



CHANGES FOR 2024 (updated 1/2/2024)

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AVDC® General Policies Regarding Changes in Training Program Requirements

1. Changes are either **Major** or **Minor**.
 - a. A **Major** change affects the **substance** of a training program or credentials requirement, for example reducing or increasing the number of cases required in a particular MRCL category, changing the number of required publications, etc.
 - b. **Minor** changes affect the **format** of a training program or credential's requirement, such as requiring that only AVDC®-approved abbreviations are used in AVDC® Case Log Diagnosis and Procedure fields in the online case log. For **Minor** changes, trainees and residents are **not** required to change AVDC® case log records that already exist, though they are encouraged to do so if the changes are made to facilitate review of case log records by the Training Support or Credentials Committees. Additional **Minor** changes can include different formatting of radiograph sets, submission documentation of publication requirement, etc.
2. **Major** changes are not retroactive – i.e., they do not apply to residents whose AVDC®-approved residency program registered start date is earlier than the date on which a change was implemented. However, a resident can elect to follow the changed requirements if s/he decides to do so, as some **Major** changes are to the advantage of both new and current residents. **Major changes within this document apply only to residents registered with AVDC® on January 1st, 2024, or later; residents registered before that date can elect to use any Major change if they would like to do so.**
3. **Minor** changes are to be instituted by *all residents* starting January 1 of the year of the change.
4. Changes/deadlines/items noted below **apply to Equine, Dual, and Small Animal diploma programs** unless specifically stated otherwise. **Items that apply only to the small animal program are in red type.** **Items that apply only to the equine program are in blue type and/or listed under the Equine Program changes section.** **Items that apply only to the dual diploma program are in green type.** Dual diploma residents will need to apply case log/MRCL changes to the respective portion of their case log (SA or EQ related).
5. The AVDC® takes seriously reporting, fee payment requirements, and maintenance of approved residency sites, such as response to Action Required notifications associated with Annual Report reviews, submission/approval of Radiograph Sets, payment of Annual Fees, and recertification of residency sites. The status of residents and/or residency sites not in compliance will be reviewed by the TSC and/or Residency Program Administrative

Committee (RPAC) chair(s); registration as a resident or approved residency site may be terminated for non-compliance with AVDC® requirements.

Changes in Training Support, Case Logging, and Annual Report Items

MAJOR Changes:

1. OM cases increased to 25.
 2. PE1 cases decreased to 14.
 3. PE3 Opeculectomy can now be logged as a PE3 procedure but is limited to 2 maximum (1 case per patient).
 4. OS1 cases decreased to 15.
 5. OS2 cases increased to 40. An increase was suggested to continue developing skills of flap design and tissue handling not utilized in OS1.
 6. OS3 cases increased to 10, and up to 5 can be cadaver cases.
 7. OS4 cases increased to 10, and up to 5 can be cadaver cases.
 8. EN1 now requires variety by tooth type and species (ie. Canine, incisor, upper 4th premolar, etc.) No more than 67% of a single type of tooth treated will be accepted.
 9. EN3 cases, allowing 2 out of 3 cases to be on cadavers. A mandibular or maxillary fracture that is splinted and endodontically treated can be included for variety.
 10. OR4: 1 cadaver and 1 live case are permitted. The residents can now count bilateral symmetrical malocclusions. Two residents would be allowed to log this case; one resident as primary on one side while another is primary on the other side.
- Effective January 1, 2024, the AVDC® no longer accepts applications for part-time residencies. If your residency site is currently in the process of starting an individual in a part-time program, please submit a communication by February 15, 2024, to support@avdc.org to be forwarded to the RPAC Chair for consideration. This communication should include the potential resident's name and proposed start date, which should be no later than July 15th, 2024. The application for program registration should also be submitted by February 15, 2024.
 - **Directly Supervised weeks have been increased from 48 to 65 weeks for Equine and Small Animal Programs.**

MINOR Changes:

- Up to 30 cadaver cases will be accepted in MRCL logs
- **For 2024** – Any resident planning to credential must submit their annual report by Jan 31st, and the supervisor form can be submitted by February 15th.
- Surgical endodontics abbreviation RCT/S replaces the previous abbreviation of AP/X.
- Crown extension abbreviation has been changed to CR/E

Resident Assist (RA) category has been reinstated. A resident can now be primary on a case while another resident assists them. A supervisor **MUST** be present and directly supervising for this to count. The resident is still required to obtain 50% of each category as primary on the case.

Supervisor form TSC 430SA – The form will no longer have the option of being confidential. The review must be shared with the resident. Supervisors are to assess the resident in core categories and give feedback if graded “marginal” or “needs improvement.”

Annual report forms (TSC 415SA, TSC 420 SA, TSC 425 SA) – The resident will need to complete a brief self-assessment in core categories to help with discussion and planning with the supervisor. The forms have been updated, and a chart at the end of the form has been added to allow self-assessment.

Changes in Credentials Package Items

MAJOR Changes:

Changes have been made to the publication requirement designed to keep residents tracking through their training program and meeting the publication requirement in a timely fashion. Changes to publication requirements apply to residents **beginning** their training program after January 1, 2024, and will include a series of progressive steps to meet the AVDC® publication requirement.

Publication Requirements

1. As part of documents submitted at the time of the annual report, a topic for a research publication must be included (as a separate form) with the first annual report (end of year 1) for review by the Credentials Committee.
2. A summary of the project to date is required to be included (as a separate form) with the annual report by the end of year 2
3. The credentials application will require either proof of submission or proof of publication of the first article with a hard deadline of October 15th in order to take the Phase I examination.
4. A provisional acceptance of a credentials package may be granted if proof of submission (not acceptance) of a manuscript is provided with a credentials package.
5. A submitted manuscript must be accepted for publication within three years of a credentials package submission to avoid having to re-credential. Diplomate status will not be awarded until the first article is accepted for publication by an approved journal. If submission to a non-approved journal is anticipated, pre-approval by the credentials committee is required. A statement of reasons for the credentials committee to accept a non-approved journal submission should be included in the approval request.

MINOR Changes:

- Credentialing residents planning to participate in the R&A must submit 2 questions at the time of credentials package submission.
- The SA and Equine Credentials committees will no longer review articles to approve a credentials package. Proof of acceptance is the only mechanism to meet the AVDC® publication requirement.
- Swapping out of minor case log issues/typing errors is limited to 10 days for correction following the release of the report.

Changes in Certifying Examination Items

MAJOR Changes – None

MINOR Changes

- The Equine Phase 2 examination fee will be \$3200
- The SA Phase 2 examination fee will be \$3500

- **Unprofessional Behavior**

The virtual proctoring software flags activities from the candidate that may be deemed suspicious. These activities are then reviewed by the psychometrician and the chairs of the exam committee. If the exam committee and the psychometrician, deems inappropriate behavior was observed on the flagged video, the candidate may be given a failing grade for the overall examination. The candidate may also be disqualified from taking future examinations.

Activities that may be flagged as suspicious include: consultation with another person (in-person, virtually or electronically), writing anything down on paper, speaking questions and distractors out loud, looking away from the computer screen for long periods of time, utilizing external supporting materials (books, journals, etc.) or electronic devices (smartphone, tablet, smart watch, etc.), and failing to complete an adequate room sweep at the beginning of each exam section. Please be aware that this list is not inclusive.

Additionally, evidence of behavior and conduct unbecoming of a diplomate including but not limited to excessive swearing and foul language, threats toward the exam committee members, the AVDC, or threats of self-harm observed on the virtual proctoring software will not be tolerated. The candidate may be given a failing grade for the overall examination and may be disqualified from taking future examinations.

Changes in Appeals Items

There are no MAJOR or MINOR changes to the Appeals Items.

Changes in Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Items

MAJOR Changes - None

MINOR Changes

Service on the Journal Management Committee counts toward MOC points in accordance with MOC guidelines for point accumulation in service to AVDC.

Changes in Items related to the Residency Program Administrative Committee (RPAC)

MAJOR Changes-None

MINOR Changes

Residency Site Training Requirements

- The 6-week maximum of unsupervised clinical weeks are removed from RPAC and residency training site requirements.
- RPAC forms have been updated to clarify supervised hours.
- If a Supervisor/Diplomate misrepresents supervised hours, they are placed on suspension and notified of suspension and RPAC provides oversight and tracking Residency activities for one year.

Changes in Equine Program ONLY

MAJOR Changes- None

MINOR Changes

- The equine credentials committee will follow the same timeline as the small animal credentials committee.

Changes to the ZWD Certificate and OMFS Fellowship Programs

MAJOR Changes

- Individuals may register in an AVDC® Fellowship Training Program in OMFS while also engaged in a full-time AVDC®/EVDC dentistry residency training program as long as a credentials application has been submitted to the AVDC®/EVDC credentials committee. If the candidate's credentials are not accepted or the 30 months of the

AVDC® residency training has not been completed by the time of the phase 1 exam, the program will be paused. The resident may not continue to log MRCL cases or log additional weeks of visitation. Cases and visitation to date are not lost, but no new OMFS requirements may be added or logged until the credentials are accepted and/or the 30 months of residency training have been completed. It is expected that this would apply to third-year residents in most cases. Up to 20% of all OMFS case procedures may be completed during the residency as long as they do not also count toward the AVDC® or EVDC credential requirements.

MINOR Changes

- A \$150 yearly membership fee applies to certificate holders of ZWD and Fellows of OMFS
- OMFS Fellow Candidates may count up to 5 cases mentored by a Boarded Diplomate such as an ACVS Diplomate who is not an AVDC® OMFS Founding Fellow or Fellow to count as a AVDC® OMFS trackable case
- OMFS Fellow Candidates may count up to 4 clinical rotation weeks on other OMFS-accepted specialty rotations toward the 32 weeks of Required Clinical Weeks.
- OMFS exit interview forms will be put into practice and are to be completed by supervisors and fellow candidates.