

Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners



Newsletter



2021

A Regulatory Agency of the State of Tennessee

Winter

665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243 - <https://www.tn.gov/health> - Phone: (615)532-5090 or 1-800-778-4123 – Email: Veterinary.Health@tn.gov
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST (except State and Federal holidays)

THE MISSION OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS TO PROTECT, PROMOTE AND IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND PROSPERITY OF PEOPLE IN TENNESSEE

2021 Board Meeting Dates

April 7, 2021 – 9:00AM CST

August 12, 2021 – 9:00AM CST

December 9, 2021 – 9:00AM CST

Public Notices with meeting locations can be found on the online Calendar of Events at the following link:
<https://www.tn.gov/health/calendar.html>

All Board Meetings will be held at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville TN, 37243 unless otherwise noted in the Public Notice.

Public Comments

The Board regularly entertains Public Comments at its meetings. Public Comments may be submitted in writing prior to the date of any meeting by email at: Veterinary.Health@tn.gov, or by postal mail at: TN Veterinary Board, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243. In addition, instructions for presenting a comment live during each meeting are provided at various times in the agenda.

Board Disciplinary Action Available Online

The Tennessee Department of Health issues a monthly media release listing all disciplinary actions taken by the health related boards during the prior month. All action taken by the Health Professional Boards is viewable online at: <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/health/health-professionals/health-professionals-boards-disciplinary-actions.html>

Licensee Statistics

As of December 1, 2020

Profession	Total Number of active licensees
Veterinarian	2,697
Veterinary Technician	1,013
Veterinary Facility	854
Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician	307
Certified Animal Control Agencies	65
Certified Animal Chemical Capture Technicians	1
Animal Chemical Capture Certification	1

License Renewals

Licensees are responsible for renewing their licenses on time and keeping the Board apprised of current contact information, including email address and mailing address. It is a violation of the law and of the Board's rules to practice on an expired license. One courtesy renewal notice will be sent by the method of your choosing – either by email or by postal mail ahead of each expiration. If not renewed on time, the license will expire on the date printed on the license certificate, whether or not the renewal notice is received by the licensee.

Licenses may be renewed online by following this link: <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/veterinary-board/vet-board/licensure.html>

POLICY STATEMENT
TENNESSEE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL
EXAMINERS LAPSED LICENSE POLICY

Adopted by the Tennessee Board of Veterinary
Medical Examiners on December 2, 2020.

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners recognizes an individual may inadvertently allow his/her license to expire. However, applicable law prohibits an individual from practicing veterinary medicine or its associated fields unless he/she has an active license. While the Board does not condone an individual working on an expired license, the Board recognizes these inadvertent lapses can occur. As such, the Board adopted the following procedures for reinstatement of an expired license.

1. Immediately upon recognition that his/her license expired, the individual must cease practicing and contact the Board's administrative office to request a reinstatement application.
2. Upon receipt of the reinstatement application, the individual is to complete the application in its entirety, providing a detailed work history since the license expiration date. The application is to be signed, notarized, and returned to the Board's administrative office along with any additional information and all fees specified in the instructions.
3. Upon receipt of a completed reinstatement application, supporting documentation (including any required proof of continuing education), and the applicant's payment of all fees, the Board's administrator may reinstate a license which has been in an expired status for less than six (6) months immediately upon approval from the Board's designee. Although the Board and administrative staff recognize the applicant's urgent interest in having his or her license reinstated, preferential treatment will not be given to these applicants. All applications are reviewed in the order in which they are received.
4. If the work history reflects the individual practiced in excess of six (6) months, but less than eighteen (18) months on an expired license, the Board will present to the licensee, an Agreed Citation which specifies payment of a fine in the amount of \$100.00 for Veterinarians, \$50.00 for Licensed Veterinary Medical Technicians, and \$25.00 for Certified Euthanasia Animal Technicians and Animal Chemical Capture Technicians, per month, for every month in which the individual worked at least one day beyond the six (6) month grace period. The individual's license will not be reinstated unless and until the Agreed Citation is executed by the licensee and payment of the fine remitted to the Board's administrative office.

- A. The licensee shall be notified that all Agreed Citations prepared in accordance with this policy shall be reportable on the Department of Health's website, its disciplinary action report issued in the month the action is taken and to all appropriate federal databanks including the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB).
 - B. This remedy is only available to those licensees and certificate holders who practiced on a lapsed license for more than six (6) months and fewer than eighteen (18) months from the date the license expired.
5. If the licensee refuses to execute the Agreed Citation and/or remit the civil penalty described therein within sixty (60) days of the date the Agreed Citation is sent to the licensee, or if the licensee practiced on a lapsed license for eighteen (18) months or longer, the licensee shall be referred to the Office of Investigations and Office of General Counsel for formal disciplinary action. Upon a proven violation, the minimum disciplinary action for this violation shall be:
- A. A formal and reportable Reprimand on the license;
 - B. Assessment of civil penalties in an amount not to exceed \$100.00 for Veterinarians, \$50.00 for Licensed Veterinary Medical Technicians, and \$25.00 for Certified Euthanasia Animal Technicians and Animal Chemical Capture Technicians, per month, for every month in which the individual worked at least one day beyond the six (6) month grace period;
 - C. Assessment of costs associated with investigating and prosecuting the matter; and
 - D. Any and all other remedies the Board deems appropriate.
6. In the event the matter is referred to the Office of Investigations and Office of General Counsel for formal disciplinary action, the Board's administrative office shall be permitted to reinstate those applicants for whom they have received a completed reinstatement application, supporting documentation (including any required proof of continuing education), and the applicant's payment of all fees, subject to further action on the license as described in paragraph five (5) above. Though the Board's administrator may reinstate such a license upon approval from the Board's designee, preferential treatment will not be given to these applicants. These applications will be reviewed in the order in which they are received. For those applicants who have declined an Agreed Citation, their application will be deemed received sixty (60) days from the date the Agreed Citation was sent.

Tennessee Medical Foundation Offers Peer Assistance Services

The Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is dedicated to supporting the mental health of its licensees. Therefore, we are pleased to let you know about a unique free and confidential online service available to you.

The Tennessee Professional Screening Questionnaire, or TN PSQ, is a service being offered via an online platform that allows you to anonymously:

- Take a brief questionnaire for stress, depression, and other mental health conditions
- Receive a personal response from a licensed therapist
- Exchange messages with the therapist, ask questions, receive recommendations and support for connecting with other available mental health services as needed.

Completing the online questionnaire and making use of this service is completely voluntary. This resource is provided by the Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF), but is a separate entity housed and run completely outside of the TMF and the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME). No one at TMF or the BVME will know if you've taken the screening or your results. Your identity will not be known to the TN PSQ therapist unless you decide to share it.

The BVME is committed to supporting our community to maintain optimal wellness. If you have any questions about this service, please contact Brenda Williams-Denbo at 615-467-6411 or brendaw@e-tmf.org. The importance of your mental health is recognized by the supporters of this program including the BME, BOE, COPA, TMA, THA, and SVMIC. The TN PSQ is a free, anonymous and confidential program.

The PSQ is found at this link: [Access the TN PSQ](#)

Live Streaming Video

If you would like to see the Board "in action" but can't attend a meeting in person, you can watch board meetings virtually through live streaming video. After you access the video page, go to the board meeting you wish to view and click on that particular link. Past Board Meeting recordings are also made available. The link is: <https://web.nowuseeit.tn.gov/Mediasite/Catalog/Full/98fe21d561e9489487745f0c7da678b221>.

Retirement of License

If you are not practicing in Tennessee and do not wish to renew your license, it is suggested you retire your license rather than have it fall into failed to renew/expired status. A retirement form may be obtained from our website at:

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/veterinary-board/vet-board/applications.html>

Note: you cannot retire a license that has already expired.

Name and Address Changes

Updates must be reported to the board's office within 30 days! Information should include the following:

- your name and license number;
- your profession;
- your old address and phone number;
- your new address and phone number, e-mail address, and/or your fax number;
- your signature!
- If your name has changed, (for example: due to marriage or divorce), you must send a copy of the document that made the change in status.

You may update this information once you log into your account at this link:

<https://lars.tn.gov/datamart/login.do>

While updating electronically is preferred, a form for the change of address/name can be found at:

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/veterinary-board/vet-board/applications.html>

You may fax your change documents to the Board's Administrative Office at (615) 532-5164 or submit by mail at: 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243.

Practitioner Profile

When you notify the board of an address or name change, please remember to also update your practitioner profile online.

The Practitioner Profile can be found once you log into your account at this link:

<https://lars.tn.gov/datamart/login.do>

To Contact This Board Call:

**(615) 532-5090 local or (800) 778-4123
nationwide or write to:**

Veterinary.Health@tn.gov

**Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical
Examiners
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243**

BOARD MEMBERS

Samantha Beaty, D.V.M., State Veterinarian
Stephen Galloway, D.V.M., Board Secretary
Scott Loxley, D.V.M.
Monty McInturff, D.V.M.
Robert Simpson, D.V.M., Board Chair
Elizabeth Thompson, D.V.M.
Leslie Wereszczak, L.V.M.T., Board Vice Chair
Vacant, Consumer Member Seat

BOARD STAFF

Kimberly Wallace
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Boone
Board Manager

Shara Woodard
Board Administrator

Kathy Young
Board Administrator