



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

Continuing Competence Committee Position Statement: Continuing Education Program Formats

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Verification:

In all instances, attendance or completion must be verified in writing regardless of program delivery format and registrants must retain records for audit purposes.

Format:

The Continuing Competence Committee determines that various modes of delivery are (or may be) acceptable for CE, including:

- ◆ Seminars and conferences/conventions,
- ◆ Wet-labs and workshops,
- ◆ Degree or certificate programs offered by accredited academic institutions
- ◆ Interactive distance education or learning that is RACE-approved and verified with a certificate of completion (i.e. live on-line webinars, satellite conferences, teleconferences where two-way communication is possible)
- ◆ Non-interactive distance learning that is RACE-approved and completion is verifiable
- ◆ The CVBC may consider approval for distance-learning courses that are not RACE-approved, if presented/offered by AVMA-accredited veterinary colleges or North American veterinary regulatory bodies

Recommendations:

Attending in-person CE programs, with discussion and real-time instructor feedback is generally considered more valuable than the more passive nature of remote learning activities. A minimum of 50% of credit hours for each 2-year cycle are recommended to be acquired through in-person programs (conferences, seminars, wet-labs, workshops, degree/certificate programs attended in person at the offering institution, etc).ⁱ

Hands-on interactive experiences, such as wet-labs and workshops, are particularly valuable learning formats. Registrants are encouraged to self-assess deficiencies in their competencies and to seek out relevant opportunities wherever possible.

Audit:

Commencing in January 2021, CVBC appointed Inspectors will begin auditing a sample of 10% of registrants who will be randomly selected, to determine whether sufficient and appropriate CE credits have been reported, and whether supporting documentation exists for the reported CE credits.

Commencing in January 2021, the Continuing Competence Committee will consider referring deficiencies to the Investigation Committee in accordance with the Bylaws.

Legislative Authority

Veterinarians Act, s. 3(2)(c)

CVBC Bylaws, Part 1 – Governance, s. 1.2(4) and 1.51(2)(d)

Part 4 – Ethics and Standards, s. 252 to 258

ⁱ The current bylaws regarding the Continuing Competence Program are limited in scope, preventing the Continuing Competence Committee from setting firm requirements for CE format. Bylaw revisions will propose greater focus and responsibility for the Committee, converting “recommendations” to “requirements”.