



# PROPOSED RULE MAKING

## CR-102 (July 2022) (Implements RCW 34.05.320) Do NOT use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: October 18, 2023

TIME: 7:42 AM

WSR 23-21-094

**Agency:** Department of Health - Veterinary Board of Governors

**Original Notice**

**Supplemental Notice to WSR**

**Continuance of WSR**

**Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR** 23-07-007 ; or

**Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR** \_\_\_\_\_ ; or

**Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or**

**Proposal is exempt under RCW** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Title of rule and other identifying information:** Apprenticeship programs for veterinary technicians. The Veterinary Board of Governors (board) is proposing to amend WAC 246-935-060 to clarify that a registered apprenticeship program is an approved post-secondary educational pathway to qualify for licensure exams as a veterinary technician.

**Hearing location(s):**

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
12/04/23	9:00 AM	<b>Physical Location:</b> Department of Labor and Industries 7273 Linderson Way SW Room S121 Tumwater, WA 98501  <b>Virtual Link:</b> <a href="https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_MTUzYzFjNzUtMzI1OC00OGYxLWEzYTctNjI3NjFjNGUzNTIy%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%252211d0e217-264e-400a-8ba0-57dcc127d72d%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522b0a413cc-861e-438f-ad33-52df6d9a4283%2522%257d&amp;data=05%7C01%7CPoppy.Budrow%40doh.wa.gov%7C1dbe793d1c9e41c6133908db897c2b46%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638254938611041371%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=BelN%2BYeh2B716nHhyHJCdDEoD9yPDxlfSdzgWB3ukIM%3D&amp;reserved=0">https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_MTUzYzFjNzUtMzI1OC00OGYxLWEzYTctNjI3NjFjNGUzNTIy%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%252211d0e217-264e-400a-8ba0-57dcc127d72d%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522b0a413cc-861e-438f-ad33-52df6d9a4283%2522%257d&amp;data=05%7C01%7CPoppy.Budrow%40doh.wa.gov%7C1dbe793d1c9e41c6133908db897c2b46%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638254938611041371%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=BelN%2BYeh2B716nHhyHJCdDEoD9yPDxlfSdzgWB3ukIM%3D&amp;reserved=0</a>	The public hearing will be hybrid. Participants can attend in person at the physical location or virtually via MS TEAMS.

**Date of intended adoption:** 12/04/2023 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

**Submit written comments to:**

Name: Poppy Budrow, Program Manager  
Address: PO Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852  
  
Email: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/policyreview>  
Fax:  
Other: [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)

**Assistance for persons with disabilities:**

Contact Poppy Budrow, Program Manage  
Phone: 564-669-0026  
  
Fax: 360-236-2901  
TTY: 711  
Email: [Poppy.Budrow@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Poppy.Budrow@doh.wa.gov)

By (date) 11/27/2023

Other:

By (date) 11/27/2023

**Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:** The proposal adds a registered apprenticeship program to the list of approved post-secondary educational programs an applicant may complete as part of the requirement to take the exam for licensure as a veterinary technician. This clarifies for applicants the availability of a method already allowed in this rule.

**Reasons supporting proposal:** From June 2020 through May 2022, the board worked extensively on the development of the apprenticeship program with Cascade Veterinary Clinic (CVC), SkillSource/North Central Workforce Development Board (SkillSource), and a wide variety of interested parties. Ultimately, the board expressed its support of the program and to the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (WSATC), which is the regulatory authority for approving apprenticeship programs in Washington State. At the WSATC's October 2022 meeting, the WSATC approved the program.

The board may currently approve the apprenticeship programs according to WAC 246-935-060(1). However, the board is proposing the amendment to make it clear that a state registered apprenticeship is an approved method for an applicant to become eligible for the veterinary technician national exam and licensure.

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 18.92.030 and 18.92.128

**Statute being implemented:** RCW 18.92.128

**Is rule necessary because of a:**

Federal Law?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
State Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

If yes, CITATION:

**Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:** None

**Type of proponent:**  Private  Public  Governmental

**Name of proponent:** (person or organization) Veterinary Board of Governors

**Name of agency personnel responsible for:**

Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting: Jennifer Santiago	111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501	360-236-2985
Implementation: Melissa Green	111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501	360-236-2905
Enforcement: Melissa Green	111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501	360-236-2905

**Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under [RCW 28A.305.135](#)?**  Yes  No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

**Is a cost-benefit analysis required under [RCW 34.05.328](#)?**

Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

No: Please explain: The proposed rule amendment clarifies existing rule language without changing effect of rule and exempt under RCW 34.05.328 (5)(b)(iv).

**Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement**

Note: The [Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance \(ORIA\)](#) provides support in completing this part.

**(1) Identification of exemptions:**

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see [chapter 19.85 RCW](#)). For additional information on exemptions, consult the [exemption guide published by ORIA](#). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.061](#) because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by [RCW 34.05.313](#) before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of [RCW 15.65.570\(2\)](#) because it was adopted by a referendum.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(3\)](#). Check all that apply:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(b)<br>(Internal government operations)         | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(e)<br>(Dictated by statute)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(c)<br>(Incorporation by reference)             | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(f)<br>(Set or adjust fees)   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(d)<br>(Correct or clarify language) | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(g)<br>(i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit) |

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(4\)](#) (does not affect small businesses).

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_\_.

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule: The proposed rule amendments clarify that a state registered apprenticeship is an approved method for an applicant to become eligible for the veterinary technician national exam and licensure.

**(2) Scope of exemptions: Check one.**

The rule proposal is fully exempt (*skip section 3*). Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.

The rule proposal is partially exempt (*complete section 3*). The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):

The rule proposal is not exempt (*complete section 3*). No exemptions were identified above.

**(3) Small business economic impact statement: Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.**

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

- No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs.
- Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name:  
Address:  
Phone:  
Fax:  
TTY:  
Email:  
Other:

**Date:** 10/13/23

**Name:** Dordor Vang, DVM

**Title:** Chairperson, Veterinary Board of Governors

**Signature:**



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dordor Vang', written over a solid red horizontal line.

**WAC 246-935-060 Eligibility for examination as veterinary technician.** Applicants must meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for the examination.

(1) Completion of an approved postsecondary educational program for animal or veterinary technology.

(a) Completion of a program for animal or veterinary technology approved by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The board approves all institutions accredited by, and in good standing with, the AVMA.

(b) Completion of a program for animal or veterinary technology approved by the Animal Health Technologist/Veterinary Technician Program Accreditation Committee (AHT/VTPAC) of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA). The board approves all institutions accredited by, and in good standing with, the CVMA.

(c) Completion of a Washington state apprenticeship program registered in accordance with chapters 296-05 WAC and 49.04 RCW.

(d) Other institutions applying for board approval must meet the accreditation standards of the CVTEA. It is the responsibility of the institution to apply for approval and of a student to ascertain whether or not a school has been approved by the board.

~~((d))~~ (e) The examination may be taken no sooner than six months before graduation from the approved course of instruction.

(2) Graduation from a two-year curriculum in animal health or veterinary technology which is not accredited by the CVTEA or AHT/VTPAC plus a minimum of ~~((thirty-six))~~ 36 months of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian(s) who must attest to the completion of that experience.

(3) Award of a D.V.M. or V.M.D. degree or equivalent from an American Veterinary Medical Association accredited or listed college of veterinary medicine.

(4) Registration, certification, or licensure as an animal health or veterinary technician in one or more states and ~~((thirty-six))~~ 36 months of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian(s).

(5) Completion of a course in veterinary technician education as a member of the United States military and completion of a tour of active duty as a veterinary technician or specialist.