

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the AEVNT?

A: The AEVNT is the Academy of Equine Veterinary Nursing Technicians. This Academy was created by members of the American Association of Equine Veterinary Technicians and Assistants in 2009. The Academy was created to enable equine veterinary technicians with a focus in nursing to become recognized as a specialist in their field.

Q: When am I eligible to apply for the AEVNT?

A: Requirements for application to the AEVNT are as follows; you must be a credentialed veterinary technician, must have a minimum of 3 years (5000 hours) of work experience, with 75% (3750 hours) working within the specialized area of equine veterinary nursing, be in good professional standing as a credentialed technician, as well as fulfill the basic skills associated with equine veterinary nursing. Membership in AAEVT and NAVTA is not required; however is strongly encouraged. Once you meet these requirements you may start the application process.

Q: What are the benefits to becoming a VTS-EVN?

A: First and foremost, the professional satisfaction of accomplishing the goal of attaining this specialty. Secondly, many employers will recognize that you are more specialized and stand out above other technicians. Based on some of feedback from veterinarians, there may be a chance of monetary increase as well.

Q: How do I start?

A: Go to www.aaevt.org, and click the link for the **Academy**. Once there, you will see easy to follow instructions that will lead you through the application process, as well as a checklist to follow with important information, dates and deadlines.

Q: What if I am currently employed by a practice that doesn't include all of the specialized skills within equine veterinary nursing?

A: As long as the basic skills and most of the required skills that you perform at your practice are covered, you can seek some supplemental experience at another facility to gain proficiency in areas that you do not get the opportunity to work in much. There will be a list of facilities posted that may be able to offer you assistance.

Q: Who decides if my application is approved?

A: The organizing committee of the AEVNT is made up of diverse individuals within the field of equine veterinary nursing. This committee has a reviewing process that includes application review by at least three members of the committee before the decision is made. An audit of credentials may also be performed and that information reviewed by the committee. Recommendations on approved application packages will be forwarded to the President for notification of candidates.

Q: Who is responsible for creating the examination questions?

A: The examination questions will be generated at random from a bank of questions created by the AEVNT organizing committee, members of the academy both charter and regular, as well as other reputable sources including veterinarians deemed experts in the field of equine veterinary medicine. All questions will cover topics crucial to equine veterinary nursing and will be referenced by at least two current scientific sources to support the answer. The examination committee may include written, oral, and practical items on the examination. Computer simulations and / or audiovisual aids may be used as part of the testing process also.

Q: Where and when will the examination take place?

A: The examination will take place at least once every other year and may be given yearly or bi-yearly, depending upon the need of the membership. It will be given during the American Association of Equine Practitioners annual convention in conjunction with the American Association of Equine Veterinary Technicians and Assistants annual meeting in late November or early December. Location of the AAEP convention will differ yearly, but the information will be available through the AEVNT.

Q: What if I fail the exam? Can I retest?

A: If you fail the examination, you will upon written request through the Recording Secretary to the Regents, be given written clarification of deficiencies within forty – five (45) days of receipt of your request. You will have thirty (30) days after notification of failure to file your request. Failure of the test is not appealable. Applicants will be able to sit for the exam a total of three (3) times with their initial application submission packet. A new application packet will be required thereafter.

Q: What if my application is denied?

A: In the event that your application does not meet the requirements, you will need to fulfill those requirements and re-submit your application the following year. If you feel that your application met all of the requirements and that you were unjustly denied, you may submit a written appeal to the Recording Secretary within thirty (30) calendar days or by the posted deadline. You may be required to submit additional information to the appeals committee. You will be notified of the appeal decision within one month of the appeal submission.

Q: How can I prepare for the examination?

A: On the **Academy** link on the AA EVT website you will see a list of many of the textbooks that were used as references to write exam questions. These references will be recommended reading prior to the exam. The AA EVT's Equine Manual for Veterinary Technicians (Wiley-Blackwell publishers) in particular, will be a highly recommended reference. There will also be sample questions posted on the website.