



## **CHANGES FOR 2025 (updated 01/03/2025)**

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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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, 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.

6. All general emails sent to Residents (as a whole) will be CC'ed to all Diplomates on file for clear communication regarding training information and Foundations Course, etc

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

MAJOR Changes: **Annual Reports for Residents Credentialing in 2025 are due Jan 15<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Supervisor Reports for Residents Credentialing in 2025 are due Jan 30<sup>th</sup>.**  
**The October Annual Report dates have been eliminated. All residents with registration dates after July 1st will have their first Annual report due August 15th of the following year.**

**Annual report forms have been updated. Please ensure that the most current document is being used for 2025 reports.**

MINOR Changes: Abbreviations added for Odontoma

**MMF** vs. MM approximation vs. muzzle

- Current
  - **FX/R/MMF**: fixation that brings together the upper and lower jaws
  - **FX/R/MZ**: maxillomandibular fixation using a prefabricated or custom-made muzzle; also used in horses to prevent eating (e.g., post sedation)
  - **FX/R/IAS**: Maxillomandibular fixation using intraoral splints (commonly resin that can be reinforced with wire)
  - Fixation would apply for non-rigid fixation
  - Adding MMF with buttons and suture, IE labial button technique: **FX/R/LBS** (labial buttons and suture)

**T/CCF/NV**

- Addition of **/V** (vital) or **/NV** (non-vital) to be included in diagnosis section of case logs
- **U** as abbreviation for unfilled resin application

Case Logging Updates:

Removed the requirement to list 'apical restorative' for EN3 surgical endo cases

Listed 'regum' product as bone augmentation and not a membrane for GTR, otherwise said acceptable membrane is per supervisor opinion.

## Changes in Credentials Package Items

MAJOR Changes: None

MINOR Changes:

- For the Feline Radiograph Set: feline radiographs sets may have up to 15 images submitted (previously limited to 12).
- Publications Guidelines were approved- Please use most current document located at <https://avdc.org/publication-requirements-2/>
- Additional resources provided for Training Programs: **Foundation Course was offered for Year 1 and 2 Residents and Course participation was voluntary.**
- Updated Manual for Residency Directors found at <https://avdc.org/resident-services/>
- Updated Resident Standards Manual found at <https://avdc.org/resident-services/>

## Changes in Certifying Examination Items

MAJOR Changes – None

MINOR Changes-None

**The Equine Phase 2 examination fee will remain at \$3200 for 2025.**

**The SA Phase 2 examination fee will remain at \$3500 for 2025.**

- **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 Item**

MAJOR Changes - None

MINOR Changes-

- The Appeals Form has been updated and can be found under Resident Forms and also Under Preparing for the AVDC Examination.
- Appeals Fee for Credentials or an Exam Adverse Decision increased to \$500.00
- All other Appeals Fee set at \$250.00

## **Changes in Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Items**

MAJOR Changes - None

MINOR Changes-None

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

MAJOR Changes-None

MINOR Changes-

Diplomates will have 36 months of experience as a Board-Certified Veterinary Dentist™ to become eligible to apply for a Residency Director. Information included here as part of Residency Program Administration.

## **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.
- Cadaver form TSC 701EQ has been updated so that cadaver cases can be performed before and after credentials packet has been submitted.

## **Changes in Combined Track Diploma (EQ/SA) Program or Consecutive Tract Program ONLY** **Definition of the Two Different Programs**

The American Veterinary Dental College has made it possible to obtain board certification in both small animal and equine dentistry. This can be accomplished through 1 of 2 Programs. Both are programs require full time residency commitment no part time residencies are allowed.

**Program 1** : Combined residency in small animal and equine dentistry. This requires either a mentor that has dual certification in small animal and equine dentistry OR 2 mentors one that is small animal AVDC board certified and one that is equine AVDC board certified. The program runs simultaneously with the resident logging cases in both equine and small animal during the residency experience. The resident does not submit a credentials package until all required procedures and requirements are completed for both small animal and equine.

**Program 2** : Consecutive residency program. This is designed for a person that has completed a full residency in either equine or small animal dentistry and has successfully obtained board certification. This person can then seek to enroll in the desired residency either small animal or equine depending on which program they have already completed. This is a modified program with a minimum time to completion of 2 years. This program requires a mentor with board certification in the AVDC specialty in which they intend to obtain OR a mentor with both small animal and equine board certification status.

The programs follow a list of requirements that are explained in the DUAL DIPLOMA DOCUMENT

MAJOR Changes- None

MINOR Changes-Dual Track Documents were updated to match Equine and Small Animal Programs in language.

**Program 1:** Combined Residency Program: requirements are below. Please note that this program is different than the Consecutive Tract program. In this program the person is working to fulfill a credentials package in both Small Animal and Equine at the same time. They are required to submit their equine and small animal credentials packages at the same time.

**Certifying Examination Requirements for Combined Residency:**

- AVDC certifying examinations for both the SA and Equine tracts will need to be taken in separate years.

Required Categories	COMBINED Residency
Mentor	<p><b>One mentor (double boarded Diplomate)</b> AVDC NSS/SA and AVDC-Equine Diplomate</p> <p>OR</p> <p><b>Two mentors</b> 1 AVDC SA/NSS Diplomate 1 AVDC-Equine Diplomate</p>
Full-time Residency	<p><b>Total direct supervision weeks:</b> 104weeks -35wks AVDC Eq mentor -35wks SA/NSS mentor -34weeks any AVDC/EVDC/NSS/SA/Eq Dip</p> <p><b>Total clinical weeks:</b> 156 weeks (additional 26 weeks unsupervised work) -13 wks Equine -13 wks SA</p> <p>4 yr minimum; 7 yr maximum</p>
Internship	<p>1 year small animal and 1 year equine internship</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Minimum 3 year mixed animal practice experience or similar</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Equivalent experience</p>

Specialty training hours	40 hours Radiology 24 hours SA Anesthesia 24 hours LA Anesthesia 24 hours SA Surgery 24 hours LA Surgery
Dental Charts (part of Residency Site Applications)	Electronic form of practice's feline, canine and equine dental chart
Equipment List (part of Residency Site Application)	Complete Credentials Equipment List that meets the guidelines for both Equine and NSS Tracks
Publications	Two First Publications
Radiology Set (all need to be approved in first year of residency)	Full mouth equine, canine and feline radiograph set submitted electronically
Case Log (see <b>Table 2</b> )	392 MRCL



**Program 2: Consecutive Programs**

- For those NSS, SA or EQ diplomates whose workload and professional interest makes a dual diploma (SA and EQ) advantageous, below are the requirements to credential for the track of interest. Once the initial (NSS, SA or EQ) diploma has been earned, the diplomate works to meet the following pre-set standards for case log requirements and other activities relevant to the ‘additional’ species track via an Equine or Small Animal *approved residency program* for the track of interest at an *approved residency site*. The respective SA or EQ Credentials Committee will review the credentials package, and if approved, the diplomate would be permitted to take the AVDC certifying examination in the ‘additional track’. If s/he passes the examination, s/he will be board-certified in the additional track. Part-time residencies are not allowed in the consecutive diploma program. This program is different than the Combined tract program.
- **Requirements for Additional SA or Equine Credentials Submission:**
- **\*\*Only fully recognized AVDC Diplomates in either SA or Equine may apply.\*\***

• <b>Required Categories</b>	<b>Consecutive Equine AVDC</b>	<b>Consecutive SA AVDC</b>
Mentor	AVDC EQ Diplomate	AVDC SA or NSS Diplomate
Clinical time requirements	<b>52 direct supervision weeks:</b> -46 wks AVDC EQ mentor -6 wks any AVDC/EVDC EQ Dip  <b>78 weeks total clinical weeks (EQ)</b>  Time to meet requirement: 2 yr minimum; 6 yr maximum	<b>52direct supervision weeks:</b> -46 wks AVDC SA/NSS mentor -6 wks any AVDC/EVDC NSS/SA Dip  <b>78 weeks total clinical weeks (SA)</b>  Time to meet requirement: 2 yr minimum; 6 yr maximum
Specialty training hours	40 hours EQ (LA) Anesthesia	40 hours SA Anesthesia
Dental charts (part of Residency Site Application)	Electronic form of practice’s equine dental chart	Electronic form of practice’s feline and canine dental chart
Equipment List (part of Residency Site Application)	Complete Equine Credentials Equipment List	Complete SA Credentials Equipment List

Publication (must be a new publication not used for previous credentials package)	1 First Publication	1 First Publication
Radiology Set (approved in first year of residency)	Full mouth equine radiograph set submitted electronically	Full mouth canine and feline radiograph sets submitted electronically
Case Log (see Table 1)	176 MRCL	183 MRCL

## **Changes to the ZWD Certificate and OMFS Fellowship Programs**

### MAJOR Changes

- OMFS training will require participation in at least 2 multi-day AO (Craniofacial) (or equivalent) courses that include practical sessions that have been taken within three years of the start of the Fellowship Training, and attend the equivalent of 2 full days of advanced courses in OMF disorders or surgery (i.e., pathology or advanced AO courses). Training programs are to include exposure to bone grafting and skin flap development. Exposure to microvascular surgery is encouraged. This requisite supplementary training must occur in addition to the 32 clinical training weeks specified for surgical OMFS case experience.

### MINOR Changes-

For OMFS logging: There can be a net of 4 bone grafting procedures under Category 4,5, and 6.