

Changes to Accreditation Standards, March 2021

Standard 10, RESEARCH PROGRAM

The college must maintain substantial research activities of high quality that integrate with and strengthen the professional program. ~~The college must demonstrate continuing scholarly productivity~~ [Continuing scholarly productivity within the college must be demonstrated and the college](#) must provide opportunities for any interested students in the professional veterinary program to be exposed to or participate in on-going high-quality research. All students must receive training in the principles and application of research methods and in the appraisal and integration of research into veterinary medicine and animal health.

Rationale for Proposed Change(s)

The proposed language was added to the Standard to clarify that the majority of the research programs are to be managed on campus.

Standard 11, OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

Outcomes of the veterinary medical degree program must be measured, analyzed, and considered to improve the program. New graduates must have the basic scientific knowledge, skills, and values to provide entry-level health care, independently, at the time of graduation. Student achievement must be included in outcome assessment. Processes must be in place to remediate students who do not demonstrate competence in one or more of the nine competencies.

The college should have in place a system to gather outcomes data on recent graduates to ensure that the competencies and learning objectives in the program result in relevant entry level competencies. [Data must be collected from both graduates and employers of graduates and critically evaluated.](#)

The college must have processes in place whereby students are observed and assessed formatively and summatively, with timely documentation to assure accuracy of the assessment for having attained the following competencies:

1. comprehensive patient diagnosis (problem solving skills), appropriate use of diagnostic testing, and record management
2. comprehensive treatment planning including patient referral when indicated
3. anesthesia and pain management, patient welfare
4. basic surgery skills and case management
5. basic medicine skills and case management
6. emergency and intensive care case management
7. understanding of health promotion, and biosecurity, prevention and control of disease including zoonoses and principles of food safety
8. ethical and professional conduct; communication skills including those that demonstrate an understanding and sensitivity to how clients' diversity and individual circumstance can impact health care
9. critical analysis of new information and research findings relevant to veterinary medicine.

The Council on Education expects that 80% or more of each college's graduating senior students sitting for the NAVLE will have passed at the time of graduation.*

**Colleges that do not meet this criterion will be subjected to the following analysis. The Council will calculate a 95% exact binomial confidence interval for the NAVLE scores for colleges whose NAVLE pass rate falls below 80%. Colleges with an upper limit of an exact 95% binomial confidence interval less than 85% for two successive years in which scores are available will be placed on Probationary Accreditation. Colleges with an upper limit of an exact 95% binomial confidence level less than 85% for four successive years in which scores are available will, for cause, be placed on Terminal Accreditation. If no program graduates take the NAVLE, the Council will use other student educational outcomes in assessing compliance with the standard including those listed in 12.11.1.*

Rationale for Proposed Change(s)

The proposed language was added to the Standard to clarify where data must be collected

Council on Education Response to public comment:

Public Comments:

The Council received a few comments regarding the proposed changes to Standards 10, Research Program and 11, Outcomes Assessment. In general the comments were supportive of the changes. One commenter requested that definitions of a number of terms in Standard 10 be supplied and the rationale for the changes in Standard 10 be explained. One commenter suggested the addition of "and critically evaluate" to the proposed revision in Standard 11.

Council response:

The Council thanks the commenters for the support received for the changes and believes that no further definitions of the language in Standard 10 are necessary at this time. The Council did modify Standard 11 to add the words "and evaluate" to the Standard.