NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 700-2 QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION, BOARD RULE 700-2-.02 APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE FOR VETERINARIANS. AMENDED. AND BOARD RULE 700-2-.04 TEMPORARY VETERINARY LICENSE AND
BOARD RULE CHAPTER 700-6 REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS, BOARD RULE 700-6-.02 TEMPORARY VETERINARY TECHNICIAN LICENSE AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Rule 700-2-.02 Application for Licensure for Veterinarians. Amended.
Rule 700-2-.04 Temporary Veterinary License
Rule 700-6-.02 Temporary Veterinary Technician License

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter "Board") proposes amendments to Board Rule Chapter 700-2 Qualification for Admission to Examination, Board Rules 700-2-.02 Application for Licensure for Veterinarians. Amended and 700-2-.04 Temporary Veterinary License and Board Rule Chapter 700-6 Registration of Veterinary Technicians, Board Rule 700-6-.02 Temporary Veterinary Technician License (hereinafter "proposed rule(s)").

This notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule(s), and a synopsis of the proposed rule(s) are being sent to all persons who have requested, in writing, to be included on a notification list. This notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule(s), and a synopsis of the proposed rule(s) may also 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, 3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 195, Macon, Georgia 31210. The documents will also be available for review on the Board's website at https://sos.ga.gov/page/georgia-board-veterinary-medicine-rules-and-laws. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board office at (404) 424-9966.

The public will have an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule(s) at a public hearing to be held at **9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 16, 2026,** via WebEx. Please see the Board's website for information on how to join the hearing.

Interested parties affected by the proposed rule(s) may submit written comments to the Board no later than close of business on **December 9, 2026**. Written comments must be legible, signed, contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number, email address), and addressed to Todd Zandrowicz, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, 3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 195, Macon, Georgia 31210. The written comments may be emailed to PLB-Healthcare2@sos.ga.gov.

During 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 will be limited to five (5) minutes per person.

The Board voted to post this Notice of Intent at its meetings on June 3, 2026. The Board also voted that the formulation and adoption of these proposed rule(s) does not impose an excessive regulatory cost on any licensee, and any cost to comply with the proposed rule(s) cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-34; 43-50-42.1 and 43-50-110. Additionally, the Board voted that it was neither legal nor feasible in meeting the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-34; 43-50-42.1 and 43-50-110 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these proposed rule(s) will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of veterinary medicine.

According to the Department of Law of the State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine has the authority to adopt the proposed rules pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-34; 43-50-42.1 and 43-50-110.

For further information, contact the Board office at (404) 424-9966.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.

This the 16th day of November, 2026.

Todd Zandrowicz
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

Posted: November 16, 2026

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES OF TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 700-2 QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION, BOARD RULE 700-2-.02 APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE FOR VETERINARIANS. AMENDED.

Purpose: To clarify that graduates of a foreign college or school of veterinary medicine are not required to demonstrate having graduated from an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine and submit an Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate or proof of completion of the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education (PAVE). The foreign applicant may choose to provide a transcript from an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine or ECVFG or PAVE or an equivalent document acceptable to the Board. The Committee further amended the rule to clarify that it is Joint Secretary Rule or Policy which dictates when an application for licensure expires as well as the steps an applicant will need to take if the application is withdrawn due to expiration. The changes proposed within the rule carry out the policy objectives that are expressed in Georgia Veterinary Practice Act and the General Provisions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated and it is the opinion of the Committee that the changes are consistent with that which is stated within those statutes.

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

(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; 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;

(c) Graduates of a foreign college or school of veterinary medicine shall submit a transcript certifying completion of education in veterinary medicine and in lieu of the documents referenced in paragraph (b), one of the following:

1. The Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate from the American Veterinary Medical Association; or,
2. Proof of completion of the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education (PAVE) offered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards; or,
3. An equivalent document acceptable to the Board.

~~(c)~~(d) 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; and

~~(d)~~(e) Proof of a passing score on the Georgia Veterinary Law Exam.

(3) ~~In addition to meeting the requirements stated above, graduates 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.~~

~~(4)~~ An applicant must furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board of all qualifications for licensure.

~~(5)~~(4) All applications for licensure must be complete within the timeframe indicated in the Joint Secretary Rules and/or policies ~~and there shall be no refunds of the application fee~~. All applications which are not complete within this designated timeframe shall be considered "expired" and withdrawn. Following expiration of an application, a new application in its entirety, to include all fees, shall be required for consideration of licensure.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-34 and 43-50-110.

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES OF TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 700-2 QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION, BOARD RULE 700-2-.04 TEMPORARY VETERINARY LICENSE

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to adjust the heading to indicate "registered" temporary licenses "for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics." The eligible veterinary environments are already defined in 700-2-.04(1) and 700-6-.02(1) and the proposed rule amendment does not alter the current definitions. Each rule adds two requirements to temporary license eligibility to the requirements already in the current rules. One requires a passing score on the Veterinary Law Exam (specific to Georgia); the other requires that an applicant provide proof of employment with a qualified shelter or sterilization clinic, which it further specifies shall be registered as a 501(c)(3) with the Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Commission. The rule adds a minimal requirement for some instruction on Georgia veterinary law, but the primary change involves a clearer heading for easier reference, and proof that the veterinary environment to be served is of the type already and presently required under 700-2-.04(1) and 700-6-.02(1).

Rule 700-2-.04 <u>Registered</u> Temporary Veterinary License <u>for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics</u>

(1) A one-time, six-month temporary veterinary license may be granted for practice in government or nonprofit shelter medicine, nonprofit sterilization clinics, and nonprofit mobile sterilization programs registered with this state.

(2) To qualify, the applicant must submit:

  (a) A complete application in the manner required by the Board along with the application fee established by the Board; and,

  (b) A verification of licensure from another state which training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements of this state to obtain a license; and,

  (c) Proof of obtaining a specialty, certification, training, or other experience while employed in another state which substantially meets or exceeds the requirement to obtain a license in this state.

  <u>(d) Proof of employment at a nonprofit government, municipal, shelter, sterilization clinic or mobile sterilization program registered as a 501(c)(3) organization with the Georgia Office of Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division.</u>

  <u>(e) Passing score of the Veterinarian Law Exam.</u>

(3) Issuance of a temporary veterinary license shall authorize the holder to practice in this state for a period of up to six (6) months from the date of issuance.

(4) The holder of a temporary veterinary license may be subject to sanctions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 43-50-41.

(5) Once the temporary veterinary license expires, it shall not be renewed, and the license holder must cease the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of Georgia unless and until he or she becomes licensed as a veterinarian by the Board.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § 43-50-42.1.

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES OF TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 700-6 REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS, BOARD RULE 700-6-.02 TEMPORARY VETERINARY TECHNICIAN LICENSE

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to adjust the heading to indicate "registered" temporary licenses "for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics." The eligible veterinary environments are already defined in 700-2-.04(1) and 700-6-.02(1) and the proposed rule amendment does not alter the current definitions. Each rule adds two requirements to temporary license eligibility to the requirements already in the current rules. One requires a passing score on the Veterinary Law Exam (specific to Georgia); the other requires that an applicant provide proof of employment with a qualified shelter or sterilization clinic, which it further specifies shall be registered as a 501(c)(3) with the Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Commission. The rule adds a minimal requirement for some instruction on Georgia veterinary law, but the primary change involves a clearer heading for easier reference, and proof that the veterinary environment to be served is of the type already and presently required under 700-2-.04(1) and 700-6-.02(1).

Rule 700-6-.02 <u>Registered</u> Temporary Veterinary Technician License <u>for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics</u>

(1) A one-time, six-month temporary veterinary technician license may be granted for practice in government or nonprofit shelter medicine, nonprofit sterilization clinics, and nonprofit mobile sterilization programs registered with this state.

(2) To qualify, the applicant must submit:

(a) A complete application in the manner required by the Board along with the application fee established by the Board; and,

(b) A verification of licensure from another state which training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements of this state to obtain a license; and,

(c) Proof of obtaining a specialty, certification, training, or other experience while employed in another state which substantially meets or exceeds the requirement to obtain a license in this state.

<u>(d) Proof of employment at a nonprofit government, municipal, shelter, sterilization clinic or mobile sterilization program registered as a 501(c)(3) organization with the Georgia Office of Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division.</u>

<u>(e) Passing score of the Veterinary Technician Law Exam.</u>

(3) Issuance of a temporary veterinary technician license shall authorize the holder to practice in this state for a period of up to six (6) months from the date of issuance.
(4) The holder of a temporary veterinary technician license may be subject to sanctions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 43-50-41.
(5) Once the temporary license expires, it shall not be renewed, and the license holder must cease the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of Georgia unless and until he or she becomes licensed as a veterinary technician by the Board.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § 43-50-42.1.

RULES

OF

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

CHAPTER 700-2

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION

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700-2-.02 Application for Licensure for Veterinarians
700-2-.04 Registered Temporary Veterinary License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics

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; 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;
    (c) Graduates of a foreign college or school of veterinary medicine shall submit a transcript certifying completion of education in veterinary medicine and in lieu of the documents referenced in paragraph (b), one of the following:
        1. The Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate from the American Veterinary Medical Association; or,

2. Proof of completion of the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education (PAVE) offered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards; or,
3. An equivalent document acceptable to the Board.

(d) All scores 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; and

(e) Proof of a passing score on the Georgia Veterinary Law Exam.

(3) An applicant must furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board of all qualifications for licensure.

(4) All applications for licensure must be complete within the timeframe indicated in the Joint Secretary Rules and/or policies. All applications which are not complete within this designated timeframe shall be considered "expired" and withdrawn. Following expiration of an application, a new application in its entirety, to include all fees, shall be required for consideration of licensure.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-34 and 43-50-110.

Rule 700-2-.04 Registered Temporary Veterinary License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics

(1) A one-time, six-month temporary veterinary license may be granted for practice in government or nonprofit shelter medicine, nonprofit sterilization clinics, and nonprofit mobile sterilization programs registered with this state.

(2) To qualify, the applicant must submit:

  (a) A complete application in the manner required by the Board along with the application fee established by the Board; and,

  (b) A verification of licensure from another state which training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements of this state to obtain a license; and,

  (c) Proof of obtaining a specialty, certification, training, or other experience while employed in another state which substantially meets or exceeds the requirement to obtain a license in this state.

  (d) Proof of employment at a nonprofit government, municipal, shelter, sterilization clinic or mobile sterilization program registered as a 501(c)(3) organization with the Georgia Office of Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division.

  (e) Passing score of the Veterinarian Law Exam.

(3) Issuance of a temporary veterinary license shall authorize the holder to practice in this state for a period of up to six (6) months from the date of issuance.

(4) The holder of a temporary veterinary license may be subject to sanctions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 43-50-41.

(5) Once the temporary veterinary license expires, it shall not be renewed, and the license holder must cease the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of Georgia unless and until he or she becomes licensed as a veterinarian by the Board.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § 43-50-42.1.

RULES

OF

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

CHAPTER 700-6

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700-6-.02 Registered Temporary Veterinary Technician License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics

Rule 700-6-.02 Registered Temporary Veterinary Technician License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics

(1) A one-time, six-month temporary veterinary technician license may be granted for practice in government or nonprofit shelter medicine, nonprofit sterilization clinics, and nonprofit mobile sterilization programs registered with this state.

(2) To qualify, the applicant must submit:

(a) A complete application in the manner required by the Board along with the application fee established by the Board; and,

(b) A verification of licensure from another state which training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements of this state to obtain a license; and,

(c) Proof of obtaining a specialty, certification, training, or other experience while employed in another state which substantially meets or exceeds the requirement to obtain a license in this state.

(d) Proof of employment at a nonprofit government, municipal, shelter, sterilization clinic or mobile sterilization program registered as a 501(c)(3) organization with the Georgia Office of Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division.

(e) Passing score of the Veterinary Technician Law Exam.

(3) Issuance of a temporary veterinary technician license shall authorize the holder to practice in this state for a period of up to six (6) months from the date of issuance.

(4) The holder of a temporary veterinary technician license may be subject to sanctions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 43-50-41.

(5) Once the temporary license expires, it shall not be renewed, and the license holder must cease the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of Georgia unless and until he or she becomes licensed as a veterinary technician by the Board.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § 43-50-42.1.