Veterinarians diagnose and treat diseases and disorders of animals, determine the nature of disease or injury and treat animals surgically or medically. They inoculate animals against disease and test cattle for tuberculosis and brucellosis; conduct necropsies to determine cause of death; inspect animals, both before and after slaughter, which are intended for human food; advise individuals on the care and breeding of animals; engage in general practice, treating various animal species or specialize, restricting practice to dogs, cats, and other pets, or to single species such as cattle, horses, or poultry.

An applicant must have at least two years of pre-veterinary education and four years of veterinary medicine to get a doctorate degree. Foreign graduates need to submit an Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) certificate. Applicants must have received a passing score for the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or the National Board Exam/Clinical Competency Test (NBE/CCT) exams, if applicable.

At least sixty hours of continuing education in courses approved by the Board of Veterinary Medicine shall be completed triennially by each licensee for license renewal.

Applicants must pass the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE). This exam replaced the NBE and CCT and is offered in April and December of each year.

Application: $50  
Duration: Three years  
Renewal: $45  
Exam: $350 - NAVLE Exam (includes $25 administrative fee)

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For Additional Information

Iowa Veterinary Medical Association
5921 Fleur Dr
Des Moines IA 50321

American Veterinary Medical Association
1931 N Meacham Rd Ste 100
Schaumburg IL 60173-4360

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
1101 Vermont Ave NW Ste 710
Washington DC  20005