

registration entitling such licensee to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery in Oklahoma during the next ensuing fiscal year.

B. Each application shall be accompanied by a renewal fee in an amount sufficient to cover the cost and expense incurred by the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners, for a renewal of the person's certificate to practice osteopathic medicine.

C. 1. In addition to the payment of the annual renewal fee each licensee applying for a renewal of the certificate shall furnish to the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners proof that the person has attended at least two (2) days of the annual educational program conducted by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, or its equivalent, as determined by the Board, in the fiscal year preceding the application for a renewal; provided, the Board may excuse the failure of the licensee to attend the educational program in the case of illness or other unavoidable casualty rendering it impossible for the licensee to have attended the educational program or its equivalent.

2. The Board shall require that the licensee receive not less than one (1) hour of education in pain management or one (1) hour of education in opioid use or addiction each year preceding an application for renewal of a license, unless the licensee has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that the licensee does not currently hold a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number. Such education may be held at the annual educational program referenced in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

D. The secretary of the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners shall send a written notice to every person holding a legal certificate to practice osteopathic medicine in this state, at least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of July each year, directed to the last-known address of the licensee, notifying the licensee that it will be necessary for the licensee to pay the renewal license fee as herein provided, and proper forms shall accompany the notice upon which the licensee shall make application for renewal of the certificate.

SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 698.7, is amended to read as follows:

Section 698.7. The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners shall have the powers and it shall also be its duty to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine. In addition to any other powers placed on it by the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act or as otherwise provided by law, the Board shall have the power and duty to:

1. a. set standards for licensure or certification by examination and develop such examinations as will provide assurance of competency to practice, and
- b. employ or enter into agreements with organizations or agencies to provide examinations acceptable to the Board or employ or enter into agreements with organizations or agencies to provide administration, preparation or scoring of examinations;
2. Set fees;
3. Prescribe the time, place, method, manner, scope and subjects of examination for licensure;
4. Prepare or select, conduct or direct the conduct of, set minimum requirements for, and assure security of licensing and other required examinations;
5. a. issue or deny licenses and certificates and renewals thereof,
- b. acquire information about and evaluate the professional education and training of applicants for licensure or certification; and accept or deny applications for licensure, certification or renewal of either licensure or certification based on the evaluation of information relating to applicant fitness, performance or competency to practice,
- c. determine which professional schools, colleges, universities, training institutions and educational programs are acceptable in connection with licensure pursuant to the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act, and accept the approval of such facilities and programs by

American-Veterinary-Medical-Association-accredited institutions in the United States and Canada,

- d. require supporting documentation or other acceptable verifying evidence for any information provided the Board by an applicant for licensure or certification, and
- e. require information on an applicant's fitness, qualification and previous professional record and performance from recognized data sources including, but not limited to, other licensing and disciplinary authorities of other jurisdictions, professional education and training institutions, liability insurers, animal health care institutions and law enforcement agencies;

6. Develop and use applications and other necessary forms and related procedures for purposes of the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act;

- 7.
 - a. review and investigate complaints and adverse information about licensees and certificate holders,
 - b. conduct hearings in accordance with the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act and the Administrative Procedures Act, and
 - c. adjudicate matters that come before the Board for judgment pursuant to the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act upon clear and convincing evidence and issue final decisions on such matters to discipline licensees and certificate holders;
- 8.
 - a. impose sanctions, deny licenses and certificates and renewals thereof, levy reimbursement costs, seek appropriate administrative, civil or criminal penalties or any combination of these against those who violate examination security, who attempt to or who do obtain licensure or certification by fraud, who knowingly assist in illegal activities, or who aid and abet the illegal practice of veterinary medicine,

- b. review and investigate complaints and adverse information about licensees and certificate holders,
- c. discipline licensees and certificate holders,
- d. institute proceedings in courts of competent jurisdiction to enforce Board orders and provisions of the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act,
- e.
 - (1) establish mechanisms for dealing with licensees and certificate holders who abuse or are dependent on or addicted to alcohol or other chemical substances, and enter into agreements, at its discretion, with professional organizations whose relevant procedures and techniques it has evaluated and approved for their cooperation or participation in the rehabilitation of the licensee or certificate holder,
 - (2) establish by rules cooperation with other professional organizations for the identification and monitoring of licensees and certificate holders in treatment who are chemically dependent or addicted, and
- f. issue conditional, restricted or otherwise circumscribed modifications to licensure or certification as determined to be appropriate by due process procedures and summarily suspend a license if the Board has cause to believe by clear and convincing evidence such action is required to protect public or animal health and safety or to prevent continuation of incompetent practices;

9. Promulgate rules of professional conduct and require all licensees and certificate holders to practice in accordance therewith;

10. Act to halt the unlicensed or illegal practice of veterinary medicine and seek administrative, criminal and civil penalties against those engaged in such practice;

11. Establish appropriate fees and charges to ensure active and effective pursuit of Board responsibilities;

12. Employ, direct, reimburse, evaluate and dismiss staff in accordance with state procedures;

13. Establish policies for Board operations;

14. Respond to legislative inquiry regarding those changes in, or amendments to, the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act;

15. Act on its own motion in disciplinary matters, administer oaths, issue notices, issue subpoenas in the name of the State of Oklahoma, including subpoenas for client and animal records, hold hearings, institute court proceedings for contempt or to compel testimony or obedience to its orders and subpoenas, take evidentiary depositions and perform such other acts as are reasonable and necessary under law to carry out its duties;

16. Use clear and convincing evidence as the standard of proof and issue final decisions when acting as trier of fact in the performance of its adjudicatory duties;

17. Determine and direct Board operating, administrative, personnel and budget policies and procedures in accordance with applicable statutes;

18. Promulgate uniform rules such as may be necessary for carrying out and enforcing the provisions of the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act and such as in its discretion may be necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public;

19. Determine continuing education requirements. Such continuing education shall include not less than one (1) hour of education in pain management or one (1) hour of education in opioid use or addiction annually, unless the licensee has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that the licensee does not currently

hold a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number;

20. Establish minimum standards for veterinary premises;

21. Establish standards for veterinary labeling and dispensing of veterinary prescription drugs and federal Food and Drug Administration-approved human drugs for animals which would conform to current applicable state and federal law and regulations;

22. Promulgate rules such as may be necessary for carrying out and enforcing provisions relating to certification of animal euthanasia technicians and approval of drugs to be used for euthanasia of animals in an animal shelter pursuant to the requirements of Section 502 of Title 4 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

23. Shall conduct a national criminal history records search for certified animal euthanasia technicians:

- a. the applicant shall furnish the Board two completed fingerprint cards and a money order or cashier's check made payable to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation,
- b. the Board shall forward the fingerprint cards, along with the applicable fee for a national fingerprint criminal history records search, to the Bureau, and
- c. the Bureau shall retain one set of fingerprints in the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and submit the other set to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for a national criminal history records search;

24. Establish standards for animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment. The standards shall include but not be limited to a requirement that a veterinarian who holds himself or herself out to the public as certified to engage in animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment shall:

- a. carry at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) of additional malpractice coverage to perform animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment, and
- b. have appropriate training in animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment. The Veterinary Examining Board shall have the authority to establish educational criteria for certification standards in animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment. The Veterinary Examining Board shall work in conjunction with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to establish comparable standards for the practice of animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment for both medical professions within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this act. The Board shall certify any licensed veterinarian wishing to engage in animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment who meets the standards established by the Board pursuant to this paragraph. Upon request, the Board shall make available to the public a list of licensed veterinarians so certified; and

25. Perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as the provisions and enforcement of the Oklahoma Veterinary Practice Act may require.

SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 698.14a, is amended to read as follows:

Section 698.14a. A. A range of sanctions is hereby made available to the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners which includes, but is not limited to:

1. Revocation of licensure or certification;
2. Suspension of licensure or certification;
3. Probation of licensure or certification;
4. Refusal to renew a license or certification;
5. Injunctions and other civil court actions;

6. Reprimand, censure, agreement to voluntary stipulation of facts and imposition of terms of disciplinary action;

7. Administrative citation and administrative penalties; and

8. Prosecution through the office of the district attorney.

B. 1. The Board may take such action as the nature of the violation requires.

2. Upon a determination that a violation has been committed, the Board shall, by clear and convincing evidence, have the authority to impose upon the alleged violator, the payment of costs expended by the Board in investigating and prosecuting the cause, to include, but not be limited to, staff time, salary and travel expenses, witness fees and attorney fees and same shall be considered part of the order of the Board.

3. The Board shall make report of action to any association, organization or entity deemed appropriate for transmittal of the public record but shall in no cause be held liable for the content of the reported action or be made a party to action taken as a result of the sanction imposed by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

C. The president or secretary-treasurer of the Board may issue a confidential letter of concern to a licensee or certificate holder when, though evidence does not warrant formal proceedings, there has been noted indications of possible misconduct by the licensee or certificate holder that could lead to serious consequences and formal action.

D. The Board may require an applicant for licensure or certification or a licensee or certificate holder to be examined on the applicant's or holder's medical knowledge and skills should the Board find, after due process, that there is probable cause to believe the licensee or certificate holder or applicant may be deficient in such knowledge and skills.