

# Texas Veterinary Licensing Requirements



## Board Applications

### 1. Application

Follow this link to [apply online](#) and upload all required documents or complete this [paper application](#) and mail to the address found in the Contact section.

Requirements:

1. Must be at least 18 years of age.
2. Must submit certified copy of your birth certificate and your Drivers License/ID Card.
3. Must have graduated from an [AVMA accredited college](#) OR submit a notarized copy of your certificate of completion from either the ECFVG or PAVE. Veterinary college must send your transcript directly to Board that includes all veterinary coursework and DVM degree.
  - a. Students within 60 days of graduation who have passed the NAVLE can apply with an enrollment letter from the dean attesting you're within 60 days of graduation.
4. Must have passed the NAVLE within 5 attempts OR the NBE and CCT. You must use the [AAVSB's VAULT service](#) to send scores to the Board. This transfer can take up to 45 days.

### 2. Relevant Fees

**\$552 Total**, consists off:

1. \$515 Application Fee (cashiers check or money order only)
  - a. \*Exempt with Military Fee Waiver
2. \$27 Fingerprinting Fee
3. \$99 exam score AAVSB transfer fee



### 3. Verify additional existing veterinary licenses:

1. If you are or have ever been licensed to practice in another state, U.S. territory, or Canadian province, submit license verification from the respective licensing boards.

### 4. Mandatory Documentation

1. You must scan your fingerprints at any Identigo center within Texas for a criminal background check. Out of state scans are not accepted.
  - a. [Enroll online](#) or call (888)-467-2080 to schedule your scan.
  - b. **Use service code 1IHT6Y.**

### 5. Additional Required Testing

#### Texas State Licensing Examination

1. Once your application is complete, you'll be mailed instructions to schedule your exam. It can take up to 30 days to schedule your exam.
2. If you have a license in another state, you may be issued a provisional license while waiting to take the state exam (See **Provisional License** on next page).
3. The exam includes jurisprudence questions covering the state's **[Veterinary Licensing Act and related laws](#)**, **[Licensing Rules](#)**, and **[Rules of Professional Conduct](#)**.
4. A score of 85% or higher is required to pass.
5. Your license will be issued within 7 businesses days after receiving a passing score.
6. If you fail the exam, you must email [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov) requesting to retake the exam, and you must re-pay the application fee.

## Temporary License:

### Provisional License

1. If you're licensed in at least one other state, you can apply for a Provisional License, which allows you to practice until you're able to take the State Board Exam.
2. Email [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov) your mailing address to request an application.
3. Fee: **\$605**. Must be cashier's check or money order. Fee covers State Board Exam as well.
4. **Required Documents:**
  - a. Official transcript from your veterinary school showing a DVM degree
  - b. Certified copy of your birth certificate (issued by the appropriate state entity)
  - c. NAVLE scores sent from the [AAVSB's VAULT service](#) (\$99 fee).
  - d. [Letters of good standing](#) from all states where you're licensed (\$25 fee for all states)
  - e. 2 Letters of reference from licensed veterinarians attesting to your veterinary skills.  
Must be signed, dated, and include details about where and when they've seen you perform specific skills.
5. **PROVISIONAL EXAM:** Once you have completed your application and all required documents are received, you will be sent dates to take the Provisional Exam. The exam is only administered in Austin, TX twice per month.
  - a. The exam consists of 50 true/false questions within a 30 minute time limit.
  - b. The exam is graded while you wait, and upon passing, you will receive your provisional license same day.

### Temporary License

1. Allows veterinarians to perform specific work with a patient, client, or CE course.
2. Valid for 60 days, and you must be supervised by a fully licensed veterinarian in Texas and submit a [letter of good standing](#) (with \$25 fee) from the last 6 months.
2. Temporary license fee: **\$200**.

## Renewal & Continuing Education


1. Licenses expire on the last day of your birth month each year. You can renew your license using Texas's [Online Portal](#).
  - a. You must have a fingerprint on file and complete your CE requirements to renew.
  - b. If your license has been expired for more than 1 year, you will not be able to renew online. Email [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov) to request a paper application.
  - c. You also cannot renew online if you do not pay a renewal fee (military or retired).
  - d. You can change your status from active to inactive, but you cannot reactivate an inactive license online.
  - e. You cannot change your name or address online. This must be done by emailing or faxing a [Change of Address Form](#) or a [Name Change Request Form](#) respectively.
2. Renewal Fee: **\$195**
  - a. If license expired less than 90 days, late renewal fee is \$280.
  - b. If expired more than 90 days but less than 1 year, the late renewal fee is \$327.
3. A reminder will be sent to your address at least 30 days before your license expires.
4. **17 Hours** of CE are required each year.
  - a. A maximum of 3 hours can be self-study courses.
  - b. A maximum of 5 hours can be practice management courses.
  - c. For a comprehensive list of CE approved courses, see [here](#).

## Military Fee Exemptions


1. If you are a military service member, veteran whose training meets the Board's requirements, or military spouse licensed in another jurisdiction, you don't need to pay the application or exam fees.
  - a. If Discharged, must provide a DD 214.
  - b. If current, must provide a copy of your military ID and current orders.
  - c. If a military spouse, must provide copy of your spouse's current orders and Certificate of Valid License issued by another state.

## FAQ:

### How do I change my address?

 You can change your address on file by completing a [Change of Address Form](#) and emailing it to [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov) or faxing it to (512)305-7556. It is important to keep your address current as renewal forms will be mailed to the address you have on file.

### How do I change my name?

 You can change the name on your license by completing a [Name Change Request Form](#) and emailing it to [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov), faxing it to (512)305-7556, or mailing it to the address below. You will have to include a copy of your marriage certificate, divorce decree, or other relevant legal document.

## Contact

### Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-810  
Austin, Texas 78701

**Email:** [licensing@veterinary.texas.gov](mailto:licensing@veterinary.texas.gov)

**Phone:** (512)305-7555

**Fax:** (512)305-7556

Please check your local requirements as state and national guidelines may have changed since last updated on 8/21/2023.