

VETERINARIAN LICENSING GUIDE

OVERVIEW:

The veterinarian license type allows a licensee to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine.

NOTE: The content contained below is a general overview of licensing requirements. Links to access the Public Health Code and Administrative Rules for this profession can be found at the end of this guide.

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

(Listed below are the minimum requirements needed to obtain a veterinarian license.)

APPLICATION AND FEES

- Online Application for a Veterinarian License - Complete all fields, answer all questions, and upload any supporting documentation.
- Online application can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus.
- Online application for Controlled Substance License (Optional).

- Application Fee + 3-year License Fee (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit or debit card):

Veterinarian By Exam or Endorsement – \$244.40
 Veterinarian Relicensure – \$264.40
 Controlled Substance – \$259.10

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS (EXCEPT RENEWAL)

- Criminal Background Check – Once the online application is completed and submitted you will be emailed an Application Confirmation letter containing instructions to complete the Criminal Background Check (except those applicants seeking relicensure if the license expired within the last three years).
- Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking a license.
- Social Security Number (SSN) – An individual applying for licensure is required to provide his or her social security number at the time of application. If exempt under law from obtaining an SSN or do not have an SSN, the SSN affidavit form will be required to be uploaded at the time the application is submitted.

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- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- You may apply for a controlled substance license by completing the controlled substance license fields on the application. If you do not apply for a controlled substance license on your initial application, you must wait for the veterinarian license to be issued before applying for a controlled substance license.
- Opioids and Controlled Substances Awareness Training – An individual seeking a controlled substance license or who is licensed to prescribe or dispense controlled substances must have completed training in opioids and controlled substances awareness that meets the standards established in the Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substances Administrative Rules, R 338.3135 prior to being issued a license.
- English Language Proficiency – An individual applying for licensure must demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language. This can be established if either the applicant's required health professional educational program was taught in English, a transcript establishes the applicant earned not less than 60 college level credits from an English-speaking graduate or undergraduate school, or that the applicant obtained a passing score on an approved English proficiency exam as established by the department under [R 338.7002b](#) of the Public Health Code – General Rules.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAM (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

- Applicants must have graduated from an American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) approved veterinarian educational program. Official Transcripts must be submitted directly to this office from the educational program and must show degree earned and the date it was conferred. Transcripts can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- If you did not graduate from an AVMA approved program, you must arrange for proof of certification to be sent directly to this office from either the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). Contact ECFVG at (847) 925-8070, ext. 6778, ecfvfg@avma.org. Contact PAVE at (877) 698-8482, or www.aavsb.org/PAVE.
- Certification of passing scores on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) must be submitted directly to this office from the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). The jurisdiction selected on a candidate's veterinarian application will automatically receive an official score report. To transfer your examination scores and credential records to this office, you will need to complete an AAVSB VAULT Transfer Service <https://aavsb.org/licensure-assistance/>.

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ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

- Applicants for licensure by endorsement who have been licensed as a veterinarian and actively practicing in **another state** for 5 years or more must submit the following:
 - Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- Applicants for licensure by endorsement who have been licensed as a veterinarian and actively practicing in **a province of Canada** for 5 years or more must submit the following:
 - Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
 - Official Transcripts must be submitted directly to this office from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) approved veterinarian educational program showing degree earned and the date it was conferred. Transcripts can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
 - If you did not graduate from an AVMA approved program, you must arrange for proof of certification to be sent directly to this office from either the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). Contact ECFVG at (847) 925-8070, ext. 6778, or ecfvfg@avma.org. Contact PAVE at (877) 698-8482, or www.aavsb.org/PAVE.
- Applicants for licensure by endorsement who have been licensed as a veterinarian and actively practicing in **another state or province of Canada** for less than 5 years must submit the following:
 - Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
 - Official Transcripts must be submitted directly to this office from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) approved veterinarian educational program showing degree earned and the date it was conferred. Transcripts can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.

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- If you did not graduate from an AVMA approved program, you must arrange for proof of certification to be sent directly to this office from either the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). Contact ECFVG at (847) 925-8070, ext. 6778, or ecfvfg@avma.org. Contact PAVE at (877) 698-8482, or www.aavsb.org/PAVE.
- Certification of your passing examination scores on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) must be submitted directly to this office from the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). To transfer your examination scores and credential records to this office, you will need to complete an American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) VAULT Transfer Service <https://aavsb.org/licensure-assistance/>.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR RELICENSURE (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

- Online application can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus, select **MiPLUS Login**, select **"Modification"** next to your license number and then select **"Relicensure."**
- All applicants for relicensure must submit the following:**
 - Copies of certificates showing proof of having completed 45 hours of board-approved continuing education within the 3-year period immediately preceding the application for relicensure that includes:
 - A minimum of 30 hours that are scientific in nature. A continuing education program or activity is scientific in nature if it includes the science of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease as it relates directly to an animal patient or topics such as public veterinary practice, epidemiology, food safety, public health, animal welfare, or antimicrobial stewardship.
 - A minimum of 1 hour shall relate to medical records
 - A minimum of 1 hour shall relate to state veterinary law and/or federal or state controlled substance laws.
 - A minimum of 12 hours must be completed by satisfying one of the following:
 - Earning 12 hours of continuing education in an activity attended live and in person.
 - Earning not less than 6 hours of continuing education in an activity attended live and in person and earning the remainder of the 12 required hours of continuing education by completing an activity that requires or permits synchronous, live interaction with the presenter, other participants, or both during the activity.
 - A maximum of 33 hours of continuing education may be completed in activities that use online, electronic, or printed format or by completing an activity that does not require or permit synchronous or live interaction during the activity.
 - See R 338.4933 of the Veterinary Medicine Administrative Rules for a complete list of requirements and for a list of approved continuing education sponsors.

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- Applicants for relicensure whose license has been lapsed for **more than 3 years** at the time of application, and are not licensed in another state of the United States, or in Canada, must also have successfully passed the North American Veterinary License Examination (NAVLE) within 1 year of submitting the application for relicensure. Provide certification of your passing examination scores submitted directly to this office from the examination agency. If you need to transfer your examination scores and credential records to this office, you will need to complete the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) VAULT Transfer Service <https://aavsb.org/licensure-assistance/>.

RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Online Application for a Veterinarian Renewal – Can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus.
- Renewal Application Fee (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit or debit card):

Veterinarian Renewal Application Fee: \$218.40
Controlled Substance Renewal Application Fee: \$248.10
- Renewal Cycle: 3 years
- Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking license renewal.
- Disciplinary Question – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to having sanctions imposed against you by a similar licensure, registration, certification, or disciplinary board of another state or country you have not previously reported to the department.
- Accept Renewal Attestation - By accepting the renewal attestation you as the licensee are certifying that you have met all the Veterinarian renewal requirements and all information provided on your renewal application is true and correct. Beginning with renewal cycles expiring on or after 12/31/22, and all renewal cycles thereafter, a licensee seeking renewal of a Veterinarian license must complete 45 hours of board-approved continuing education that includes:
 - A minimum of 30 hours that are scientific in nature. A continuing education program or activity is scientific in nature if it includes the science of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease as it relates directly to an animal patient or topics such as public veterinary practice, epidemiology, food safety, public health, animal welfare, or antimicrobial stewardship.
 - A minimum of 1 hour shall relate to medical records
 - A minimum of 1 hour shall relate to state veterinary law and/or federal or state controlled substance laws.
 - A minimum of 12 hours must be completed by satisfying one of the following:
 - Earning 12 hours of continuing education in an activity attended live and in person.
 - Earning not less than 6 hours of continuing education in an activity attended live and in person and earning the remainder of the 12 required hours of continuing education by

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completing an activity that requires or permits synchronous, live interaction with the presenter, other participants, or both during the activity.

- A maximum of 33 hours of continuing education may be completed in activities that use online, electronic, or printed format or by completing an activity that does not require or permit synchronous or live interaction during the activity.
- See R 338.4933 of the Veterinary Medicine Administrative Rules for a complete list of requirements and for a list of approved continuing education sponsors.

- Your controlled substance licenses will renew along with the veterinarian license unless you uncheck the “renew cs” box on the renewal application.
- Opioids and Controlled Substance Awareness Training – By the end of the renewal cycle that begins after January 4, 2019, all controlled substance licensees or individuals who are licensed to prescribe or dispense controlled substances must certify on their renewal application prior to renewing their license that they have completed training in opioids and controlled substances awareness that meets the standards established in Administrative Rule 338.3135.

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND FORMS

- By visiting www.michigan.gov/healthlicense and clicking on the veterinary medicine link you can access the following helpful resources and forms:

Resources:

- [Michigan Public Health Code](#)
- [Administrative Rules for Veterinary Medicine](#)
- Track continuing education using CE Broker - The Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) has partnered with CE Broker to help licensed professionals keep track of their continuing (CE) credits. Additional information can be found on our [website](#).