

VETERINARY SURGEONS (REGISTRATION) ACT

CHAPTER 67:04

Act
8 of 1930
Amended by
19 of 1955
5 of 1963
15 of 2021

Current Authorised Pages

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Note on Subsidiary Legislation

This Chapter contains no subsidiary legislation.

Note on Adaptation

1. Certain fees in this Chapter were increased by the Commission under paragraph 4 of the Second Schedule to the Law Revision Act (Chap. 3:03). Where this occurs, a marginal reference in the form normally indicating an amendment is made to LN 51/1980 (the Legal Notice by which the President's approval was signified).

2. Under paragraph 6 of the Second Schedule to the Law Revision Act (Chap. 3:03) the Commission amended certain references to public officers in this Chapter. The Minister's approval of the amendments was signified by LN 52/1980, but no marginal reference is made to this Notice where any such amendment is made in the text.

CHAPTER 67:04

VETERINARY SURGEONS (REGISTRATION) ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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FIRST SCHEDULE.

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CHAPTER 67:04

VETERINARY SURGEONS (REGISTRATION) ACT

1950 Ed.
Ch. 25 No. 1.
8 of 1930.

An Act to make provision for the registration of Veterinary Surgeons.

Commencement.

[2ND JUNE 1939]

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Veterinary Surgeons (Registration) Act.

Interpretation.
[19 of 1955
5 of 1963].

2. In this Act—

“Board” means the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Board constituted under section 3;

“Register” means the Register of Veterinary Surgeons required to be kept under this Act;

“secretary” means such person as may from time to time be appointed by the Board to be secretary to the Board;

“veterinary surgery” means the art and science of veterinary surgery and medicine.

Constitution of
the Board.
[5 of 1963].

3. There is hereby constituted for the purposes of this Act a body, to be called the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Board consisting of—

(a) the Technical Officer (Animal Health) who is *ex officio* chairman of the Board; and

(b) two persons eligible to be registered under section 7 (a) or (b) to be appointed from time to time by the Minister.

Unregistered
persons not to
have title of
Veterinary
Surgeon.

4. No person shall be entitled to take or use the name or title of Veterinary Surgeon (either alone or in combination with any other word or words), or any name, title, addition or description, implying that he is registered under this Act, or that he is a person specially qualified to practise veterinary surgery, unless he is registered under this Act.

5. (1) No person shall practise, or hold himself out as practising or as being prepared to practise, veterinary surgery unless he is registered in the Register.

Restriction of practise of veterinary surgery by unqualified persons. [19 of 1955].

(2) In this section “veterinary surgery” shall not include—

(a) the doing of anything specified in Part I of the First Schedule and not excluded by Part II of that Schedule;

Parts I, II, First Schedule.

(b) any minor treatment, test or operation specified by Order of the Minister made after consultation with the Board, so long as any conditions specified in the Order are complied with.

(3) Any person who contravenes this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars.

6. (1) If any person who is not for the time being registered in the Register takes or uses the title of veterinary surgeon or any name, title, addition or description calculated to lead to the belief that he is registered in the Register, he is guilty of an offence.

Use of descriptions as to professional status. [19 of 1955].

(2) If any person who is not for the time being registered in the Register takes or uses the title of veterinary practitioner or any name, title, addition or description calculated to lead to the belief that he is a practitioner of, or qualified to practise, veterinary surgery to any greater extent than is authorised by or under section 5(2), he is guilty of an offence.

(3) Without prejudice, in the case of an individual, to the foregoing provisions of this section, if any person uses any description in connection with any business carried on by him or on any premises at which such a business is carried on, being in either case a description calculated to lead to the belief that he or any person acting for the purposes of the business possesses any veterinary qualifications which he does not in fact possess, he is guilty of an offence.

(4) Any person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars.

Qualifications
necessary for
registration.
[51/1980].

7. Any person who—

- (a) is registered or entitled by law to be registered as a Veterinary Surgeon in the United Kingdom under any Act for the time being in force;
- (b) holds a certificate granted in a Commonwealth or foreign country, for the time being recognised by the Board as furnishing a sufficient guarantee of the possession of requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practise of veterinary surgery; or
- (c) has been at the commencement of this Act *bona fide* engaged in Trinidad and Tobago in the practice of veterinary surgery for a period of not less than three years,

shall, on payment of a fee of fifty dollars, and subject to section 9, be eligible to be registered under this Act.

Keeping of
Register and
publication.
[19 of 1955].
Second
Schedule.

8. (1) The secretary shall keep a Register, in the form contained in the Second Schedule, to be styled the Veterinary Surgeons Register, of all persons registered as Veterinary Surgeons under this Act.

(2) The secretary, in the month of February in each year, shall publish in the *Gazette* a copy of the Register.

Registration of
persons in
Veterinary
Surgeons
Register.

9. (1) Where any person desires to be registered under this Act, he shall make application to the secretary, and shall submit such evidence as shall satisfy the Board that he is eligible to be registered under section 7 and that he is a fit and proper person to be so registered.

(2) The secretary shall forthwith lay the application before the Board, and the Board, if satisfied that the person is eligible and is a fit and proper person to be registered, shall direct the secretary to register the person.

(3) The secretary shall thereupon register such person and publish notice thereof in the *Gazette*.

(4) If the Board declines to direct the secretary to register any person who applies to be registered, the person may appeal to the Minister, and, if it is made to appear to the Minister that the person is entitled to be registered under this Act, the Minister may direct that the person shall be so registered.

10. A copy of the Register for the time being published in the *Gazette*, in accordance with the provisions of section 8(2), shall be evidence in all cases (until the contrary be made to appear) that the persons therein specified are registered under this Act, and the absence of the name of any person from such copy shall be evidence (until the contrary be made to appear) that such person is not registered under this Act. However, in the case of a person whose name does not appear in the copy, a certified copy under the hand of the secretary of the entry of the name of the person in the Register shall be evidence that the person is registered under this Act.

Evidence of registration.

11. If any Veterinary Surgeon registered under this Act is convicted of an offence before the High Court or, after due inquiry, is adjudged by the Board to have been guilty of infamous or disgraceful conduct in any professional respect, the Board, with the sanction of the Minister, may cause the name of the Veterinary Surgeon to be erased from the Register.

Erasing name from Register of Veterinary Surgeon guilty of crime or disgraceful conduct.

12. If the Board thinks fit, it may in any case, with the sanction of the Minister, direct any name erased from the Register to be restored thereon on the payment of such fee, not exceeding the registration fee, as the Board may fix.

Name may be restored to Register.

13. (1) The secretary shall from time to time insert in the Register any alteration which may come to his knowledge in the name or address of any person registered.

Correction of Register.

(2) The secretary shall erase from the Register the name of every deceased person.

(3) The secretary may erase from the Register the name of a person who has ceased to practise or who has been continually

absent from Trinidad and Tobago for the space of three years; and any person whose name has been so erased shall, on resuming practice or returning to Trinidad and Tobago, be entitled to have his name restored to the Register without the payment of any fee.

(4) In the execution of his duties, the secretary shall act on such evidence as in each case appears sufficient.

Power to
administer
vaccine.
[15 of 2021].

13A. (1) A veterinary surgeon acting under the direction or supervision of a medical practitioner, may administer a 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) vaccine or such other vaccine as the Minister may by Order, prescribe.

(2) For the purposes of this section—

Second
Schedule.

“2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) vaccine” means a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the Minister with responsibility for health on the recommendation of the Drug Advisory Committee in accordance with paragraph 7, Division 3 of the Second Schedule of the Food and Drugs Regulations; and

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“medical practitioner” has the meaning assigned to it in section 2 of the Medical Board Act.

Penalty for
obtaining
registration by
false
representation.
[19 of 1955].

14. Any person who wilfully procures or attempts to procure himself to be registered under this Act by making or producing, or causing to be made or produced, any false or fraudulent representation or declaration, either verbally or in writing, and any person aiding or assisting him therein is liable on conviction on indictment to a fine of two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for twelve months.

FIRST SCHEDULE
EXEMPTIONS FROM RESTRICTIONS ON PRACTICE
OF VETERINARY SURGERY

Section 5(2).
[19 of 1955].

PART I

TREATMENT AND OPERATIONS WHICH MAY BE GIVEN OR
CARRIED OUT BY UNQUALIFIED PERSONS

1. Any treatment given to an animal by the owner thereof.
2. The rendering in an emergency of first aid for the purpose of saving life or relieving pain.
3. The destruction of an animal by painless methods.
4. The performance of any of the following operations:
 - (a) castration or caponising of any animal other than a horse, pony, ass or mule;
 - (b) the docking of the tail of a dog before its eyes are open;
 - (c) the amputation of the dew claws of a dog before its eyes are open.

Nothing in this paragraph shall authorise the performance of any operation by a person under the age of eighteen.

PART II

EXCLUSIONS FROM PROVISION OF PART I

Nothing in section 5(2)(a) of this Act shall authorise the castration of any animal mentioned in the first column of the following Table after it has reached the age shown in the second column thereof:

<i>Animal</i>					<i>Age</i>
Bull	...	...	...	...	6 months
Goat	...	...	...	...	3 months
Sheep	...	...	...	...	3 months
Boar	...	...	...	...	3 months
Dog	...	...	...	...	3 months
Cat	...	...	...	...	3 months

Section 8.
[19 of 1955].

SECOND SCHEDULE

FORM OF VETERINARY SURGEONS REGISTER

Name	Residence	Qualification	Date of Registration

UNOFFICIAL