



Summary of Standards Revisions for the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) Program *Effective August 15th , 2013*

RACE was developed as a service of the AAVSB in order to meet the needs of its Member Boards in carrying out their statutory mandates of regulation of the veterinary profession in the interest of public protection. It is intended to provide a standardized process of reviewing veterinary continuing education for the Member Boards in an effort to best meet their statutory and regulatory requirements.

The RACE Standards document is reviewed and updated periodically and the program is administered under uniform Standards developed by participation from regulatory boards, taking into consideration their legal requirements.

New Standards have been recommended by the RACE Committee and approved by the AAVSB Board of Directors. Below, please find an updated version of the RACE Standards. These Standards take effect August 15th, 2013 for all Providers. All Programs, new and renewal, will be reviewed by these newly in place Standards beginning August 15th, 2013.

Please note that Program and Provider approval requires agreement to **ALL** of the RACE Standards.

The RACE Committee took into consideration Member Board requests, as well as adjustments to give the Provider a more comprehensive view as to what the RACE Committee expects upon review of a program. A majority of the changes in the RACE Standards could be considered clarifying language. A video has been produced by AAVSB to highlight some of the major changes in the Standards.

Overall Formatting of RACE Standards Document: To provide a more readable document, and serve as a clearer reference for RACE Providers, the formatting of the RACE Standards has been updated.

PREAMBLE: Definitions placed at the beginning of the previous RACE Standards document have been moved to the end in a more comprehensive "Definitions" section.

Article V. Program Requirements, Section 5.06 Contact Hour Criteria: This new Standard eliminates the practice of taking the total number of CE minutes and divide this by 50 to equate a total number of hours. "The total number of minutes cannot be divided by 50 minutes to calculate the total number of hours."

Article VI. Program Application Information, Section 6.01 Application Requirements: Providers must submit all documentation upfront and will not review the program if incomplete documentation is submitted.

Article VI. Program Application Information, Section 6.03 Objective Statement: "For every program or session offered, there should be one objective statement; for five lectures offered, five objective statements are needed, etc." By adding this requirement, the RACE committee is able to have a more comprehensive view of each section of the Program they are approving, and are able to see if the more information need be requested.

"All scientific information referred to, reported or used in RACE-approved CE Program Applications in support or justification of an animal-care recommendation must conform to the medically accepted and scientifically supported standards of experimental design, data collection, and analysis."

Article VI. Program Application Information, Section 6.05 Speaker/Presenter Information: A comprehensive CV is requested rather than the former Standards requirement of a brief biography for each speaker. This allows some of the questions that may cause delay in the application to be answered upon submission.

Also, "any financial relationship in any amount occurring within the past twelve (12) months that may create a conflict of interest must be disclosed" was also added to help clarify programs submitted that might be promotional in nature.

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Article VI. Program Application Information, Section 6.06 Participant Evaluation: Specific questions must be included on the RACE approved Program Evaluation form as follows:

- Did the program meet the objectives as state/proposed?
- Did the speaker seem knowledgeable about the subject matter presented?
- Was the speaker effective in his presentation and teaching of the material?

Article VI. Program Application Information, Section 6.10 Post-Test: Information on the number of CE credits to be awarded in accordance to the number of questions asked on the post-test. 1 CE credit = a minimum of 5 questions, 2 CE credits = 8 questions, 3 CE credits = 10 questions; >3 CE credits = 2 question per additional credit hour.

Article VII. Subject Matter Categories, Section 7.01 Scientific Clinical: Clarifying language how Complementary and Alternative Medicine Programs should meet the Scientific/Clinical Standard as set by the RACE Standards, "CE programs that advocate unsubstantiated modalities of diagnosis or therapy may not be eligible for RACE approval." This language is also stated in Section 1.02.

Article VII. Subject Matter Categories, Section 7.04 Extra-Label Drug Used (ELDU) of Veterinary Products: "Veterinary representatives of commercial Providers must respond only to direct questions from practicing veterinarians regarding the unlabeled veterinary uses of products; they cannot present such information unless solicited spontaneously."

Article VIII. Methods of Delivery, Section 8.02 Seminar/Lecture/Classroom: Language for this Method of Delivery was previously unlisted and has been added to the 2013 update of the RACE Standards.

"Seminar/Lecture is understood to be 'face to face' activity, where presenter(s) and attendees are in the same location and where the event takes place in 'real time' i.e., same timeframe for all participants. Lecture, role-play, presentation, panel discussion, case study, question and answer sessions, etc. fall into this Method of Delivery."

Article VIII. Methods of Delivery, Section 8.03 Lab/Wet Lab: Language for this Method of Delivery was previously unlisted and has been added to the 2013 update of the RACE Standards.

"A Wet Lab is a face to face CE credit hour program which allows the attendees to have hands-on experience, training and/or practice of the techniques being taught. Wet Lab CE programs should have an adequate participant to instructor ratio in order to maximize the participant's learning experience."

Article VIII. Methods of Delivery, Section 8.05 Non-Interactive Online, Correspondence or Other Self-Study Programs:"The content in the Non-Interactive Online, Correspondence or Other Self-Study Programs course should contain at least 10,000 words for each 1 hour of CE credit (i.e. 20,000 words would equate 2 hours of CE)." This provides clear criteria for the Provider regarding a section that was open ended in the previous Standards.

Article VIII. Methods of Delivery, Section 8.06 Journal Courses:"The content in the Journal course should contain at least 10,000 words for each 1 hour of CE credit (i.e. 20,000 words would equate 2 hours of CE)." This provides clear criteria for the Provider.

Article VIII. Methods of Delivery, Section 8.08 Round Table, Question and Answer Sessions, and Discussion/Message Boards: The RACE Committee has added Section 8.08 to clarify its position on these types of sessions. As this "method of delivery" is not considered 50 minutes of instruction, it will not qualify for RACE approval.

Article IX. Section 9.06 Education Required for Presenters: The qualification of approvability if a DVM is employed by the USDA, CDC, or other governmental regulatory agency. Also, there is the addition of the ability for two RACE committee reviewers to verify the speakers "special knowledge" if they do not meet the previously listed criteria.

Final Note on Program Applications: Information is added to reinstate the importance of all aspects of the Program application being submitted when sending an application to RACE. This includes letters of recommendation if the speaker does not meet the criteria listed in Section 9.06. If the committee requests additional information, it has been added that the Provider must submit this information, withdraw the application, or have the application reviewed as is. If the Provider is unresponsive to the three requests listed, the committee will close the application without review.

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Article X. Loss and Reinstatement of Provider Status: This article addresses actions that will be taken if the RACE Provider violates a RACE policy, and how reinstatement of Provider Status may be issue. Language from the RACE Appeals Policy was added to this section.

Definitions: A definition section was added in an effort to better guide Providers in what specifically the committee intended in the verbiage stated in the for mentioned RACE Standards.

The AAVSB RACE Committee has taken into consideration feedback from providers, to help improve communication between the RACE Provider and Committee. We hope these slight adjustments to the RACE Standards will help clarify what the RACE Committee seeks out of the Programs submitted for review. AAVSB is committed to serving the veterinary regulatory agencies, our Member Boards, by providing quality, relevant programs and services that these Boards can rely on to carry out their statutory responsibilities in the interest of public protection. Please do not hesitate to call or email any questions regarding these changes.

Please visit: www.aavsb.org/race/standards to view the full RACE Standards document (PDF), effective August 15th, 2013.

On behalf of the AAVSB Board of Directors, our Member Boards, the RACE Committee, and staff, we thank you for your continued participation in the RACE Program!

If you have any questions regarding the RACE Program, please contact Jessica Klein, RACE Program Specialist:

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