

CHAPTER 87-03-02
VETERINARY TECHNICIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Section

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87-03-02-01. Educational program attendance required.

A veterinary technician is required to receive twelve hours of veterinary technician continuing education, approved by the board, in the twenty-four months preceding each even-year renewal date unless the veterinary technician has been approved by the board for a continuing education waiver. Veterinary technician continuing education is defined as an educational program that enhances the licenseholder's professional ability to serve the public and which has the prior approval of the board. For a veterinary technician that is issued a license less than twenty-four months prior to the even-year renewal date, the required continuing education must be adjusted accordingly.

History: Effective April 1, 2026.

General Authority: NDCC 43-29-03, 43-29-08.1

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-29-08.1

87-03-02-02. Educational program requirement waiver.

The board may waive the continuing education requirements for an individual, upon the individual's request, for any of the following reasons:

1. Impaired health.
2. For individuals who are no longer actively engaged in practice and have so indicated on their license renewal form. The license of the individual must be placed on inactive status and the individual subsequently may not practice veterinary technology in North Dakota until the individual satisfies the continuing education requirements for the years the license was on inactive status.
3. For other legitimate reasons as presented and verified to the board at one of its regular meetings.

History: Effective April 1, 2026.

General Authority: NDCC 43-29-03, 43-29-08.1

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-29-08.1

87-03-02-03. Educational program requirements.

1. Veterinary technician continuing education may consist of the following:
 - a. Programs sponsored by local, state, regional, or national veterinary or veterinary technician associations.
 - b. Seminars or training approved by the North Dakota veterinary medical examining board. The seminars or training may be approved if they relate to the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology, as defined by subsections 18 and 19 of North Dakota Century Code section 43-29-01.1 and consist of evidence-based scientific material.
 - c. Programs approved by the registry of approved continuing education of the American association of veterinary state boards.

- d. Wet labs or instructions, or both, taken at a college or university, the subject material of which must pertain to veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.
 - e. Programs presented by pharmaceutical companies and other commercial groups may be approved, if they consist of objective presentations of scientific information and are not designed principally to sell products to the veterinary technician or client.
 - f. In-person attendance at a regular board meeting. This does not apply to an individual who is serving as a board member or who is the subject of a complaint or board investigation being discussed at the meeting.
2. Continuing education must be categorized by the following type of education or method of delivery:
 - a. In-person continuing education is defined as a presentation for which the presenter is in the same room as the attendee.
 - b. Live virtual continuing education is defined as a presentation for which the presenter is utilizing technology to deliver a presentation to an attendee in real time and communication between the speaker and attendee is available.
 - c. Prerecorded virtual continuing education is defined as a presentation for which the presenter is utilizing technology to deliver a presentation that is not in real time and communication between the speaker and attendee is not available.
 - d. The veterinary exchange program consists of participation in a clinical setting at another veterinary practice with the purpose of learning new skills or techniques. Completion of a written report is required.
 3. One hour of continuing education credit must be given for each period of not less than fifty minutes of attendance at an approved continuing education program.
 4. The following limits on continuing education must apply:
 - a. A maximum of four hours of veterinary technician continuing education may relate to practice management. Programs designed to enhance the veterinary technician's ability to earn money or invest money, or that relate to personal financial planning do not meet continuing education requirements.
 - b. A maximum of four hours of veterinary technician continuing education may be done through the veterinary exchange program.
 - c. A maximum of four hours of veterinary technician continuing education may be done through in-person board meeting attendance.
 - d. Nine of the twelve hours of approved veterinary technician continuing education must be completed through in-person or live virtual methods of delivery.
 5. Proof of attendance and verification must be provided on request. Verification may include a program, certificate, brochure, handout, or syllabus that lists the topics presented, the individual instructing, the individual's qualifications, and the time for each presentation. Verification may be completed through a third-party database at the discretion of the board.

History: Effective April 1, 2026.

General Authority: NDCC 43-29-03, 43-29-08.1

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-29-08.1

87-03-02-04. Notice of failure to comply.

If a veterinary technician fails to complete the continuing education requirements, notice must be sent to the licenseholder. At the discretion of the board, a six-month grace period may be allowed to make up the requirement. If after six months the requirements have not been met, the license must be revoked, suspended, or placed on probationary status.

History: Effective April 1, 2026.

General Authority: NDCC 43-29-03, 43-29-08.1

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-29-08.1