

European College of Veterinary Clinical pathology Re-certification procedure

The « Policies and Procedures of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation », June 2015, § II.A.14. states that a College must « establish a standard Diplomate re-certification procedure by which the prerequisites for membership of the diplomates of the College are re-evaluated every five years. The College is responsible for this re-evaluation. After re-evaluation the diplomates are registered for another five years in the EBVS Directory Listing. » In its § II. H « Policy on re-registration », it adds : « As is stated in the Policies section II, part A14 of the EBVS, a standard procedure has to be established in which the prerequisites for re-certification of the Diplomates for membership of the College are described. This re-certification has to be done under the responsibility of the College. This standard procedure will be performed according to a credit point system. In this credit point system the following items can be included:

- publications
- presentations at national congresses or Continuing Education
- presentations at international congresses
- attendance at national or international congresses
- online/distance learning
- preparing examination questions
- supervision of Residents
- membership of Board or College committees

For each item a maximum number of points can be given. A total minimum amount of points has to be collected during a five year period. Each College has its own responsibility in creating such a 100 credit point system, but it has to be sent to and approved by the EBVS. » If a diplomate does not meet the required number of points, they can be given one year extra in which to achieve this. If they do not succeed, or if any Diplomate does not submit re-certification documents, they will be made non-practising Diplomates by their College, removed from the EBVS specialist register, and may only use the title of Diplomate (non-practising). A non-practising Diplomate seeking to revert to full Diplomate status needs to satisfy the Credentials committee of the college.

These provisions are confirmed in the ByLaws of the ECVCP:

« 8.7 All Diplomates are required to maintain activity in veterinary clinical pathology, maintain certification by continuing education in a form determined by the Education Committee, and maintain activity in the affairs of the College, particularly by regular attendance at meetings.

8.9 Diplomates (except for non-practising Diplomates and Honorary Diplomates) are required to send each 5 years a summary of their professional activities in which evidence of fulfilling these requirements and evidence of continuous education must be included. The format of this summary has to be approved by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation and will be evaluated by members of the Credentials Committee. »

Re-certification procedure for ECVCP

To maintain Active Diplomate status, all Diplomates of the ECVCP will have to be member of the ECVCP and to fulfill recertification requirements after their 5 years of initial Board

certification, then each fifth year. Failure to comply would render a Diplomate « non-practising ». Non-practising Diplomates cannot use the title of European specialist, are not allowed to supervise ECVCP training programmes, cannot be nominated as members of ECVCP Committees.

Re-certification must be achieved five years after initial certification or five years after acceptance of the re-certification protocol by the EBVS.

Documents for re-certification must be sent to the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee at least 6 month before expiry of initial certification. Procedures for submission are in Annex I

According to EBVS rules, the procedure is based on a credit point system. Recertification will be obtained after obtaining 100 credit points (cp):

This can be achieved by completion of condition 1 **AND** 2 below:

1/ Compulsory preparation of accepted ECVCP Examination questions. These can be for any of the four areas of the examination : general pathophysiology, biochemistry, haematology, or cytology (These to include glass slide sets or computer images) . Failure to submit at least 5 questions per year over 4 of the 5 years recertification period would lead to rejection of the application.

2/ Activities in the following categories of activities related to Veterinary Clinical Pathology :

- publications
- presentations at national congresses or Continuing Education
- presentations at international congresses
- attendance at national or international congresses
- online/distance learning
- preparing examination questions
- supervision of Residents
- membership of Board or College committees