

Illinois Veterinary Licensing Requirements



Board Applications

1. State and National Requirements

- a)** If you have graduated from an AVMA accredited college, you must have proof of attendance and graduation and a transcript, which should be submitted by your college.
- b)** If you are NOT from an accredited veterinary college, you will need either a certificate of completion of the Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates program, or sufficient clinical education equal to that of students in AVMA accredited schools.
- c)** You can find the online application portal here.
- d)** For the comprehensive application instructions and form, please see here.

2. Relevant Fees

- \$100.00 Application Fee
- \$100.00 Illinois VMA Board's examination fee.



Verify Additional Existing Veterinary Licenses:

If you are or have ever been licensed to practice in another state, U.S. territory, or Canadian province, verification forms must be submitted by the respective licensing boards.

Additional Required Testing:

1. Prior to applying, you must have passed the NAVLE (for previously unlicensed applicants, you must have passed within the last five years).
 - You can apply for this exam through the [ICVA](#).
2. The State Licensing exam is a significant part of the Illinois veterinary application, and you can sign up for the exam [here](#).

Mandatory Documentation:


In Illinois, by submitting an application for a veterinary license, you consent to undergoing a background check, and are required to inform the board whether or not you have been convicted of criminal charges in the past.

Temporary License:


- Once you sign up for the state exam and pass the NAVLE, you will be issued a temporary permit through which you can operate as a licensed vet while your application is being reviewed.
- Additionally, once you submit your initial application, you are eligible to apply for the Controlled Substance License, which is necessary to administer controlled substances as a veterinarian in IL. For further information and the application, please see [here](#).

FAQ:

“I’m licensed in another state within the U.S., and therefore have passed the NAVLE. Do I still need to complete a license application, and if so, which parts?”

-  If you are licensed in another state, and have completed clinical practice for the immediate past five years, you still need to apply for a veterinary license in Illinois.
- This license requires verified proof of previous/current licenses in other states, meaning that the states in which you currently hold a license will need to submit verification of your license to the IL Department of State.
 - Additionally, you will need to show proof of any previous veterinary examinations (NAVLE or CTS).

“What are the Continuing Education requirements in Illinois?”

-  All fully-licensed veterinarians in Illinois are required to fulfill their CE, which entails 40 hours of Continuing Education coursework every two years, or the two years leading up to the expiration of the license.
- For further information regarding the CE Requirements and license renewal in IL, see [here](#) and [here](#).
 - In IL, if you complete a CE course that occurred outside of the state, you must submit a CE approval form, which accompanies a \$25.00 fee. The form to do so can be found [here](#).
 - To apply for license renewal, please see the online portal found [here](#).

Please check your local requirements as state and national guidelines may have changed since last updated on 6/5/2023.