

Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates

Charge/Objective

1. To evaluate the professional competence of graduates of non-AVMA/Council on Education-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine listed by the AVMA, to the benefit of such graduates and of the state and provincial veterinary licensing agencies, and of other concerned parties; and
2. To allow utilization of ECFVG examinations and other assessment resources to evaluate the professional competence of graduates of AVMA/Council on Education-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine when such utilization is to the benefit of the state and provincial veterinary licensing agencies, and other concerned parties.

Membership, Method of Appointment, and Representation

The ECFVG shall consist of 12 voting members as follows: one (1) member representing the AVMA Council on Education (COE); two (2) members representing State Veterinary Licensing Boards (either appointed members [veterinarian or non-veterinarian], senior administrative executives, or other staff members of state veterinary licensing boards); one (1) member representing the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC); one (1) member representing Government Service; one (1) member representing the Canadian National Examining Board (NEB); two (2) members representing Clinical Practitioners holding an ECFVG certificate, with at least one being a non-native English speaker; one (1) member representing Public Health or Food Safety; one (1) member representing Medical or Health Educators with expertise in clinical assessment methods; one (1) member representing Veterinary Surgery or Anesthesia (must be board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Surgeons or the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists); and one (1) member representing the Public. All members except members representing State Veterinary Licensing Boards; Medical or Health Educators, and the Public must be veterinarians.

Appointments for all voting representatives except the public member and one member representing state veterinary licensing boards are made by the AVMA Executive Board for terms of six years beginning at the close of the AVMA annual meeting. One of the members representing state veterinary licensing boards shall be appointed by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). ECFVG members who have served terms of three years or more are not eligible for re-appointment. The term of the representative of the Council on Education terminates concurrently with the end of the representative's term on the Council. If a position other than the public member position remains vacant for twelve (12) consecutive months, it will be advertised as an At-Large Veterinary Position for appointment by the AVMA Executive Board for the remainder of the term of the original vacancy, after which it will revert to its original categorization.

The public member is appointed by the Commission when a vacancy exists, for a non-renewable six-year term that begins at the close of the AVMA Annual Convention. Criteria used in the selection of public members specify that they shall NOT be:

1. A veterinarian.
2. A current or former employee of a college of veterinary medicine.
3. A vendor to the ECFVG.
4. Currently or formerly affiliated with any other constituent group represented on the ECFVG.

One Clinical Proficiency Examination (CPE) site coordinator from an ECFVG-approved site may be invited to attend ECFVG meetings as a non-voting liaison. The liaison may be asked by the Chair of the Commission to recuse him-/herself when specific issues involving his/her site are discussed.

Chair

The chair is elected from within the Commission's membership.

Meetings

Twice per year, once in the fall and once in the spring, for three full days (ie, two 3-day, 2-night meetings per year).

Funding

The AVMA reimburses all but the representative of the Canadian NEB for expenses associated with attendance at meetings of the ECFVG; the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association reimburses the representative of the Canadian NEB. Expenses for the non-voting liaison representing CPE site coordinators will be funded through the Quality Assurance Program.

Reports

The Commission reports to the Council on Education at each meeting of the Council through the member representing the COE on the ECFVG. Recommendations to significantly alter the certification program or those with an associated cost will be forwarded to the AVMA Executive Board for final approval.

Life Expectancy

The Commission will be reviewed in compliance with AVMA governance policies.