



Constitution

of the
Academy of Veterinary Clinical Pathology Technicians
(AVCPT)

ARTICLE I: NAME

The organization shall be known as the Academy of Veterinary Clinical Pathology Technicians and hereinafter shall be referred to within this document as AVCPT.

ARTICLE II: INCORPORATION

Section 1:

The AVCPT shall be incorporated under the state of Kentucky as a not for profit educational organization operated exclusively for the purpose specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

- a. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the AVCPT shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation/organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code) or (b) by a corporation / organization, contributions to which are deductible under, Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section at any future Federal Tax Code).
- b. No substantial part of the activities of the AVCPT shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the AVCPT shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Section 2:

No part of the net earnings of the AVCPT shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the AVCPT shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of Section 501(c)(3) purposes.

Section 3:

The term for which AVCPT is organized shall be perpetual; however, if dissolution of the corporation should occur, its property shall be distributed equally between the American Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathologists (ASVCP) and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA). If the named recipient(s) are no longer in existence, then the assets of the AVCPT shall be distributed to an animal welfare fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purposes

specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code).

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of AVCPT is to advance the area of and promote excellence in the discipline of veterinary clinical pathology. The veterinary technician specialist (VTS) will demonstrate superior knowledge and performance of clinical pathology techniques, which will promote improved client service and confidence as well as enhanced patient care. The AVCPT will further the recognition of credentialed specialty technicians as leaders in the profession of veterinary clinical pathology.

Section 2: OBJECTIVES

The AVCPT promotes an expansion of knowledge and education of veterinary clinical pathology among credentialed veterinary technicians.

- a. The AVCPT promotes the welfare of the patient through high standards of practice for those credentialed veterinary technicians involved in clinical pathology.
- b. The AVCPT shall benefit the veterinarian, the veterinary technician and the animal owner by establishing education and experience prerequisites leading to certification in the veterinary specialty of clinical pathology.
- c. The AVCPT strives to expand the role of the veterinary laboratory technician in the workplace by examining and certifying veterinary technicians as specialized team members in clinical pathology.
- d. The AVCPT strives to facilitate the continuing education of the veterinary community by encouraging attendance at continuing education meetings, participation in webinars, research, oral presentations, and journal articles.
- e. The AVCPT shall operate under the direct approval and guidance of NAVTA and shall submit annual reports to the Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties (CVTS) committee of NAVTA as required in the Content of Petition and will report any changes in documents to the CVTS committee at the time of the annual report.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

The AVCPT requires that all members be members in good standing with NAVTA or as approved by the Executive Board.

Section 1: AVCPT members shall be known as VTS (Clinical Pathology).

Section 2: VTS (Clinical Pathology) shall be further classified as one of the following:

a. Charter Member

Charter VTS (Clinical Pathology) technicians must have qualifications far exceeding those proposed as necessary for candidates desiring to take the certifying exam.

Members of the Organizing Committee will be granted Charter Membership once the AVCPT receives provisional recognition by NAVTA. When the first group of applicants to the AVCPT has acquired Active Member status, Charter Members will also become Active Members upon majority vote of the Executive Board.

b. Active Member

Active members shall be graduates of an AVMA accredited program, credentialed, fulfill the eligibility requirements as required as stated in the by-laws, pass the examination and be current on all financial obligations to the AVCPT. In states that do not offer credentialing, applicants must show evidence of a passing score on the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE). Applicants from another country shall be credentialed by their country of residence.

c. Inactive Membership

Only Active members in good standing may become Inactive Members. Active members who are current in their dues may, by written application to the Executive Board, apply for Inactive Status. Inactive members shall pay fifty percent of Active membership dues but have no voting privileges, cannot hold office, nor serve on any committees. In order for an Inactive Member to return to Active status he/she must make written application to the Executive Board and be approved for returning to Active status. Upon Executive Board approval and upon paying one year Active membership dues, the Inactive member shall be returned to Active membership status and shall have all the rights and privileges of an Active member.

d. Retired Member

An applicant for Retired Membership shall be an active VTS who has reached the age of 62 is retired and no longer actively engaged in veterinary medicine. Written documentation of retirement at an earlier age must be approved by the Executive Board. Retired members will become non-dues paying members with all the rights and privileges afforded an Active Member.

e. Life Member

An active member who has been in good standing for twenty (20) years and is no less than fifty (50) years of age can be designated a life member by the Executive Board. Life members will be awarded a meritorious service award and shall enjoy the same rights and privileges as an active member and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

f. Honorary Member

Honorary membership may be awarded to individual or group who has made major contributions to the advancement of veterinary technicians in the field of veterinary laboratory and clinical sciences. The Academy may by two-thirds votes of the voting members present, elect to honorary membership those who have by their lives and work, rendered conspicuous service to veterinary technicians in organized veterinary medicine in due form. An honorary member may participate in AVCPT meetings but

may not vote or hold office and is exempt from paying of dues. The VTS designation cannot be held by an honorary member.

ARTICLE V: ORGANIZATION / ADMINISTRATION

Section 1: Executive Board of the AVCPT

The Executive Board shall be the executive body of the Academy and shall consider first all business and policies pertaining to the affairs of the AVCPT. The Executive Board will consist of the elected officers (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members at Large), the President and the Past-President. Each member of the Executive Board shall have one vote on issues for seconded motions at AVCPT meetings. No one on the Executive Board shall be paid for his or her time. All on the Executive Board shall understand that this is a volunteer, not for profit organization and no funds in excess of budgeted amounts shall be allocated for any officer without a majority vote of all Board Members. At-Large Members shall be diversified by career field (i.e. private practice, research, zoo, academia, corporate, etc) as active members in those fields are credentialed by AVCPT.

Section 2:

Following provisional recognition, the first Executive Board officers will be appointed by the Charter Members. The initial Executive Board officers will consist of President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Once officers are appointed, remaining Charter Members will serve on the Executive Board as Members at Large. Thereafter, the Executive Board will be elected by the voting members of the AVCPT.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS of the AVCPT

Section 1:

The elected officers of the AVCPT shall include President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Members at Large. The President and the Past-President are non-elected officers. These officers shall all be voting members of the Executive Board.

Section 2:

The President-Elect shall automatically become President at the termination of their predecessor's term of office. The President shall automatically become Past-President at the termination of their term as president.

Section 3:

Election of President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Members at Large shall take place biennially (every two years) by mail or secure electronic ballot prior to the business meeting of the AVCPT. The officers shall begin their term of office immediately following completion of the business meeting in the year elections are held.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1: Authorization

The AVCPT shall have the following standing committees: Nominating, Credentials Approval, Examination, Re-certification, Continuing Education, and Financial Affairs Committees. Additional committees may be appointed by the president as needed.

Section 2: Appointments

The President with the advice of the Executive Board shall appoint a Chairperson to all committees.

ARTICLES VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: By Membership

The members may amend, alter or repeal any part of the Constitution by an affirmative vote, provided the substance of the proposed amendment shall have been communicated to the membership. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Executive Board for review ninety (90) days before a scheduled meeting of the AVCPT, the distribution of a mail ballot, or secure electronic ballot to the membership. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the voting membership with a recommendation by the Executive Board at least thirty (30) days prior to a voice vote, the distribution of a mail, or secure electronic ballot.

Section 2:

An affirmative vote shall require that at least half (1/2) of the voting members in good standing vote, and at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members voting approve the proposal.