

Consultation: Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Graduates who have not yet Successfully Completed the NAVLE

September 17, 2026

Purpose of this consultation

The Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) Council is seeking member feedback on proposed amendments to the MVMA Bylaws concerning graduates of Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)/American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA-COE)-accredited veterinary programs who have not yet successfully completed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE).

The proposed changes are intended to align the MVMA's current membership and registration framework with recent changes at the national level concerning the number of NAVLE attempts available to graduates of CVMA/AVMA-accredited veterinary schools.

The proposed approach would permit eligible graduates to remain in restricted licensure while they work toward successfully completing the NAVLE and obtaining a Certificate of Qualification (CQ), subject to defined supervision, examination, and continuing eligibility requirements.

Members are invited to review the proposed approach and provide comments before Council considers whether to proceed with formal bylaw amendments.

This consultation closes **October 27, 2026**.

Background

The NAVLE is a required component of the Canadian veterinary licensing process. Graduates of CVMA/AVMA accredited veterinary schools must meet the applicable examination and other regulatory requirements before obtaining a Certificate of Qualification (CQ).

Under the existing national framework, graduates who have not successfully completed the NAVLE after three attempts have been required to complete additional components of

the National Examining Board (NEB) process, including the Preliminary Surgical Assessment (PSA) and Clinical Proficiency Examination (CPE), before a CQ can be issued.

The national policy has now changed.

In June 2026, the NEB adopted a policy permitting graduates of CVMA/AVMA-accredited veterinary schools a maximum of five attempts at the NAVLE. Under the revised policy, graduates who do not successfully complete the NAVLE within their first three attempts are no longer required to complete the PSA and CPE solely as a consequence of those three unsuccessful NAVLE attempts. They may instead continue to attempt the NAVLE, up to the maximum of five attempts permitted under the policy.

This change has implications for the current MVMA Bylaws.

Current MVMA framework

The current MVMA Bylaws permit a graduate of a CVMA/AVMA-accredited veterinary program who has met the other applicable requirements, but who has not yet successfully completed the NAVLE, to be registered as a Restricted Member, provided that the individual is enrolled in the NEB process.

Under the current framework:

- The member is required to pass the NAVLE within three attempts.
- If the member is unsuccessful after three NAVLE attempts, the member must complete the remaining NEB requirements, including the PSA and CPE, in order to obtain a CQ.
- The member must practice under Direct Supervision.

Following the June 2026 change to the NEB policy, the existing three-attempt requirement in the MVMA Bylaws no longer corresponds with the maximum number of NAVLE attempts now available under the national policy.

Council is therefore proposing that the MVMA framework be amended.

Proposed approach

MVMA Council is considering amendments to the Bylaws that would allow graduates of CVMA/AVMA accredited veterinary schools who have not yet successfully completed the NAVLE to hold restricted licensure until they successfully complete the NAVLE and obtain a CQ, provided they continue to meet all applicable requirements.

Under the proposed framework, an eligible graduate would:

1. Be permitted to hold restricted licensure while awaiting successful completion of the NAVLE and issuance of a CQ.
2. Be required to practise under Direct Supervision while holding restricted licensure.
3. Be required to successfully complete the NAVLE within the maximum five attempts permitted by the applicable NEB policy.
4. Need to demonstrate that they remain actively engaged in completing the NAVLE requirement.

Next steps

Following the consultation period, MVMA Council and will review the feedback received from members and consider whether changes should be made to the proposed approach.

If Council determines that amendments should proceed, the proposed bylaw amendments will be developed and brought forward to the 2027 AGM.

Please [click here](#) to access the consultation feedback form.

This consultation closes **October 27, 2026**.