



California Veterinary Technician Examination (CVTE) No Longer Required

On April 17, 2019, the Veterinary Medical Board (Board), for reasons specified below, unapproved the current CVTE for Registered Veterinarian Technician (RVT) applicants. Passing the CVTE is no longer required in order to be licensed as an RVT.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code (BPC) Section [4841.4](#), the examination for RVT applicants consists of both of the following:

1. A national licensing examination (VTNE); and
2. “An examination specific to the **animal health care tasks limited to California** registered veterinary technicians, as approved by the board.” [Emphasis added.]

The CVTE is intended to satisfy the examination specific to California animal health care tasks. Unlike veterinarian applicants, RVT applicants are not required to pass a jurisprudence (statutes and regulations) exam.

The Board’s Executive Officer conducted a thorough review of the [Occupational Analysis \(OA\), Review, and Linkage Study](#) provided by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES), the December 2018 [candidate bulletin](#) provided by PSI (AAVSB’s examination vendor) outlining examination content, and the CVTE test questions, answers, and reference sheet.

After careful consideration of the facts and concerns raised by OPES, the Board determined the following: (1) there are no identified animal health care tasks limited to California; (2) the current CVTE is equivalent to a jurisprudence examination; and, (3) the VTNE adequately tests the clinical knowledge used to determine minimal competency for California RVTs. The Board may consider approving a future examination if animal health care tasks limited to California are identified.

Since the Board’s April 17 decision, the Board has been inundated with calls from RVT applicants. Unfortunately, these calls negatively impact application processing. In an attempt to assist all applicants, the Board has provided answers to the frequently asked questions below.

Q. I am scheduled for the CVTE, but I have not taken it yet. Can I cancel the examination?

- A. Yes.** Please contact the Board’s examination vendor, PSI, directly to cancel your examination. Cancellations should be made 48 hours prior to the scheduled examination. Applicants should log in through the [PSI Website](#) or call PSI and speak directly to a Customer Service Representative.

PSI Website: <https://candidate.psiexams.com/login.jsp>
PSI Phone: (877) 392-6422,
PSI Hours: Monday through Friday 4:30 am - 7:00 pm, PST
Saturday-Sunday 6:00 am - 2:30 pm, PST

Q. If I cancel the examination 48 hours prior to my scheduled examination, will I receive a full refund?

A. Yes. Applicants who cancel 48 hours prior to their scheduled examinations will receive a full refund. Applicants who do not cancel within that window will still receive a refund, but they may be subject to a minimal cancellation fee.

Q. Passing the CVTE is the only requirement I have left to fulfill. Am I now eligible for an RVT license?

A. Yes. Board staff is currently identifying all applicants who fall within this category and will be contacting those applicants with license information.

Q. I have already taken the CVTE. Will I be refunded?

A. No. The Board's decision is not applied retroactively. However, candidates who did not pass the CVTE are not required to take the CVTE again in order to be eligible for an RVT license.