



State of Wisconsin

Veterinary Examining Board

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Guidance Document VEB-GD-004 Mental Health Continuing Education

Wis. Stat. § 89.03 (2)

Wis. Admin. Code § VE 1.30 and VE 2.14

1/17/24

Topic

This guidance document clarifies the use of mental health education for fulfilling continuing education requirements.

Relevant Statutes and Administrative Code

Wis. Stat. § 89.03 (2) authorizes the board to promulgate rules requiring training and continuing education sufficient to assure competency of veterinarians and veterinary technicians in the practice of veterinary medicine.

Wis. Stat. § 89.062 (2) (a) states that, except as provided in sub. (3), the examining board may not renew a veterinary license unless the applicant certifies that he or she has completed, during the preceding 2-year licensure period, at least 30 hours of continuing education programs or courses approved by the examining board.

Wis. Stat. § 89.062 (2) (b) states that, except as provided in sub. (3), the examining board may not renew a veterinary technician certification unless the applicant certifies that he or she has completed, during the preceding 2-year certification period, at least 15 hours of continuing education programs or courses approved by the examining board.

Wis. Admin. Code § VE 1.30 (1) (a) requires that, except as provided in subs. (2) and (3), a veterinarian shall complete at least 30 hours of continuing education pertinent to veterinary medicine in each biennial renewal period. The 30 hours of continuing education shall include at least 25 hours of continuing education that relates to scientific topics pertinent to veterinary medicine.

Wis. Admin. Code § VE 2.14 (1) (a) requires that, except as provided in subs. (2) and (3), a veterinary technician shall complete at least 15 hours of continuing education pertinent to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology each biennial renewal period. The 15 hours of continuing education shall include at least 10 hours of continuing education that relates to scientific topics pertinent to veterinary medicine.

Board Position

The VEB considers mental health education to be pertinent to veterinary medicine. Up to 5 hours of continuing education related to mental health may be counted towards non-scientific continuing education hours. Use of counseling services is not counted towards continuing education.