

1 Rule 21 NCAC 66 .0206 is amended as published in 32:05 NCR 458-460 **with changes** as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 66 .0206 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION**

4 Each person holding a veterinary license, limited license, a faculty certificate, or a zoo veterinary certificate (collectively
5 referred to herein as “veterinarian”) or a veterinary technician registration issued by the Board shall comply with the
6 standards in this ~~Rule, Rule, which~~ The standards shall be a condition precedent to the renewal of a license certificate or
7 registration, respectively. ~~Except as otherwise qualified, the criteria with respect to continuing veterinary medical~~
8 ~~education of a person holding a certificate of registration as a veterinary technician shall be the same as that for a~~
9 ~~licensed veterinarian.~~ The standards are as follows:

10 (1) Continuing education credit hours shall relate to veterinary medicine.

11 ~~(1)(2)~~ A Veterinarians veterinarian shall earn 20 continuing education credit hours each calendar. for the
12 calendar year license renewal period.

13 ~~(2)(3)~~ A Veterinary veterinary technicians technician registered with the Board shall earn 12 continuing
14 education credit hours every for the two calendar years. year registration renewal period.

15 ~~(3)(4)~~ A Veterinarians veterinarian or veterinary technician may request and be granted an extension of time,
16 not to exceed six months, to satisfy the continuing education requirement if the veterinarian or
17 veterinary technician provides evidence of an incapacitating illness a debilitating injury or illness or
18 evidence of other circumstance which that constituted [constitutes] a severe and verifiable prevents the
19 veterinarian or veterinary technician from being able to obtain continuing education. hardship such
20 that to comply with the continuing education requirement would have been [is or was] impossible or
21 unreasonably burdensome. If the incapacitating illness or circumstance is likely to result in loss of life
22 of the veterinarian the Board shall exempt the veterinarian from the unearned portion of the continuing
23 education requirement for that renewal period. If the veterinarian or veterinary technician submits
24 evidence of failure to complete continuing education due to debilitating injury or illness or hardship,
25 the Board shall consider the evidence submitted on a case-by-case basis. If the Board finds that the
26 debilitating injury or illness or hardship was the basis for non-compliance with the continuing
27 education requirement, the Board shall exempt that individual from completing the unearned portion
28 of the continuing education for that renewal period. [If the evidence shows that the incapacitating
29 illness or other circumstance is or was so severe that it is or was impractical or impossible, or
30 unreasonably burdensome to comply with the continuing education requirement, the Board shall
31 exempt the veterinarian or veterinary technician from any unearned portion of the continuing
32 education requirement for that renewal period].

33 (4) ~~Credit hours may be earned as follows: one hour credit for each hour of attendance at in-depth~~
34 ~~seminars such as seminars sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the~~
35 ~~American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association~~
36 ~~(NCVMA), and academies and schools of veterinary medicine. Only one hour credit may be acquired~~
37 ~~for attendance at a local sectional association meeting. The Board shall consider additional course~~

offerings for approval for continuing education credit, provided that the Board is furnished sufficient information to establish that the course content and quality is substantially comparable to the course offerings by those seminars sponsored by the organizations or institutions listed in this Subparagraph. Approval for continuing education credit for courses other than those specified herein shall be obtained prior to attendance at a course; however, the Board may waive the requirement of approval prior to attendance at the course if circumstances beyond the veterinarian's or registrant's control prevented obtaining the prior approval. Only three four hours credit per year may be acquired from review of an audio or video cassette or computer-based training.

(5) Continuing education credits hours may be earned ~~[only]~~ from courses, programs, or materials presented or approved by the following providers:

(a) the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA);

(b) the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA);

(c) the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA);

(d) the American Association of Veterinary State Boards' (AAVSB) Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE); and

(e) academies, schools, or colleges of veterinary medicine.

These providers are designated herein as "approved continuing education credit providers."

The Board shall consider additional courses, ~~[presentations]~~ presentations, or materials eligible for approval for continuing education credit ~~[hours]~~ hours, provided that the individual seeking the credit ~~[furnish]~~ furnishes the Board ~~sufficient~~ information to establish that the content ~~and quality~~ of the course, ~~[presentation]~~ presentation, or material ~~are of an educational level reflective of the audience (veterinarians or veterinary technicians), [substantially comparable to that offered or approved by the approved continuing education credit providers.]~~ Board approval for continuing education credits for such additional courses, ~~[presentation]~~ presentations, or materials shall be obtained prior to attendance or participation; however, the Board ~~[may]~~ shall waive the requirement of prior approval if ~~illness, injury, or natural disaster~~ ~~[circumstances beyond the control of the veterinarian or veterinary technician]~~ ~~[prevent obtaining the prior approval.]~~ prevented the individual from obtaining the prior approval.

(6) Subject to the limitations in this Rule, continuing education credit hours may be earned ~~[by]~~ by:

(a) attendance at ~~[in depth]~~ in-person courses or presentations;

(b) ~~or by~~ completion of independent self-study courses;

(c) non-interactive on-line presentations, courses or materials; or

(d) ~~by~~ completion of live interactive on-line presentations or courses.

(7) One continuing education credit ~~[hour]~~ hour, up to 100% of the CE requirement for renewal, may be earned for each hour of in-person attendance at courses presented or approved by approved continuing education credit providers. Up to 25% of the CE requirement for renewal may be obtained from independent self-study ~~[courses]~~ courses, ~~[or materials, approved by approved continuing education~~

1 ~~credit providers, with content transmitted through~~ videos, DVDs, CDs, prerecorded webinars, audio
2 conferences, and non-interactive on-line presentations approved by approved continuing education
3 credit providers. Up to 50% of the CE requirement for renewal may be obtained from live interactive
4 on-line presentations or courses approved by approved continuing education credit providers.
5 ~~[providers, provided however]~~ However, the number of credit hours earned from live interactive on-
6 line presentations or courses shall be reduced by the number of credit hours earned from independent
7 self-study courses or materials and non-interactive on-line presentations or courses. A live interactive
8 on-line presentation or course ~~[must]~~ shall:

9 (a) include instant or asynchronous two-way communication; [and]

10 (b) provide [timely] access to both technical personnel and professional faculty, as well
11 as interactivity among participants for the exchange of questions and answers via
12 instant messaging or a moderated teleconference; and

13 (c) document the level of participation by keeping a record of the participant's activity
14 in asking or answering questions during the presentation and the score of any
15 examination administered at the end of the presentation.

16 ~~(5)~~(8) Each veterinarian and veterinary technician shall keep a record of ~~of~~ for the three most recent renewal
17 periods of the content of courses submitted to the Board for continuing education credit hours ~~hours~~.
18 earned. Each year he or she shall certify on a form provided by the Board the number of credit hours
19 earned. The Board shall mail the form to each veterinarian at the time of annual renewal.

20 ~~(6)~~(9) ~~During the calendar year in which a veterinarian graduates from veterinary college or during the~~
21 ~~calendar year in which a veterinary technician graduates from veterinary technician school, a~~
22 ~~veterinarian or veterinary technician, respectively, shall not be required to earn continuing education~~
23 ~~credits for that portion of the calendar year remaining from the date when the license or registration~~
24 ~~was issued to the end of the calendar year.~~

25 ~~(7)~~(10) A veterinarian licensed in the year of graduation from a veterinary medical college is not required to
26 earn continuing education credit hours to be eligible for license renewal for the next renewal period.

27 ~~(8)~~(11) A veterinary technician registered in the year of graduation from a veterinary medical technology
28 program is not required to earn continuing education credit hours to be eligible for registration renewal
29 for the next renewal period.

30 ~~(9)~~(12) A veterinarian or veterinary technician serving in the armed forces of the United States and to whom
31 an extension of time to file a tax return is granted pursuant to G.S. § 105-249.2 is granted the same
32 extension of time to comply with the continuing education requirement of this ~~[rule]~~ Rule.

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34 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 90-185(6); 90-186(1); 93B-15;
35 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
36 *Readopted Eff. September 30, 1977;*
37 *Amended Eff. February, 1, 2018; June 1, 2003; May 1, 1996; May 1, 1989; January 1, 1987.*