

What is accreditation?



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Academic accreditation is voluntary and is not a comparison between schools but instead an evaluation of how a given program meets designated standards of accreditation.



<https://www.avma.org/education/center-for-veterinary-accreditation>



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The accreditor for all veterinary schools in the North America (specifically, in the United States and Canada) and for some schools in other countries is the AVMA Council on Education (COE).

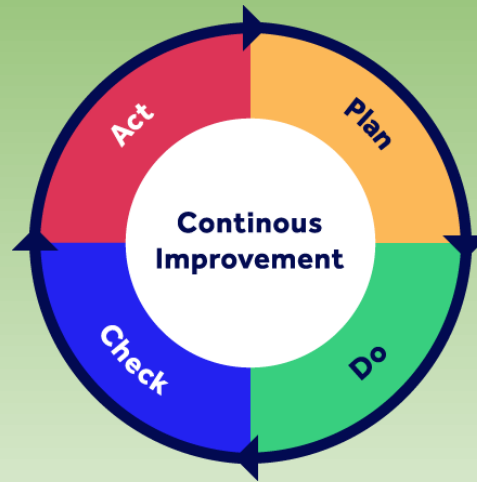


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_map



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Programs pursue accreditation to ensure high quality and ongoing improvement in their educational programs – these are aspirational goals.



<https://appian.com/blog/acp/process-mining/continuous-improvement-process-explained>



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Programs also pursue accreditation with pragmatic goals:

- To encourage potential students to apply
- To ensure their enrolled students are eligible to take the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination
- To make students eligible for some forms of financial aid
- To encourage alumni and other donors to support the program



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What are the COE standards of accreditation?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Organization | 6 Students |
| 2 Finances | 7 Admissions |
| 3 Physical facilities & equipment | 8 Faculty |
| 4 Clinical Resources | 9 Curriculum |
| 5 Information Resources | 10 Research |
| | 11 Outcomes Assessment |



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Standard 1 = Organization

- *Does the organizational structure permit faculty to participate in decision-making?*
- *Is there a logical pathway for flow of resources?*
- *Does the organizational structure foster interdepartmental collaboration in teaching, service, and research?*



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Standard 2 = Finances

- *Does the school have what it needs to remain solvent moving forward?*
- *Are current sources of funding at risk?*
- *Are sound investments being made?*



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Standard 3 = Physical facilities and equipment

- *Do the buildings and equipment provide a functional, safe learning environment?*
- *Are there enough classrooms and is there enough space for independent or small group study?*
- *Is animal safety assured and is there adequate housing for research and teaching animals?*
- *Are students taught to use equipment properly?*
- *Are external sites used for student training regularly visited by someone from the school to ensure that this standard is met in all regards?*



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Standard 4 = Clinical resources

- *Is caseload adequate to ensure students have access to normal and diseased animals in a variety of species, representative of what they will see in practice?*



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Standard 5 = Information resources

- *Do the students have physical and/or electronic access to necessary materials, including texts and journals, at all sites where they are being educated?*
- *Are the students trained to search the literature?*



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Standard 6 = Students

- *Do the students have access to financial aid, personal counseling, disability assistance, and other services?*
- *Are extracurricular opportunities equally available to all students?*
- *Do students have an opportunity to participate in college governance and to bring forward concerns?*



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Standard 7 = Admissions

- *Is the admissions process fair and equitable?*
- *Does it include non-academic measures?*
- *Is there an admissions committee, made up primarily of faculty members from the college?*



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Standard 8 = Faculty

- *Is the faculty body stable or is there a risk of high faculty turnover, which may disadvantage the students?*
- *Are faculty paid adequately and provided adequate benefits?*
- *Are faculty development opportunities available?*



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Standard 9 = Curriculum

- *Does the curriculum meet the broad objectives outlined in the standard?*
- *Is there a curriculum committee made up primarily of faculty members of the college?*
- *How is the curriculum regularly reviewed and is a holistic review completed at least every 7 years?*
- *What percentage of the curriculum is provided via distance education?*
- *How are any external clinical sites monitored to ensure students achieve stated learning objectives and are fairly graded at those sites?*



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Standard 10 = Research

- *What research opportunities are available in which students may participate?*
- *Are research findings included in the curriculum?*



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Standard 11 = Outcomes assessment

- *What is the NAVLE pass rate?*
- *What is student attrition rate and what are causes?*
- *Are students held individually to prove they have achieved the outlined clinical competencies?*
- *Are educational outcomes measured and that information used to address gaps or redundancies in the curriculum or to improve processes?*



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Questions?

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