American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Your ACVIM Board-certification Journey

An overview of the traditional path to board certification.

1 Meet the Prerequisites

- Graduate from an AVMA-approved veterinary college or school, OR be legally qualified to practice veterinary medicine in a state, province, territory, or possession of the United States, Canada, or another country.
- Complete a one-year rotating internship in medicine and surgery, or equivalent broad-based clinical experience.

2 Enter an ACVIM-Approved Residency Training Program

- Apply through the Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program (VIRMP) at virmp.org.
- Get matched with an ACVIM-approved residency training program.

3 Register as an ACVIM Board-certification Candidate

- Register online within 90 days of starting your residency.
- Pay registration fee.

4 Complete Training + Document Requirements Throughout Residency

- Submit and obtain the required approvals for training, procedures, journal clubs, research and scholarly activity, and other applicable requirements throughout the residency training program.
- Program requirements vary; see the Certification Manual.

5 Pass the General Examination

- Candidates become eligible to take the General Examination after completing 72 weeks in an ACVIM-approved residency training program. **The General Examination is offered once annually.**
- Register for the General Examination.
- Submit a Resident Advisor Letter of Satisfactory Progress.
- Pay exam registration fee.

6 Submit Credentials for Review

- Review applicable Specialty Manual for Credentials submission eligibility requirements.
- Pay credentials fee.
- The Credentials Committee reviews the application to determine your eligibility to register for and take the Specialty Examination. A result of *Conditionally Approved* or *Approved* is a prerequisite for Specialty Examination Registration.

7 Pass the Specialty Examination

- Register for the Specialty Examination. **The Specialty Examination is offered once annually.**
- Pay exam registration fee.

8 Complete Residency Training Program + Remaining Requirements

- Upload proof of successful completion of your residency training program.
- If Credentials were *Conditionally Approved*, a final Program Director sign-off is required.
- Submit all remaining requirements within 5 years of residency training program completion.

9 Become an ACVIM Diplomate

- Earn ACVIM Diplomate status and pay annual recertification fee.
- Fulfill Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements every 10 years.

Overview of a traditional path only. Always refer to the ACVIM Certification Manual and applicable Specialty Manual for specialty-specific eligibility and requirements. All requirements for board certification must be completed within five years following the last day of the candidate's residency training program.

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