

# ACADEMY OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as the Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Practice, hereinafter referred to as the “Academy”.

### ARTICLE II INCORPORATION

Section 1. The Academy is incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana as a not-for-profit educational organization operated exclusively for one of the purposes specified in Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or any corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 2. The term for which the Academy is organized shall be perpetual. However, if dissolution of the Corporation should occur, after the proper payment of expenses and the satisfaction of all liabilities, its property shall be distributed evenly among the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA).

Section 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this certificate, the Academy is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code. The Academy is not formed for pecuniary profit or for financial gain and no part of its assets, income or profit shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the Academy shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of one or more of its tax-exempt purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the Academy shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except to the extent permitted by the Code pursuant to an election under Section 501(h) of the Code or otherwise, and the Academy shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. In any taxable year in which the Academy is a private foundation as described in Section 509(a) of the code, the Academy shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under Section 4942 of the Code, and the Academy shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Code, retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code, make any investments in such manner as to subject the Academy to tax under Section 4944 of the Code, or make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Code or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.

## ARTICLE III STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### Section 1. MISSION STATEMENT

“The Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Practice advances the profession of veterinary technology through recognition and support of veterinary technicians and veterinary nurses who demonstrate the highest standards of practice in clinical healthcare.”

The Academy exists to promote excellence in veterinary technology in clinical practice. The Academy will provide a process by which a veterinary technician may become recognized as a Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) in Clinical Practice. The Academy will also provide the opportunity for members to enhance their knowledge and skills in veterinary clinical practice. The veterinary technician who becomes recognized as a VTS (Clinical Practice) demonstrates superior knowledge in the care and management of a broad range of clinical cases.

### Section 2. OBJECTIVES

- A. Establish education and experience prerequisites leading to recognition in the specialty of Clinical Practice.
- B. Examine and recognize veterinary technicians as specialists in Clinical Practice.
- C. Award specialty recognition in species-specific practice categories.
  - 1. The initial species-specific practice categories are exotic companion animal, small animal with the subspecialties of canine/feline or feline, and production medicine with the subspecialties of small ruminant, bovine, or swine.
  - 2. Following the example of the ABVP, these initial practice categories may be expanded in the future to create increasingly specific practice categories by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Council of Regents and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of active Academy members voting under the following conditions:
    - a. The new species-specific practice category must be one that is already recognized by the ABVP.
    - b. That it be subject to the approval of the Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties (CVTS) of NAVTA.
- D. Promote continued professional development, continuing education, and practice standards for veterinary technicians in clinical practice.

## ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1. Academy

- A. Charter VTS (Clinical Practice): Veterinary technicians having qualifications in the specialty as outlined by the NAVTA CVTS.
  - 1. Charter status will be granted to organizing committee members, through a voting process of the organizing committee, at the time the Academy is ready to administer the first examination.

- B. VTS (Clinical Practice): A veterinary technician of high ethical and moral character who has fulfilled the Academy requirements for specialty recognition as specified in the Bylaws.
- C. Honorary VTS (Clinical Practice): Honorary status may be conferred upon an individual who has made a substantial contribution to the development and progress of clinical practice in a recognized practice category.
  - 1. The individual will receive a certificate and the title of Honorary VTS (Clinical Practice) in his/her practice category.
  - 2. Nominations for Honorary status must be made in writing by at least two VTS (Clinical Practice) members from any practice categories to the Council of Regents. The awarding of Honorary status to an individual shall require approval by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the quorum present at the annual business meeting.
  - 3. Honorary members shall have all rights and privileges of Academy members except the right to vote, hold office or attend regular business meetings of the Academy.
- D. A veterinary technician who has been recognized by the Academy as a VTS (Clinical Practice) shall be permitted to use the term Veterinary Technician Specialist (Clinical Practice) or VTS (Clinical Practice) after her/his name. The name of the species-specific practice category will be further defined in the parentheses as follows:
  - 1. VTS (Clinical Practice-Exotic Companion Animal)
  - 2. VTS (Clinical Practice-Small Animal, Canine/Feline)
  - 3. VTS (Clinical Practice –Small Animal, Feline)
  - 3. VTS (Clinical Practice-Production Medicine)
  - 4. VTS (Clinical Practice- Production Medicine, Small Ruminant)
  - 5. VTS (Clinical Practice- Production Medicine, Bovine)
  - 6. VTS (Clinical Practice- Production Medicine, Swine)

ARTICLE V  
ORGANIZATION/ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Academy

- A. The Council of Regents (hereafter referred to as the Regents) shall be the executive body of the Academy and shall consider first all business and policies pertaining to the affairs of the Academy. The Council of Regents will consist of the Executive Secretary and the following elected officers: Past-President, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and one Member at large from each practice category.
- B. Until charter members are seated, the business of the Academy shall be conducted by the organizing committee. This shall include ratification of the constitution and bylaws, election of officers and other matters that pertain to the organization and administration of the Academy. When the charter members are seated, the Council of Regents will then conduct the business and affairs of the Academy.

ARTICLE VI  
OFFICERS

Section 1. Academy

- A. The elected officers of the Academy shall be the President (first year only), Vice-President, Treasurer and Members at large.
- B. The Vice-President shall automatically become President at the termination of his/her predecessor's term of office.
- C. The President shall automatically become Past-President at the completion of the term of President.
- D. Election of Vice-President, Treasurer and Members at large.
  - 1. Elected officers shall begin their terms of office immediately following completion of the business meeting in the year for which they have been elected, or upon election by mail ballot.
- E. An Executive Secretary will be appointed by the Regents. The term of the appointment will be determined by the Regents. The appointed officer is not a voting member of the Regents (except during the first two years following provisional recognition, after which time the Past-President will replace the Executive Secretary as a voting member).

## ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Academy shall have committees as specified by the Regents.

Section 2. The President, with approval of the Regents, shall appoint the chairperson and members of all committees.

## ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Regents for study ninety (90) days before the distribution of a mail or email ballot to the membership. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the entire membership with a recommendation by the Board at least 30 days prior to the counting of the ballot of the eligible voting members.

Section 2. An affirmative vote shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those who respond.