

[§472-2] Practice of veterinary technology; qualifications; registration required. (a) No person shall represent, announce, or advertise oneself, publicly or privately, as a veterinary technician or registered veterinary technician, or shall append the letters "RVT" or "VT" or affix any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia to the person's name indicating or implying that the person is engaged in the practice of veterinary technology, unless the person:

(1) Registers the person's name and business address biennially with the department in a manner prescribed by the department; and

(2) Meets the qualifications of section 472-3.

(b) The department shall maintain and biennially update a list of the names and business addresses of the veterinary technicians who are registered pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a licensed veterinarian from utilizing support or auxiliary personnel to assist in the practice of veterinary medicine; provided that the support or auxiliary personnel shall work under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

(d) A registration granted under this chapter shall mean that the person has met the requirements, including minimum practice standards, to provide protection to the public and is permitted to use the title of veterinary technician or registered veterinary technician and engage in the practice of veterinary technology. [L 2016, c 147, pt of §2]

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472-1] Definitions. As used in this chapter:

"Department" means the department of commerce and consumer affairs.

"Intubate" means to pass a tube into the trachea for purposes of anesthesia and airway maintenance.

"Monitor" means to evaluate patient health by tracking vital signs via physical examination and multi-parameter monitors in order to recognize abnormalities while an animal is under anesthesia.

"Practice of veterinary technology" includes but is not limited to the following procedures only under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian:

(1) Monitoring anesthesia;

(2) Intubating;

(3) Performing dental cleaning;

(4) Creating a relief hole in the skin to facilitate placement of an intravenous catheter; and

(5) Participating in laboratory management activities.

[§472-3] Veterinary technician qualifications. No applicant shall be registered to engage in the practice of veterinary technology unless the applicant:

- (1) Is at least eighteen years of age;
- (2) Has successfully passed the Veterinary Technician National Examination; and
- (3) Meets at least one of the following conditions:
 - (A) Has successfully completed a course of study at a program for veterinary technology accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities;
 - (B) Is a licensed, certified, or registered veterinary technician in good standing in another state having standards for registration comparable to those in this State; or
 - (C) Prior to July 1, 2021, submits a notarized document from an employer who is a licensed veterinarian and who certifies that the applicant has five years or more of practical experience in Hawaii; provided that no reciprocity shall be given for practical experience gained outside of the State.

Before any applicant shall be eligible for registration under this chapter, the applicant shall file an application in a form as shall be prescribed by the department and pay to the department of commerce and consumer affairs an application fee and all other applicable fees.

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