

1. Article I Name

- a. This organization shall be known as the Academy of Veterinary Technician Anesthetists; hereinafter referred to as the "Academy".

2. Article II Incorporation**a. Section 1**

- i. The Academy shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana as a not-for-profit educational organization operated exclusively for one of the purposes specified in Sec. 501 (c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

b. Section 2

- i. The term for which the Academy is organized shall be perpetual. However, if dissolution of the Corporation should occur, its property shall be distributed evenly among the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists (ACVA), the Veterinary Technician Anesthetist Society (VTAS), the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (AVTE) and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA).

3. Article III Statement of Purpose**a. Section 1 Mission Statement**

- i. The Academy of Veterinary Technician Anesthetists (AVTA) exists to promote interest in the discipline of veterinary anesthesia. The Academy will provide a process by which veterinary technicians may become certified as Veterinary Technician Specialist in Anesthesia; VTS (Anesthesia). The Academy will provide the opportunity for members to enhance their knowledge and skills in veterinary anesthesia. The Veterinary Technician who becomes certified as a VTS (Anesthesia) demonstrates superior knowledge in the care and management of anesthesia cases. Certification as a VTS (Anesthesia) promotes patient safety, consumer protection, professionalism and excellence in anesthesia care. The Veterinary Anesthesia arena is constantly evolving, thus, the attainment of competence is a continual activity.

b. Section 2 Objectives

- i. Establish education and experience prerequisites leading to certification in the specialty of Veterinary Anesthesia.
- ii. Examine and certify veterinary technicians as specialists in Veterinary Anesthesia.

4. Article IV Membership**a. Section 1**

- i. VTS (Anesthesia): A veterinary technician of high ethical and moral character who has fulfilled the AVTA requirements for specialty certification.
- ii. Honorary Member:
 - 1. Honorary Member status may be conferred upon an individual who has made a substantial contribution to the development and progress of anesthesia. The individual will receive a certificate and the title of Honorary VTS (anesthesia). This title does not allow the individual to practice as a VTS (anesthesia). Nominations for Honorary Member status must be made in writing by at least two VTS (Anesthesia) members to the Board of Regents. Honorary membership shall require approval by at least 2/3 vote of the quorum present at the annual business meeting. Honorary Members shall have all rights and privileges of members except the right to vote, hold office or attend regular business meetings of the Academy.

5. Article V Organization and Administration**a. Section 1**

- i. The Board of Regents shall be the executive body of the Academy and shall consider first all business and policies pertaining to the affairs of the Academy.

- ii. The Board of Regents will consist of the Executive Secretary and the following elected officers: Past President, President, President-Elect, Treasurer and three members-at-large from the Academy.

6. Article VI Officers

a. Section 1

- i. The elected officers of the Academy shall be the President, President-Elect, Treasurer and three (3) Members-at-large.
- ii. The President-Elect shall automatically become President at the termination of his/her predecessor's term of office.
- iii. The President shall automatically become Past-President at the completion of the term of President.
- iv. Election of President-Elect, Treasurer and Members-at-large.
 - 1. Elected officers shall begin their terms of office immediately following completion of the business meeting in the year for which they have been elected, or upon election by e-mail ballot.
- v. An Executive Secretary will be appointed by the Regents.
 - 1. The term of the appointment will be determined by the Board of Regents.
 - 2. The appointed officer is not a voting member of the Regents.

7. Article VII Committees

a. Section 1

- i. The Academy shall have the following standing committees: Nomination/Election, Credentials, Examination, Recertification, Communications and Public Relations, Conference, Constitution and By-Laws, and Equipment Committees. Additional committees may be specified by the Board of Regents.

b. Section 2

- i. The Chair of each committee shall be appointed by the President.
- ii. The Chair of each committee will appoint all committee members.

8. Article VIII Amendments

a. Section 1

- i. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted to the Board for study 90 days before a scheduled meeting of AVTA or the distribution of a ballot to the membership.
- ii. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the entire membership with a recommendation by the Board of Regents at least 30 days prior to counting of a ballot or a voice vote of the eligible voting members.

b. Section 2

- i. An affirmative vote shall require a simple majority of those who respond.