

American Board of Veterinary Ophthalmology (ABVO) Annual Report, 2022

Annual Credentialing Summary

During the Certifying Examination Application period (November 15, 2021 – January 15, 2022), the Credentials Committee reviewed and accepted forty-four (44) Certifying Examination Applications from twenty-five (25) first-time applicants in addition to nineteen (19) repeat applicants.

Eighty-nine (89) supporting Supervising Diplomate forms were submitted. One (1) resident had withdrawn from the residency training program July 25, 2020.

From October 2021 – present, thirty-three (33) Provisional Resident Applications (PRA) were reviewed and accepted for residencies starting in 2022. This data consists of residents selected prior to the ORCA match as well as residents starting in January 2022 in order to organize all residents starting during the same calendar year.

Examination results

- Thirty-one candidates took the IR part of the examination; there were 25 new and 6 repeat candidates. Twenty-two of 31 (71%) were successful.
- Forty candidates took the MC part of the examination; there were 25 new and 15 repeat candidates. Twenty-four of 40 (60%) candidates were successful.
- Thirty-two candidates took the intraocular part of the practical examination; there were 25 new and 7 repeat candidates. Twenty-eight of 32 (88%) candidates were successful.
- Thirty-one candidates took the extraocular part of the practical examination; there were 25 new and 6 repeat candidates. Twenty-seven of 31 (87%) candidates were successful.
- The pass rate for new candidates was 19/25 (76%) for IR, 13/25 (52%) for MC, 22/25 (88%) for the intraocular part, and 22/25 (88%) for the extraocular part.
- The pass rate for repeat candidates was 3/6 (50%) for IR, 11/15 (73%) for MC, 6/7 (86%) for the intraocular part, and 5/6 (83%) for the extraocular part.
- With successful completion of all parts of the examination, 25 candidates were conferred ACVO Diplomate status.

ABVO Policy Changes and Activities

Credentials Committee

The committee is in the process of developing a centralized reporting system for ABVO committees. A centralized method called the Incident Reporting Information System (IRIS), is being proposed. The goal of the IRIS is to create a concise report of an incident that is easily recordable, dispersible, and understandable between committees.

Residency Committee

Review and approval of RTP applications:

For the 2022 completion date, there were 3 four-year programs and 22 three-year programs approved; for a 2023 completion date, there are 4 four-year programs and 23 three-year programs; for a 2024 completion date there are 3 four-year programs and 29 three-year programs; for a 2025 completion date there are 5 four-year programs and 15 three-year programs approved; for 2026 completion date there are 2 four-year programs approved. The committee is in the finals stages of approving any remaining three and four programs to finish in 2026 (three year) and four-year programs to finish in 2027.

COVID Statement: Surgery and case minimums were reinstated for residents finishing in 2022. There is continued discussion regarding DECVO as accepted members for future RTP's and on shared/common resources for ACVO training programs. A reference page or resource for assistance in meeting equine minimum cases is being considered as a potential common resource for all residency training programs

Examination Committee

2022 ABVO Certifying Examination - Image Recognition, Multiple Choice and Practical

All parts of the examination were administered in-person at Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital, August 22-26, 2022 (Exam Week). ExamSoft® was the testing platform used under the guidance of our statistical consultant Rob Malinowski. This is the same platform that has been used for the past four examination cycles.

The MC part of the examination was scored by Dr. Malinowski who has provided standard setting and administration of the examination for the past five years.

The IR part of the examination was scored by members of the EC during exam week.

The Practical part of the examination was graded by all members of the EC who were divided in to groups of three. All efforts were made to observe candidate's conflicts with examiners and to avoid have the same examiners grade any candidate on both the extraocular and intraocular portions of the exam.

Planned activities

-Resident reading list will be updated posted to the ABVO website early 2023.

-All parts of the 2023 ABVO examination are tentatively planned to be administered in person in Denver.

-Proposal made to the ABVO to consider modification of the resident reading list published on the ABVO website. Initial discussion to occur at the Fall meeting.

Maintenance of Certification (MOC)

A total of 33 MOCs were submitted, 28 of these were mandatory, 5 were voluntary. Four applicants missed the deadline for submission. One diplomate did not have sufficient credits but has successfully gone through the remediation process.

Appeals Committee

The ABVO appeals committee did not receive any appeals for review in 2022. A detailed description of the current appeals process is available in the ABVO Policies and Procedures document available on the ABVO website (www.ABVO.us).

ABVO Diplomate Meeting

The annual meeting will occur in person and via zoom at our Palm Springs conference. A session link will be to attend the meeting virtually.

ABVO Website

Please remember that all important announcements for diplomates and residents are always posted on the announcements page at www.ABVO.us.

ABVO Elections and Policy Updates

The ABVO has made changes to encourage greater participation in the election process by extending the nomination window. The ABVO holds its elections each spring online. A call for nominations will be sent to all diplomates no later than April 1st and voting will commence June 1st. The board tries to maintain a balance between members in academia and those in private practice to best ensure the public is protected and the views of all members are represented fairly.

Three candidates were nominated this year and three hundred and seventeen diplomates voted in this election. Thank you to all diplomates who took the time to vote. At the Fall 2022 meeting, Dr. Jane Cho will begin her 4-year term on the ABVO Board. Dr. Susan Nelms will complete her term. The Board thanks Mr. Kyle Denomme for his continued service as the ABVO Board public member.

As always, the ABVO encourages ACVO Diplomates with questions or feedback related to our credentialing programs and committees to contact the Board at any time. Board members' direct emails are located on the leadership page of ABVO.us.

Submitted by,
The ABVO Board
Dr. Susan Nelms (Chair)
Dr. Steve Hollingsworth
Dr. Ralph Hamor
Dr. Brad Nadelstein
Mr. Kyle Denomme (Public Member)