



**American College of  
Veterinary Surgeons**  
**Educational Partners Program**

**Purpose:** To form educational partnerships between the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) and non-commercial providers of educational programs or other continuing education (CE) opportunities.

**Criteria:** ACVS educational partnerships may be established between the ACVS and non-commercial entities dedicated to providing high-quality educational programs if the following criteria are met:

1. The organization must have as its primary mission the provision of high-quality education that is beneficial to ACVS residents and Diplomates.
2. The organization must be the AAVSB RACE approved provider of continuing education credit.
3. The organization must be non-commercial. Entities marketing products for sale are not eligible for educational partnerships.

**Mechanism:**

Continuing education providers interested in developing an educational partnership with ACVS must submit a written request to the ACVS Board of Regents (BOR). The request must include:

1. Why they are interested in developing an educational partnership.
2. Documentation that their primary mission is the provision of educational programs.
3. Documentation that the educational program(s) they provide is of high-quality.
4. Verification of their AAVSB RACE approved provider status.
5. Verification that they are a non-commercial organization, such as an educational foundation with non-profit IRS status.
6. A detailed description of the educational program(s) (e.g., course, laboratory, webinar) proposed to be sanctioned by ACVS. Include an explanation of how the educational program(s) will benefit ACVS residents and Diplomates; criteria for participation; frequency of offering and dates (if available); location(s); registration fees, if any; CE credits available, if applicable; and what, if any, commercial sponsorship by other organizations is associated with the educational program(s).

7. The ACVS BOR will refer the request(s) for Educational Partner status to the Directors of the ACVS Continuing Education Committee and the ACVS Resident Credentialing Committee, who will work with their Assistant Directors, to:
  - 1) determine if the required criteria for Educational Partners are met, 2) determine if the proposed educational partnership is of benefit to ACVS residents and Diplomates, 3) ensure that the proposed educational partnership does not interfere or conflict with educational programs provided by ACVS, and 4) verify that the educational program(s) provided by the requestor is of sufficient quality.

The Directors of the ACVS Continuing Education Committee and the ACVS Resident Credentialing Committee will communicate their findings in writing to the ACVS BOR for review. The BOR may approve the request, deny the request, or recommend that the request be revised and resubmitted. The term for Educational Partners is three (3) years. Requests for renewal must be submitted to the BOR 60 days prior to the term expiring.

8. Following approval of Educational Partner status, proposals for additional educational program(s) to be sanctioned by ACVS must be submitted to the BOR by April 1. Requests must include the detailed description outlined in Mechanism 6.
9. The BOR will refer proposals for additional educational program(s) to be sanctioned by ACVS to the Directors of the ACVS Continuing Education Committee and the ACVS Resident Credentialing Committee, who will work with their Assistant Directors, to: 1) ensure the educational program(s) will be of benefit to ACVS residents and Diplomates, 2) ensure that the proposed educational program(s) does not interfere or conflict with educational programs provided by ACVS, and 3) verify that the educational program(s) provided by the Educational Partner is of sufficient quality.

#### **Potential benefits to ACVS:**

1. Access for ACVS residents and Diplomates to high-quality educational programs currently available through experienced educational program providers outside the ACVS.
2. Educational partnerships may provide motivation for experienced educational program providers to establish new courses, laboratories, or educational modules of benefit to ACVS residents and Diplomates.
3. Experienced educational program providers may develop educational modules that could be made available to all ACVS residents as part of their training and preparation for the Phase I and Phase II examinations.
4. Improved consistency of education offerings used for resident training.
5. Association of ACVS with providing the highest level educational programs, in alignment with the ACVS constitutional Mission and Objectives.

**Potential benefits to Educational Partners:**

1. Sanctioned educational programs may be used toward ACVS Diplomate Maintenance of Certification.
2. Access to expert ACVS Diplomates who may participate in the Educational Partner's educational programs.
3. Option to order complimentary ACVS resident and Diplomate postal mailing lists a maximum of two times per year to support marketing of the Educational Partner's educational programs sanctioned by ACVS. The Educational Partner must complete the required order form and abide by the standard ACVS requirements for mailing list use as described on the order form.
4. Promotion of sanctioned educational programs on the ACVS website Educational Partners page.
5. Inclusion of sanctioned educational programs in the Continuing Education opportunities calendar on the ACVS website.
6. Four email promotions of the Educational Partner's sanctioned educational programs sent by ACVS to current residents and Diplomates annually. ACVS will send a maximum of one email per calendar quarter per Educational Partner. The promotion schedule will be determined by ACVS in consultation with the Educational Partner to best fit the Educational Partner's educational programs' needs.
7. Publication of Educational Partners Program and active Educational Partners to current resident and Diplomates.
8. Designation of educational programs as sanctioned by the ACVS Educational Partners Program.
9. Recognition of Educational Partners at the ACVS Surgery Summit.