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KENTUCKY BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS



KBVE Newsletter March 2025 Edition

Chair's Message

Licensees are asking why, if KBVE is working to balance its budget, did the agency move to the Kentucky Horse Park? Is the Board raising fees just to pay for a fancy, new office location? If you are asking these questions, you are not alone.

Let me reassure you that we conducted extensive budget analysis over the past two years. Costs for the agency have risen across the board, just like for many businesses, including costs for legal services, IT services, administrative services, and staffing. Yet, between 2010 - 2023, there were no changes in licensing fees. As it turns out, we moved because maintaining offices at the Horse Park is actually less expensive than it would have been to stay at the agency's old office



John C. Park, DVM
Equine Veterinarian
KBVE Chair

location where costs were proposed to more than double.



I want to personally thank you for reaching out to KBVE with your concerns. We've taken the time to respond in depth to comments received about the Board's budget, and below you'll find where to access and read the Board's responses. If you want even more information on the Board's budget, simply email our executive director at Vet@ky.gov.

If you have any other questions for Members of the Board, don't hesitate to reach out to us or to email KBVE staff with your questions. We are here to serve all constituents of Kentucky.

KBVE Mission

The mission of the KBVE is to regulate and ensure professional competency for veterinarians, veterinary technicians, allied animal health professionals, and animal euthanasia specialists in the Commonwealth of Kentucky for the safety and well-being of animal health as well as the confidence of the public in the services provided by members of these professions.

The Results Are In!

KBVE asked and you answered. 131 licensees submitted responses to the January survey on expansion of the AAHP Permit.

1. Services offered at veterinary facilities in Kentucky - % of respondents offering:

- 22% - Animal chiropractic services
- 11% - Animal massage
- 32% - Animal rehabilitation
- 40% - Equine dentistry
- 14% - Other "Complementary and Alternative Services"
 - Acupuncture
 - Animal Behavior
 - Herbal medicine
 - Homeopathy
 - Hyperbaric oxygen therapy
 - Laser
 - PEMF
- 28% - None of the above

2. Support for expanding the AAHP permit to include - % of respondents supporting:

- 43% - Animal chiropractic providers (ACP) (already exists)
- 46% - Animal massage therapy provider (AMTP)
- 40% - Equine dental providers (EDP)
- 58% - Animal rehabilitation provider (ARP)
- < 1% - Other services, as listed above in question #1
- <1% - Other Comments - Support for reasons of public protection and if enforcement occurs to ensure proper training, CE, etc.
- 21% - Other Comments - Do NOT support - all these services are the practice of veterinary medicine and should only be performed by a licensed veterinarian

3. Level of supervision recommended for AAHP providers - % of respondents indicating answer:

- 8% - Immediate (i.e., veterinarian in the same room)
- 58% - Direct (i.e., veterinarian on the same premises)
- 34% - Indirect (i.e., veterinarian available by phone, text, etc.)

4. Thoughts about access to sedatives - % of respondents indicating answer:

- 53% - A veterinarian should be required to administer sedatives
- 31% Sedatives should be issued by a veterinarian on a patient specific basis to the owner for administration
- 15% - A veterinarian should provide required sedatives to the AAHP providers directly for administration
- 1% - AAHP providers should be provided unlimited access to sedatives to administer at-will on patients

5. Liability for AAHP services if sedatives are administered - % of respondents indicating answer:

- 22% - Veterinarian
- 19% - Owner
- 47% - AAHP Provider
- 11% - Other Comments: No one but a veterinarian should administer sedatives

Requested Input

How does your veterinary facility use LVTs?

[Take the Survey!](#)

Responses accepted through March 31.

Did You Know?

Licensed Veterinary Technicians (LVTs) now have Title Protections ([KRS 321.190\(2\)](#)). This means that to use the title LVT or even "veterinary technician" a person must hold a license from KBVE as a veterinary technician, including all the training, testing, and other qualifications to obtain

that license -- much like the qualifications required for veterinarians. Use of these titles for any other person is a violation of the Practice Act.

If you are using "LVT" or "veterinary technician" for your office staff or veterinary assistants, it is time to update the vocabulary used in your practice and on your websites. The Board has a duty to investigate any complaints about title protection violations, and shall enforce the Act accordingly.

Grievance Case Spotlight

KBVE Agency Grievance # 2022-41:

- July 2022 - Complainant reported that their American Bulldog was taken in for a C-section and they went home with seven healthy pups. Two days later, two of the pups were dead. Two more days passed and the dam was not nursing the others. Later that night, the dam went into labor and produced more pups: three dead and two live.
- September 2022 - Initial letters were sent out from the Board to gather information.
- October 2022 - A response was submitted to the Board from the licensee.
- November 2022 - KBVE Grievance Committee reviewed case file and ordered an investigation.
- January 2023 - Committee reviewed the complete case file: original grievance, licensee response, and the investigative report. Members of the Committee determined there were violations of the Practice Act and directed legal counsel to initiate settlement negotiations.
- May 2023 - Signed settlement agreement and \$1,000 fine returned from respondent.
- July 2023 - Settlement agreement reviewed and signed by the Board.
- January 2024 - All terms of the agreement being fulfilled, KBVE office issued case closure letters.

Start to Finish: This case spanned 1 year 6 months.

This spotlight is part of our effort to illustrate the Board's role in maintaining professionalism and protecting the public interest.

KBVE Legislative Activities

In October 2024, KBVE filed new and amended administrative regulations governing veterinarian renewal fees, registered facilities, and AAHP permits for animal chiropractors. The public comment period on these regulations closed at the end of 2024.

In February 2025, the Board filed amendments in response to comments received, and also filed what is called a "Statement of Consideration" (SOC) in response to the comments. To read the Board's responses to these comments and see the proposed changes, visit the KBVE website [Practice Act page](#) under the heading, "Regulations – Filed with LRC (proceeding through administrative rule making process)". Look for the files designated "AAC and SOC" and scroll toward the back of a filing to find the SOC responses.

KBVE appears before the General Assembly Administrative Regulations Review Subcommittee (ARRS) on March 10 to testify about these regulations.

News You Can Use

Legislative Update

KBVE is tracking key bills in the General Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session. This session began on January 7 and ends March 28. There are 313 bills in the Senate and 814 in the House. No new bills can be filed at this stage of the session.

- [SB 69](#) – Sens. [Webb](#) and [Howell](#) – AAHP Equine Dental Provider (EDP) bill. This bill passed the Senate chamber 36-0, and is expected to be heard in the House Agriculture Committee, possibly next week.
- [HB 527](#) – Reps. [Whitten](#) and [Grossberg](#) – Rabies vaccine administration bill -- this bill will expand rabies vaccine administration authority from only veterinarians to include LVTs. Reported favorably from the House Agriculture Committee to Rules. Has two readings on House Floor.
- [HB 194](#) – Rep. [Whitten](#) – Requires animal control officers to receive training on recognizing child abuse; with a duty to report. Reported favorably from Local Government to Rules on Mar 5, with two readings on House Floor.
- [HB 87](#) – Reps. [Callaway](#), [Doan](#), [Hart](#) – Related to job opportunities for individuals with criminal convictions and associated requirements for licensing boards. Passed House 92-0 with Committee Substitute, now with Senate Committee on Committees.
- [HB 153](#) – Reps. [Imes](#), [Rudy](#), et al. (~20 sponsors total) – Murray State CVM build authority. With the House Committee on Postsecondary Education since Feb 4.
- [SB 80](#) – Sen. [Carroll](#) – Murray State CVM build authority. With the Senate Education Committee since Feb 6.
- [SB 113](#) – Sens. [Howell](#), et al. (~14 sponsors total) – Murray State CVM build authority. With the Senate Education Committee since Feb 11.
- [SB 134](#) – Sens. [Carroll](#), et al. (~17 sponsors total) – Murray State CVM and other comprehensive universities build authorities. With Senate Education Committee.

- [SB 121](#) - Sen. [Wheeler](#) - Related to stray equines. Passed Senate 34-0, with House Committee on Committees since Mar 4.

Licensees are encouraged to exercise individual civic rights by expressing your opinion on these bills to your elected representatives. Who are your representatives? [Find your Legislator](#) in both the House and Senate on the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) website.

Upcoming KBVE Meetings

Next KBVE Meeting:

March 20, 2025 – 1:00 PM EST

Location:

KBVE Office, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 104, Lexington, KY 40511

Hybrid Zoom option available to those who RSVP to Vet@ky.gov

2025 KBVE Board [Meeting Schedule is available online.](#)

Meetings are open to all licensees and the public. Join us to learn more about current legislative activities and hear topical guest speakers. Agendas are posted in advance of the meeting. Attend and earn 6 hours CE for veterinarians and 3 hours CE for LVTs each renewal period.

You can also find dates for various KBVE Committee meetings online at this same location.

Newsletter Feedback

Have comments about this newsletter, or ideas for future newsletter topics? Email Vet@ky.gov with your feedback and ideas!

kbve.ky.gov

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