1983; effective October 4, 1983.

Amended: Filed June 18, 1985; effective July 8, 1985.

Amended: Filed April 6, 1987; effective April 26, 1987.

Amended: Filed September 10, 1987; effective September 30, 1987.

Amended: Filed November 4, 1988; effective November 24, 1988.

Amended: F. Jun. 19, 1992; eff. Jul. 9, 1992.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 28, 2001; eff. July 18, 2001.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-5, APPLICATION FOR FACULTY LICENSE, RULE 700-5-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to update the statutory citation from code section 42-50-30 to 43-50-43 of the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act and adds information concerning the length of time an application is valid and that application fees are non-refundable.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-5, APPLICATION FOR FACULTY LICENSE, RULE 700-5-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-5-.01. Application for Faculty License

- (1) Application for veterinary faculty license shall be made on forms furnished by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (2) All applicants shall meet requirements as stated in code section 43-50-~~30~~43 of the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act.
- (3) Veterinary faculty license will expire on December 31 and be renewable biennially on the even numbered years.
- (4) All applications for licensure expire one year from the date of receipt of the application and non-refundable fee.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-43 and 43-50--110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-6, APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY
TECHNICIANS, RULE 700-6-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to include the correct name title of the Board, clarifies the requirements for applicants and changes the term “registration” to “license” in light of the 2018 amendments to the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act. The rule is amended to include language to expedite application processing by allowing the Board to act on an application when the school transcript is not yet available and providing for electronic submission of proof of graduation as an alternative means for schools to demonstrate that their graduates meet the educational requirements for licensure.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-6, APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY
TECHNICIANS, RULE 700-6-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-6-.01. Application for ~~Registration of~~ Veterinary Technicians License

- (1) Application for ~~registration-licensure~~ of Veterinary Technicians shall be made on forms furnished by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (2) All applicants shall meet the following requirements as provided in Code Section 43-50-52 of the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act:
 - (a) The applicant has attained the age of 18;
 - (b) The applicant is of good moral character; and
 - (c) The applicant is a graduate of a Veterinary Technician program approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association, however, the Board will review all other programs on an individual basis. The veterinary technician program may provide the electronic submission of proof of graduation or an official transcript.
 - (d) If licensed in another state(s) with ~~registration-license~~ requirements substantially the same as this state, which were in effect at the time the applicant was first admitted to practice in the other state(s), provide verification of licensure from that state(s);
 - (e) The applicant has paid all applicable fees.
- (3) All applicants for ~~registration-licensure~~ must present proof of having obtained a passing scaled score of at least 425 where the scores range from 200-800 or a passing score of at least 75 when the range is from 0-100 on the National Veterinary Technician Examination or other examination similar in nature and scope as the Board from time to time will adopt.
 - (a) Such previous scores must be reported to the Georgia Board of Veterinary Medicine by the Interstate Reporting Service.
 - (b) Candidates desiring to transfer scores must pay all applicable fees.
- (4) Proof of a passing score on the Georgia Veterinary Technician Law Exam~~No person shall take the examination more than three times without review and approval by the Board. Approval may be provided under such circumstances, as the board deems appropriate.~~
- (5) All applications for licensure expire one year from the date of receipt of the application and non-refundable fee.
- (5-6) Registrations-Licenses shall be renewable biennially by December 31 of the year in which ~~registration-the license~~ expires.
 - (a) ~~Registration-Licenses~~ must be renewed within one year after expiration date with the payment of the renewal and late fees.
 - (b) Failure to comply voids ~~registration~~the license.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-52(2)(D) and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, RENEWAL OF LICENSE, RULE 700-7-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to ensure that licensees are aware that they must update their address information either online or in writing. The language regarding the time period that payment of a renewal fee will be waived for licensees on active duty in the military has also been updated to be consistent with that which is stated in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-31 and 43-50-40.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, RENEWAL OF LICENSE, RULE 700-7-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-7-.01. Renewal of License

- (1) Every person who holds a valid license, as ~~a veterinarian~~ issued by the Board, shall immediately upon issuance thereof be deemed registered with the Board and be issued a certificate of registration. Said license shall expire on December 31 of the even numbered years and shall be renewable biennially in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 43-50-40 upon payment of the biennial license fees. Any licensee whose address changes must update their address information online via the Board website or notify the Board in writing within 30 days of that change of address.
- (2) The payment of the renewal fee for a licensed veterinarian on active duty with any branch of the armed forces of the United States shall be waived for a period of time not to exceed ~~the longer of three years or the duration of a national emergency~~when the licensee is on active duty with any branch of the armed forces of the United States.
- (3) Any service member as defined in O.C.G.A. § 15-12-1 whose license to practice veterinary medicine or as a veterinary technician expired while serving on active duty outside the state shall be permitted to practice veterinary medicine or as a veterinary technician in accordance with the expired license and shall not be charged with a violation relating to such practice on an expired license for a period of six (6) months from the date of her or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within the state. Any such service member shall be entitled to renew such expired license without penalty within six (6) months after the date of her or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location with the state. The service member must present to the board a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the service members commanding officer to waive any charges.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-1-31, 43-50-21, 43-50-40; and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSED, RULE 700-7-.02.**

Purpose/Main Features: To clarify the rule to ensure it is in accord with the law by stating that any license issued by the board has to be renewed and if not renewed as required is subject to the terms of reinstatement as outlined within the statute and rule to include meeting continuing education requirements. The remaining amendments were housekeeping in nature as it was reorganized, renumbered and updated.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSED, RULE 700-7-.02.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-7-.02. Reinstatement of Expired Licenses

- (1) ~~Any veterinary or veterinary technician~~ license issued by the Board which has not been renewed by the end of the ~~March 31st~~established late renewal period shall be administratively lapsed for failure to renew. Such failure to renew shall have the same force and effect as a revocation of said license as provided in Sec. 43-1-19(1) of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Licenses ~~that have been~~ administratively lapsed for failure to renew may, in the Board's discretion, must be reinstated; and, as a condition thereof, the Board may impose any disciplinary or corrective method provided by law at the Board's discretion.
- (2) For purposes of this regulation, the administrative lapsing of license for failure to renew shall not be treated as a disciplinary action or contested case.
- (3) ~~Any licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician who fails to renew said license for a period of three years or more shall be required, before reinstatement of said license, to submit an application for reinstatement, including~~ To return a license to active status, an individual shall submit a complete application for reinstatement, which shall include, but may not be limited to, the following:
 - (a) ~~a~~A detailed resume of ~~such licensee's~~the applicant's work experience since the date ~~said the~~ license was last renewed ~~and in good standing.~~
 - (b) ~~Applicants for reinstatement must submit p~~Proof of having completed~~completion of~~ continuing education within the two years prior to seeking reinstatement as follows:
 - 1) Veterinarians and veterinary faculty must submit proof of having completed a minimum of thirty (30) hours of Board approved continuing education as required in Board Rule 700-7-.03; and,
 - 2) ~~veterinarian~~Veterinary technicians must submit proof of having completed a minimum of ten (10) hours of Board approved continuing education as required in Board Rule 700-7-.04. ~~An applicant for reinstatement who has been practicing outside of the State of Georgia must furnish verification of licensure from all recognized licensing jurisdictions where the applicant is or has been licensed to practice veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.~~
 - (c) An applicant for reinstatement who has been practicing outside of the State of Georgia must furnish verification of licensure from all recognized licensing jurisdictions where the applicant is or has been licensed to practice veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.
- (4) A reinstatement applicant may be required to retake the national examination or a species specific examination if the applicant has not engaged in the active practice of veterinary medicine within the past 5 years. ~~In the application, an applicant seeking reinstatement as a veterinarian or veterinary technician shall be required to answer, under oath, whether the applicant has had any license issued to the applicant revoked, suspended or otherwise sanctioned by any board or agency in Georgia or any other state; and whether the applicant was denied issuance of or, pursuant to disciplinary proceedings, refused renewal of a license by any board or agency in Georgia or any other state. The applicant shall provide the~~

~~name of the board or agency which revoked, suspended, denied, refused renewal of, or otherwise sanctioned the license.~~

- ~~(5) An applicant seeking reinstatement of a veterinarian or veterinary license shall be required to answer, under oath, whether the applicant has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (other than minor traffic violations), or entered a plea of guilty, nolo contendere, or under "First Offender Act."~~
- ~~(6) Upon evaluation of Applicant's application and other information, the Board may reinstate said license, or at its discretion may condition reinstatement of said license upon conditions acceptable to the Board.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(a)(1), (2), (g), 43-1-25, 43-50-21, and 43-50-11043-50-40, 43-50-41(a)(1), 43-50-41(a)(2).

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, CONTINUING VETERINARY EDUCATION, RULE 700-7-.03.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to allow live, interactive webinars in addition to in-person CE requirements and clarify when Board approval of continuing education programs is required. There are also changes that are housekeeping in nature as it relates to the numbered paragraphs. The rule amendments also make it clear that licensed veterinary faculty members must also meet CE requirements.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-7, CONTINUING VETERINARY EDUCATION, RULE 700-7-.03.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-7-.03. Continuing Veterinary Education

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine in accordance with the provisions of State Law and for the purpose of establishing certain minimum standards for continuing education in the best interest of and for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare hereby adopts the following rule:

(a) General Requirements:

1. Each veterinarian and veterinary faculty member licensed to practice in the State of Georgia must obtain thirty (30) hours of Board approved continuing education per biennium for license renewal.
 - (i) Of the thirty (30) hours required, two (2) per renewal period must be acquired in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism, ~~one (1) of which must~~ may be acquired in person or by live, interactive webinars that include measures to ensure active participation throughout the course. Georgia licensees who do not practice in the State of Georgia are not required to meet the two (2) hour requirement in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism; and
 - (ii) ~~Effective January 1, 2017, e~~Eighteen (18) of the thirty (30) hours must include scientific subject matter. Scientific subject matter includes all conventional medical and surgical sub-categories that are evidence based in addition to the science of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease as it relates directly to patients and includes a comprehensive range of the practice of veterinary medicine.
2. At the time of license renewal, each veterinarian shall certify to the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine that he/she has completed the continuing education required for license renewal.
3. ~~A v~~Veterinarians and veterinary faculty member licensed during the first year of a biennium must obtain fifteen (15) hours of continuing education and is not required to meet the two (2) hour requirement in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism. ~~A v~~Veterinarians and veterinary faculty members licensed during the second year of a biennium is exempt from obtaining continuing education for that renewal period. After this time period, the entire thirty (30) hours is required for each renewal.
4. In the event that a veterinarian or a veterinary faculty member fails to verify or submit documentation of continuing education credits at the same time of renewal of his/her license, the Board will not process his/her renewal until continuing education requirements have been met and proof of such has been received and approved by the Board.
5. If documentation of continuing education is requested in conjunction with any audit and not received by the Board on or before the deadline date provided prior to the expiration date, the licensee will be subject to disciplinary action ~~expire~~.
5. A veterinarian or veterinary faculty member may not carry over continuing education credits from one biennium license renewal period to the next.
6. Each veterinarian or veterinary faculty member must maintain a record of credit hours earned and proof of attendance of such hours for a period of three years from the date of the preceding renewal period and must provide the Board with said documentation upon request.
7. Veterinarians or veterinary faculty members who attend programs where more than one course is taught must maintain proof of the courses attended and the number of hours awarded for each course.

(b) Approved Continuing Education Programs and Hours:

1. Blanket approval is awarded to any National, State and International veterinary association meetings, United States Department of Agriculture and Georgia Department of Agriculture sponsored meeting, Board Certified Specialties programs recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association, all AVMA accredited veterinary college or school sponsored classes and programs, all AAVSB RACE approved programs, any GVMA constituent organization programs, AAHA programs, programs sponsored by the United States or Southern Animal Health Association and any course approved by another state board. ~~Blanket approval does not apply to any continuing education programs on Georgia laws, rules and professionalism.~~

2. Blanket approval does not apply to any continuing education programs on Georgia laws, rules and professionalism (LEAP). All ~~continuing education courses on Georgia laws, rules and professionalism (LEAP) courses and~~ or any other (non-LEAP) continuing education course which is not offered by a blanket approved organization must be awarded Board approval before the course is offered.

3. Providers may be awarded Board approval for a continuing education course by submitting the following for consideration by the Board:

- (i) A continuing education application form;
- (ii) A detailed course outline or syllabus;
- (iii) A current curriculum vitae or resume must be provided for each speaker or lecturer;
- (iv) The procedure to be used for recording attendance; and,
- (v) The number of continuing education hours for which the course sponsor requests approval.

4. In addition to the LEAP requirements, the remaining credit hours may be earned as follows:

- (i) One (1) hour may be given for each 50 minutes of contact time. Seminars are composed of lectures or labs; welcoming remarks, business sessions, unstructured demonstrations or degree programs are not considered seminars.
- (ii) Three (3) hours can be for journal studies where follow-up testing is required. Fifteen (15) hours of interactive computer generated courses will be allowed. Follow-up testing is required.
- (iii) A maximum of twelve (12) hours will be allowed per calendar day.
- (iv) A maximum of six (6) hours for veterinarians can be acquired through in house training at the licensees' place of employment.
- (v) A maximum of ten (10) hours can be acquired through in house training for veterinary faculty at AVMA accredited institutions. For the purposes of this rule, "in house training" refers to programs that are only offered to employees of the institution.
- (vi) A maximum of three (3) hours can be acquired by licensees who conducted peer reviews for the Board.
- (vii) Two (2) hours of continuing education credit per lecture for a subject area, regardless of the number of times the licensee presents the course, for a maximum of five different subjects.

(c) Continuing Education Audit:

1. During the renewal period, the Board staff will randomly select up to 25% a percentage of its licensees to audit for continuing education compliance.

2. If selected for continuing education audit, each licensee must submit continuing education records to meet the renewal requirements for that license renewal period.

(d) Provider and Sponsor Criteria: All providers and sponsors must provide the following information to the Board if they have not been awarded blanket approval:

1. Each sponsor or provider shall have an administrator whose responsibility is to maintain the criteria for quality in programming.
2. Providers shall use qualified personnel to develop and present the programs, which shall utilize appropriate instructional materials and resources.
3. Providers shall provide to the Board adequate advanced promotional information, material about target audiences, program content, faculty credentials and fees.
4. Providers shall provide a means of registration of the participants at each program and maintain a record of attendance for a period of three years from the date of the program.
5. Providers shall develop policies and procedures for the management of grievances.
6. Providers shall provide each participant with adequate documentation of his/her successful completion of the program. The documentation shall include:

- (i) Name and license number of participant;
- (ii) Name of provider;
- (iii) Name and title of program to include the date and time each individual course was offered;
- (iv) Hours/CEU's completed;
- (v) Date of completion; and
- (vi) Authorizing signature.

7. All continuing education providers seeking approval of the continuing education program by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary shall submit a current Program Approval Form for each program presented to include all program materials requested. These forms must be complete and should be submitted 60 days in advance in order to be considered by the Board.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-40, 43-50-52; and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-8, UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, RULE 700-8-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to further define what constitutes a veterinarian/client/patient relationship and the prerequisites for prescribing drugs. The rule clarifies that the veterinarian must have conducted an in-person examination of the animal as one of the bases for establishing a patient/client relationship and it must be done prior to releasing, prescribing or dispensing prescription drugs. In addition, the amendments clarify the information that is needed in the patient records.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-8, UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, RULE 700-8-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-8-.01. Unprofessional Conduct

~~Within the meaning of Ga. Code subsection 43-50-2141(a)(67),~~ (1) Unprofessional conduct means shall include, but not limited to, the following:^[U1]

(a) Advertising - defined: Advertising shall mean any information communicated in a manner designed to attract public attention to the practice of the licensee or registrant. Advertising shall include but not be limited to, a communication, published or displayed through the use of newspaper, internet, telephone directory, pamphlets or handouts, radio, television, signs, billboard, window display or any other means of medium.

1. A licensee or registrant shall not make any false, misleading or deceptive communication in any form of advertising.
2. Advertisement of prices must contain a complete description of veterinary services included in any advertised price and disclosure of any extra charges that may be required to serve the consumer's needs.

(b) Professional Relationships:

1. It shall be unprofessional conduct for a licensee or registrant without just cause and in bad faith or for the purpose of soliciting patronage or personal pecuniary gain to disparage the profession or professional capabilities of another licensee or registrant.
2. It shall be unprofessional conduct to aid any person, firm, or corporation to engage in the unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine.
3. It shall be unprofessional conduct for a licensee or registrant to guarantee a cure or to offer his name in a commercial setting in a testimonial as to virtues of proprietary remedies or foods.

4. Consultation by an attending veterinarian with other veterinarians expert in the particular matter on which consultation is sought is in the public interest and thus is expected of the attending veterinarian when the need arises. But such consultation is discouraged if the consulting veterinarian employs the relationship so created to disparage the attending veterinarian or to solicit business; such practices are not in the public interest.

(i) It shall therefore be unprofessional conduct for a licensee called as a consulting veterinarian to disparage in the presence of the client the competence of the attending veterinarian. The Board does, however, expect any incompetence or negligence to be reported to it and nothing in this rule prohibits such reports or the giving of testimony in public or private litigation.

(ii) It shall be unprofessional conduct for a consulting veterinarian to assume unauthorized control of the case or to utilize the consulting relationship to solicit business for himself or others.

5. It shall be unprofessional conduct for a licensee employed to render professional advice by one party in negotiations concerning the sale of an animal to accept a fee from the other party.

(c) Failure to Maintain Patient Records:

1. A veterinarian shall prepare and maintain a record reflecting the care and treatment of animals treated or boarded.
2. These records shall contain clinical information sufficient to justify the diagnosis and warrant treatment and shall, if applicable, include but not be limited to the following information:
 - (i) Name, address and telephone number of the animal's owner;
 - (ii) Name of attending veterinarian and staff rendering care;

- (iii) Patient identification, including name, ages, sex and breed;
- (iv) Dates of examination, treatment and custody of the animal;
- (v) Patient history;
- (vi) Presenting complaint;
- (vii) Vaccination history;
- (viii) Findings from physical examination, including temperature and weight for each examination;
- (ix) Clinical lab reports, if applicable;
- (x) Medication prescribed or recommended, and treatment, including dose, strength, frequency, and reason for its use in treatment of the diagnosed condition;
- (xi) Anesthetic, including dose, strength, type, and amount and monitoring of vital signs at frequent intervals, if applicable;
- (xii) Details of surgical procedure including with complications and/or abnormalities noted with documentation of suture materials used, if applicable;
- (xiii) Progress and disposition of the case to include client communications and copies of any written instructions for home care;
- (xiv) Differential diagnoses; and
- (xv) ~~X-rays if applicable~~ Radiographs to include details of radiographic technique and findings in accordance with federal and state regulations.

3. All records shall be kept in a readily retrievable form, shall be recorded contemporaneously, and shall be filed promptly following treatment.

4. Patient records shall be kept by a veterinarian for three (3) years after a patient's last visit, notwithstanding any other provisions of law.

5. Copies of patient records must be made available to the owner of the animal upon written request to the veterinarian who treated the animal or to the veterinarian facility where the treatment was provided. Such records must be made available within ten (10) business days from request. The veterinarian may charge a reasonable charge for the search, retrieval, duplication and, if applicable, mailing of the patient records.

6. A veterinarian shall respond to an inquiry by the Board within fifteen (15) days and/or provide the Board with evidence that requested records have been released to the client.

(7) Failure to keep records as required by this subparagraph shall constitute a failure to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice.

(d) Failure to have an appropriate Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship. An appropriate veterinarian/client/patient relationship will exist when:

1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or other caretaker) has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;

2. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of:

(i) ~~an~~ An examination of the animal by the veterinarian within the last twelve (12) months, or

(ii) ~~m~~ Medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the premises where the patient is kept;

3. A veterinarian/client/patient relationship cannot be established solely by telephone, computer or other electronic means; and,

4. A licensed veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.

(e) Prescription Drugs:

1. It is unlawful for a veterinarian to release, prescribe, and/or dispense any prescription drugs without having established a valid veterinary/client/patient relationship.

2. After a valid veterinary/client/patient relationship has been established, a veterinarian must make available, upon request, at a reasonable cost, a written prescription.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-10, FEES, RULE 700-10-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to clarify that the fees are those set forth by the ICVA, for veterinarian exams and by the AAVSB for veterinary technician exams. It further omits tests that are no longer utilized.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-10, FEES, RULE 700-10-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-10-.01. Fees

(1) The required fee must accompany the appropriate application as noted in the following schedule.

(a) Application fees for:

1. Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
2. Veterinarian Technician-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
3. Faculty Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
4. Temporary Veterinarian License-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.

(b) Examination fees for:

1. Veterinarian-As set forth ~~on the fee schedule adopted by the Board~~ the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA).
 - a. ~~State Examination-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.~~
 - b. ~~Clinical Competency Test-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.~~
 - c. ~~National Board Examination-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.~~
2. Veterinarian Technician-As set forth ~~on the fee schedule adopted by the Board~~ the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) ~~the Board~~.

(c) Renewal Fees for:

1. Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
2. Veterinarian Technician-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
3. Faculty Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
4. Temporary Veterinarian License-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.

(d) Renewal Delinquency Fees for:

1. Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
2. Veterinarian Technician-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
3. Faculty Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.

(e) Duplicate Licenses for:

1. Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
2. Veterinarian Technician-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the Board.
3. Faculty Veterinarian-As set forth on the fee schedule adopted by the board.

(2) All renewals after December 31st of the renewal year must be accompanied by the delinquent fee plus the renewal fee.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-1-7; 43-1-25; 43-50-21; and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-11, INACTIVE STATUS, RULE 700-11-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to use the word “licensees” instead of veterinarian or veterinary technician which also clarifies that veterinary faculty are included as they hold licenses. The changes are also housekeeping in nature. The amendment also clarifies the number of CE hours a veterinary technician must have in order to reinstate.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-11, INACTIVE STATUS, RULE 700-11-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-11-.01. Inactive Status

- (1) A ~~veterinarian or veterinary technician~~licensee who wishes to discontinue the practice of veterinary medicine may apply for an "inactive license." A veterinarian or veterinary technician holding an "inactive license" may not practice.
- (2) A ~~Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or a veterinary technician~~licensee who holds a valid current active license to practice ~~Veterinary Medicine as a veterinarian or veterinary technician~~ in the State of Georgia may request the license be placed on inactive status under the following provisions:
- (a) The Board receives a written request from the licensee requesting inactive status. The written request shall contain the notarized signature of the licensee and contain the following statements:
1. "I understand that with an inactive license I shall not engage in the practice of veterinary medicine as a veterinarian or veterinary technician and shall not hold myself out to the public as being available to provide veterinary services."
 2. "I understand that I am not required to renew said license while on inactive status."
 3. "I understand I am not required to obtain the continuing education credits while on inactive status unless I request to be placed on active status."
 4. "I understand that to practice or to hold oneself out as available to practice veterinary medicine with an inactive license is unlicensed practice and I would be subject to disciplinary action."
- (b) A ~~Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or a veterinary technician~~licensee holding an inactive license may seek active status. To reinstate the license to active status the licensee must:
1. Submit a ~~written request for~~ reinstatement application of said inactive license and any other information required by the Board.
 2. Submit proof of attendance of not less than 30 hours (veterinarian and veterinary faculty) or 10 hours (veterinary technician) of Board approved continuing education within two years of the date of the request to reinstate.
 3. Provide evidence acceptable to the Board that the licensee has not had a license revoked, suspended, disciplined or otherwise sanctioned in any other jurisdiction that ever issued a license to practice.
 4. Provide evidence acceptable to the Board that licensee has not been convicted of a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude.
 5. Pay the reinstatement fee, as determined by the Board in the fee schedule.
 6. Reinstatement is in the discretion of the Board.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-40(c) and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, DEFINITIONS, RULE 700-12-.01.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule is to remove the statement which excludes large animal ambulatory practices from the definition of veterinary facilities.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, DEFINITIONS, RULE 700-12-.01.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.01. Definitions

- (1) "Appropriately" for the purposes of these rules means the expected level of care and environmental quality in accordance with the animal species and the scope of veterinary services being offered, as determined by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (2) "As appropriate" for the purposes of these rules means the expected level of care and environmental quality in accordance with the animal species and the scope of veterinary services being offered, as determined by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (3) "Clean and orderly" for the purposes of these rules means the expected level of care and environmental quality in accordance with the animal species and the scope of veterinary services being offered, as determined by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (4) "Good State" for the purposes of these rules means the expected level of care and environmental quality in accordance with the animal species and the scope of veterinary services being offered, as determined by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (5) "Proper" for the purposes of these rules means the expected level of care and environmental quality in accordance with the animal species and the scope of veterinary services being offered, as determined by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- (6) "Veterinary facility" means any premises owned or operated by a veterinarian or his or her employer where the practice of veterinary medicine occurs, including but not limited to veterinary hospitals, clinics, or mobile clinics; provided, however, that such does not include a client's private property where a licensed veterinarian treats the client's animals. ~~For the purposes of these rules, veterinary facility does not include vehicles used for large animal ambulatory practice.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-41, 43-50-55 and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, FACILITY STANDARDS, RULE 700-12-.02.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to clarify that mobile clinics will be held to the same standards as non-mobile facilities and adds a sentence to ensure that licensees keep animals appropriately secure and isolated when appropriate for the protection of the animal and the facility staff.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, FACILITY STANDARDS, RULE 700-12-.02.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.02. Facility Standards

- (1) A licensed veterinarian employed at a veterinary facility or mobile clinic is responsible to assure that the following criteria pertaining to facilities are met:
- (a) Facility must maintain appropriate federal, state and local permits.
 - (b) Facility must be appropriately secured.
 - (c) Facility must be sanitary.
 - (d) Facility must be well ventilated.
 - (e) Facility must be appropriately illuminated.
 - (f) Facility must be in a good state of repair.
 - (g) Facility walls and floors must be easily sanitized.
 - (h) Facility must have means for disposal of dead animals, tissue, hazardous materials, medical waste which must meet local and state requirements.
 - (i) Facility must have exterior legible sign.
 - (j) Facility must keep grounds clean and orderly, if applicable.
 - (k) Facility must have a restroom in working order which is maintained in a clean and orderly manner. Mobile clinics are exempt from this requirement.
 - (l) Facility must have clean and orderly receiving area.
 - (m) Facility must have a telephone answering machine or answering service available after business hours.
 - (n) Facility must have a holding or housing area with proper sanitation, ventilation, lighting, size, and temperature appropriate for the animal species. Each animal must be contained in a secure manner identified as appropriate and any contagious animals must be isolated as appropriate.
 - (o) Facility must have appropriate waste receptacles available.
 - (p) Facility must have effective insect and rodent control.
 - (q) Facility must store pharmaceuticals, biologicals, reagents and lab samples in accordance with label directions or other instructions.
 - (r) Facility must have fire extinguisher with current annual inspection.
 - (s) Facility must post in a prominent public area a copy of the current license issued by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine or current online verification of licensure from the Board website for each veterinarian and veterinary technician working at the facility.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-55, 43-50-90(a) and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, HOUSING, RULE 700-12-.03.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this amendment is to repeal Rule 700-12-.03 as the language of this rule has been moved into other 700-12-.02.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, HOUSING, RULE 700-12-.03.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.03. Housing

~~(1) A licensed veterinarian at a veterinary facility is responsible to ensure that the following criteria pertaining to housing animals are met:~~

- ~~(a) Each animal must be contained in a secure manner.~~
- ~~(b) Each animal must be identified as appropriate.~~
- ~~(c) Contagious animals must be isolated as appropriate.~~

~~Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 700-12-.03~~

~~Authority: O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-41.~~

~~History. Original Rule entitled "Housing" adopted. F. Apr. 8, 2004; eff. Apr. 28, 2004.~~

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, SURGICAL STANDARDS, RULE 700-12-.08.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to clarify that mobile clinics will be held to the same standards as non-mobile facilities and adds a sentence to ensure that licensees keep animals appropriately secure and isolated when appropriate for the protection of the animal and the facility staff.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, SURGICAL STANDARDS, RULE 700-12-.08.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.08. Surgical Standards

(1) A licensed veterinarian employed at a veterinary facility must ensure that the following criteria pertaining to surgical standards are met if surgical procedures are performed in the facility:

(a) Dose, ~~and~~ type and strength of anesthesia, and weight and physical exam findings, ~~as appropriate~~, must be recorded in the patient record.

(b) Name of licensed veterinarian performing the surgery must be recorded in the patient record.

(c) A surgery table must be used ~~as appropriate for non-ambulatory procedures~~. Such table must have an impervious surface suitable for cleaning and disinfecting. The surgical area must be clean, orderly, and well illuminated. If the practitioner does not use a surgery table, the rationale for foregoing its use must be documented within the patient record.

(d) All surgery must be performed by a licensed veterinarian utilizing aseptic technique ~~as appropriate for the procedure~~.

(e) Surgical equipment must be sterilized in the following manner:

1. Cold sterilization must be limited to instruments used in minor ~~or other~~ procedures ~~as appropriate~~, or limited to those instruments that can-not be sterilized otherwise.

2. Surgical instruments other than those applicable to ~~(e)(1)~~ above must be sterilized utilizing autoclave, gas, or other technique acceptable to the Board.

(f) Oxygen and equipment for administration must be available ~~as appropriate~~.

(g) For patients under general anesthesia for more than five minutes an endotracheal tube must be utilized.

(h) For patients under general anesthesia monitoring devices must be utilized and vital signs recorded at frequent intervals.

(i) Appropriate warming devices for patients undergoing general anesthesia is required.

(j) Pain management is required for patients undergoing surgical procedures.

(k) Facilities and equipment for resuscitation must be readily available ~~as appropriate~~.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21(a)(8), 43-50-90(a), and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, EXAMINATION AREA, RULE 700-12-.09.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to include provisions that licensees ensure that the examination room provide adequate space to ensure client safety.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, EXAMINATION AREA, RULE 700-12-.09.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.09. Examination Area

(1) A licensed veterinarian employed at a veterinary facility must ensure that the following criteria pertaining to the examination area are met:

(a) Area must be maintained in a clean and orderly manner.

(b) Impervious waste receptacle must be provided.

(c) Disposable towels and a sink must be readily accessible ~~as appropriate~~. A sink in a restroom is not considered acceptable.

(d) The examination table must have an impervious surface suitable for cleaning and disinfecting.

(e) The examination area must provide an adequate space to ensure client safety.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21(a)(8), 43-50-41; 43-50-90(a), and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, PATIENT CARE, RULE 700-12-.11.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this rule amendment is to add language to require licensed veterinarians to visit a facility and see each animal daily if the boarded animals are not patients but are maintained in their veterinary facility. This requirement and additional language in the rule holds the veterinarian responsible for the safety and welfare of the animals in their facilities whether they are hospitalized and sick patients or boarded animals.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, PATIENT CARE, RULE 700-12-.11.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.11. Patient Care

(1) ~~(1)~~ For hospitalized or sick ~~animals~~ patients that are maintained in a veterinary facility, a licensed veterinarian must physically evaluate each patient daily.

(a) ~~Patients recovering from anesthesia must be properly monitored.~~

(b) ~~For hospitalized and sick patients, the licensed veterinarian must have appropriate measures in place to ensure patient comfort to include but not limited.~~

(2) ~~For boarded animals that are maintained in a veterinary facility, a licensed veterinarian or his or her designee must physically~~ visit the facility and see each animal daily.

~~(23) ~~Patients recovering from anesthesia must be properly monitored as appropriate.~~~~

~~(4) ~~For hospitalized and sick patients, the licensed veterinarian must have appropriate measures in place to ensure patient comfort.~~~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21(a)(8), 43-50-90(a); and 43-50-110.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, RENEWAL STATEMENT, RULE 700-12-.12.**

Purpose/Main Features: The purpose of this amendment is to repeal the rule as this question is not asked at renewal.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-12, RENEWAL STATEMENT, RULE 700-12-.12.**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-12-.12, Renewal Statement

~~During the biennial license renewal period, each licensed veterinarian who is employed at a veterinary facility and providing veterinary care must state on his or her renewal application that the facility in which he or she is employed is in compliance with the minimum standards outlined in this Chapter. Such application form must have clear instructions on how the applicant is to complete the application subject to this requirement.~~

~~Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 700-12-.12~~

~~Authority: Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-41.~~

~~History. Original Rule entitled "Renewal Statement" adopted. F. Apr. 8, 2004; eff. Apr. 28, 2004.~~

**2020-2025 AMENDMENT TO
TESTING SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This Amendment (the "Amendment") is made to the *Testing Service Agreement* (the "Agreement") effective July 1, 2020, by and between International Hearing Society ("IHS"), located at 16880 Middlebelt Rd. Suite 4, Livonia, Michigan, 48154, PSI Services LLC ("PSI"), a test administrator whose address is 611 North Brand Blvd., 10th Floor, Glendale, CA 91203 and the Professional Licensing Boards on behalf of the Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers & Dispensers ("Agency"), located at 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, Georgia 31217.

WHEREAS, the parties have entered into the Agreement, as amended, to cover the provision of certain services related to the examination for use in the licensure of hearing healthcare professionals, such services more particularly described therein, by IHS and PSI to the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend certain terms of the Agreement, such terms being more particularly described in this Amendment;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter set forth in this Amendment and in the Agreement, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree as follows:

- I. Paragraph IV. Term; Termination. is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:
 - a. This Agreement shall be for one fiscal year, beginning on July 1, 2020, and ending on June 30, 2025.
 - b. Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause by giving written notice at least ninety (90) days before the effective date of termination. Upon termination or expiration of the Agreement, the parties shall remain responsible for performance of all duties related to completion of examinations administered during the term of the Agreement, including but not limited to, providing candidate records, reporting scores, and returning candidates' applications for future examinations to the Agency.

The terms and conditions of this Amendment shall supersede conflicting terms contained in the Agreement as well as in all prior amendments, if any. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement, as amended, shall remain as written.

IT IS SO AGREED, the parties hereto have executed this Amendment below as of the date below last written and consisting of two (2) pages, and each of the signatories for such parties represents and warrants that he or she is authorized and has the legal capacity to enter this Amendment on behalf of such party.

(signatures on reverse)

International Hearing Society

Joy Wilkins

(Signature)

Joy Wilkins

(Name)

Director of Professional Development

(Title)

10/06/2020

(Date)

**Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers
& Dispensers**

La Trena Tyler-Jones

(Signature)

La Trena Tyler-Jones

(Name)

Division Director

(Title)

10/6/2020

(Date)

PSI Services LLC

Alan Schwab

(Signature)

Alan Schwab

(Name)

Sr Vice President

(Title)

10/6/20

(Date)