

AMERICAN BOARD OF VETERINARY PRACTITIONERS SWINE HEALTH MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Diplomate in ABVP certified in Swine Health Management! The following steps are required for successful certification by ABVP in Swine Health Management.

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

An applicant must be a graduate of an AVMA accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine, hold a certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, or be licensed to practice in the United States or any other country.

Applicants should be of high moral and professional character.

The applicant must have a solid background in swine medicine and production, as should be gained in one of the following ways:

1. Three years of documentable experience in swine practice, industry or public practice. An applicant would need at least a 25% time commitment to swine health management related work experience.
2. Completion of a PhD degree in a swine-related area. The PhD applicant must document evidence of consulting to the swine industry.
3. Completion of an MS degree plus one year of documentable swine practice, industry or public practice. If an applicant is unsure that their qualifications satisfy the above requirements, please contact the Swine Regent of ABVP.

ENTRY APPLICATION PROCESS

The applicant must pass an entry examination given in conjunction with the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) annual meeting held in early spring (usually March). This examination will measure basic skills and problem-solving abilities related to swine health management. The test will consist of multiple choice questions designed to ensure that the applicant is familiar with all areas of swine production, including reproduction, growth, mortality, economics, epidemiology, disease diagnosis/treatment/prevention, environment, country specific regulatory issues and animal welfare.

To apply for the entry (qualifying) examination, submit an entrant examination application and payment to ABVP by January 15. Application forms are obtained from and submitted to:

American Board of Veterinary Practitioners
618 Church Street, Suite 220
Nashville, TN 37219
(800) 697-3583 FAX (615) 254-7047
www.abvp.com abvp@xmi-amc.com

Applicants who fail this examination may retake it in succeeding years by notifying ABVP of their intentions and paying the required examination fee.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Following passage of the entry examination, an advisor must be approved by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee. Each applicant must complete a plan of study developed in collaboration with the advisor.

1. Applicants are asked to submit a list of three potential advisors ranked in order of preference. Advisors must have expertise in Swine Health Management. The committee will try to assign advisors according to candidate preference whenever possible, but may suggest names not included on the list provided by the applicant. Final selection of the advisor will be made by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee.
2. The relationship between advisor and applicant will be advisory only. Applicants are not required to work for or with the advisor, although they may choose to do so without prejudice. The Swine Health Management Credentials Committee will serve as an approval and oversight body.
3. The advisory period will normally be three years, but may be reduced upon recommendation of the advisor and subsequent approval by the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee and the Council of Regents. If the applicant cannot meet the requirements for certification examination in four years, the individual must re-enter the application process at the level of the entry examination.
4. The plan of study may vary between applicants, depending upon experience, demonstrated abilities and goals of the applicant. The plan of study will be prepared by the applicant and advisor and submitted to the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee for approval within three months after the applicant is notified of successful passage of the entry examination. This curriculum may include, but is not limited to: formal courses, intensive short courses, home study; clinical trials with reports; literature reviews; presentations at meetings, special seminars; and manuscript preparation.
5. Advisors will be asked to submit an annual report to the Swine Health Management Credentials Committee, which serves to evaluate the work of the applicant.
6. Three publications are required. Two case reports must be written in the style outlined by ABVP in the Applicant Handbook. The third publication must be accepted for publication in a refereed journal.
7. Upon completion of the course of study, the applicant will submit five (5) copies of the three manuscripts, three Application Evaluation Forms, and two (2) copies each of the curriculum vitae, veterinary diploma, continuing education documentation, synopsis of veterinary practice, self-report practice experience, and the ABVP application. Detailed descriptions of all documentation can be found in the ABVP Applicant Handbook. A

letter from the advisor verifying satisfactory completion of the curriculum and a check for the application fee should also be included. All materials will be sent to ABVP and are due by January 15 in the year prior to the year in which the applicant wishes to sit for the certifying examination (exam is approximately fourteen months after the application deadline). After review by the Credentials Committee, the applicant's credentials may be granted allowing the candidate to take the certification examination. Applicants will be notified by June 1 whether their credentials were accepted.

8. Applicant status lasts for three years. If one or more sections of the application is not accepted by the Credentials Committee, the applicant has two more years to revise the failed documents and re-apply (by January 15 of each year).

Once an applicant's credentials are accepted, they become candidates. Each candidate must complete and pass the certification examination. The certification examination is given annually in early spring (usually March) at the AASV Annual Meeting. This examination will be designed to test problem-solving abilities as well as verbal and written communication skills. The examination will include essay questions, oral questions, and will cover: applicable pre-clinical sciences; medical, surgical, diagnostic and management techniques; and practical application of these areas in swine health management using a problem solving format. After credentials have been accepted, a candidate will have three years in which to pass all parts of the certification examination. Exam scores are made available approximately 45 days following examination.

Recertification will be required every ten years to maintain Diplomate status. Details are available at www.abvp.com. Annual Diplomate renewal fees must also be submitted to ABVP.

SUMMARY

- A. Examination application and \$110 fee due prior to sitting for the entry examination given annually at the meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians.
- B. Advisor selection is made following passage of the entry examination.
- C. Applicant works with an advisor for an average of three years. Following successful completion of a course of study under the mentorship of the advisor, applicant may start the final credentialing process.
- D. Applicant must submit five copies of three manuscripts. Two must be case reports and the third must be accepted for publication in a refereed journal. Two copies each of the application form, curriculum vitae, continuing education documentation, synopsis of veterinary practice, self-report practice experience and veterinary diploma must also be submitted along with three Applicant Evaluation Forms and a letter from the advisor stating successful completion of the course of study. All materials must be returned to ABVP along with a check for the application fee by January 15.
- E. Results of credentials review will be available by June 1. Applicants with accepted credentials may sit for the next certification examination (usually the following March).

- F. Payment of the examination fee allows you to sit for certifying examination, held in early spring at the AASV Annual Meeting. Exam registration is due by September 1.
- G. Examination results are made available approximately 45 days following examination.

FEE SCHEDULE AND DUE DATES

The following fees were adopted in 2008 and may be revised as needed:

- Entry Examination Fee: \$110 due by January 15
- Application Fee: \$330 due January 15
- Examination Fee: \$440 due September 1
- Re-Application Fee: \$220 due January 15
- Re-Examination Fee: \$440 due September 1
- Recertification Fee: \$275 due January 15
- Renewal Fee: \$220 due July 1

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