SAVMA GUIDELINES FOR RELATIONSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL ENTITIES

Introduction

The Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) greatly values relationships with organizations outside of AVMA and its subsidiaries (external entities) that support the interests and development of both SAVMA as an association and its members.

SAVMA’s primary goal for pursuing these relationships include:

- Improving or expanding SAVMA member services and value
- Strengthening SAVMA’s visibility and expanding its reach
- Developing opportunities for students

These Guidelines are designed to be a standard policy under which SAVMA will function and support efforts to maintain good relations with all parties involved. However, unanticipated, special circumstances outside the bounds of these Guidelines may arise, requiring approval of specific programs or relationships by the SAVMA Executive Board.

Principles

1. All relationships will support the mission of SAVMA and serve the needs of the members of SAVMA and/or the profession of veterinary medicine.
2. No relationships will be formed with entities whose principles, policies or actions are deemed to be in conflict with the ethics of the veterinary profession or the policies of the SAVMA.
3. The terms of any relationship may not create a conflict of interest for SAVMA and should avoid creating an apparent conflict of interest, nor should the relationship negatively impact the objectivity or credibility of SAVMA.
4. SAVMA does not expressly endorse products, programs or services of external entities. Participation in a relationship with an entity will not imply SAVMA approval of that entity’s general policies, products, or services, nor does it imply that SAVMA will exert any influence to advance the entity’s interests outside the substance of the relationship itself.
5. Relationships will not be exclusive in nature to any industry segment. For example, SAVMA may have multiple relationships within an industry segment such as nutrition, pharmaceutical or distribution.
6. SAVMA uses social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube) to share content and information to its members and allows requests by external entities to share information on our Twitter feed only, if it follows the subsequent requirements. Sharing of links, images or videos provided/maintained by others does not constitute endorsement. All requests for posts must follow the guidelines provided by the SAVMA Communications and Public Relations Officer (CPRO). With few exceptions, SAVMA does not post (or allow to be posted) notices for lost pets, non-AVMA/SAVMA-affiliated contests, requests to sign petitions, requests for monetary assistance or requests for attention by other groups. These statements are not to reflect the quality or value of these efforts, but are intended to prevent our social media feeds from becoming nothing more than a billboard. The SAVMA executive board reserves the right to refuse post requests that do not follow our guidelines with external entities and does not support the SAVMA mission. SAVMA does not allow posts to our Facebook, Instagram or YouTube page outside of AVMA, AVMA family organizations or SAVMA. SAVMA’s YouTube page will be used
7. The Vet Gazette is the official online journal of SAVMA. This publication serves as a creative outlet for students, as well as a resource of information regarding professional events, educational opportunities, and scholarship/funding opportunities provided by SAVMA, AVMA and other organizations. SAVMA does allow requests by external entities to share information on The Vet Gazette if it follows the subsequent requirements. Information shared on The Vet Gazette provided/maintained by others does not constitute endorsement. All requests for posts must follow the guidelines provided by the SAVMA Editor in Chief and must be relevant to student veterinarians (and may be reviewed at the discretion of the SAVMA executive board to determine the content is pertinent). SAVMA reserves the right to refuse post requests that do not follow our guidelines with external entities and does not support the SAVMA mission.

8. SAVMA will not allow external entities to publish material in the monthly SAVMANews (electronic newsletter), this is reserved for internal (within the SAVMA/AVMA family) publications only.

9. SAVMA will not participate in promotion of individual job opportunities, externships, internships, or employment promotions of external entities but will direct such opportunities to the AVMA Student Externship Locator or AVMA Veterinary Career Center.

10. SAVMA will not release personal member information (such as email, address, etc.) to external entities nor will they allow external entities to survey SAVMA members.

11. The SAVMA Executive Board is responsible for the review, approval, implementation and oversight of all relationships with external entities to ensure congruence with these Guidelines.

12. External entities wishing to establish a relationship shall submit a proposal to the SAVMA Executive Board for review, discussion and approval prior to any relationship being established.

Approved by the SAVMA Executive Board on June 4, 2020.