

Update on VMB Licensing Delays

The CVMA has received numerous questions regarding delays in licensing and permit processing delays by the [California Veterinary Medical Board \(VMB\)](#). We have reached out to the VMB to clarify their situation and to supply some helpful tips on expediting requests.

The VMB is currently backlogged due to vacancies in staff positions. They are working to hire new staff in order to close the backlog. In the meantime, applicants will experience prolonged [processing times](#), which are posted on their website. Delays are occurring with initial veterinarian license applications, initial registered veterinary technician (RVT) permit applications, premises permit applications, and veterinary assistant controlled substance permit applications.

Veterinarians and RVTs renewing their licenses or permits on [BreEZe](#), the VMB online application system, may also experience delays. Note these helpful tips to alleviate renewal problems.

License Renewals

The VMB mails license renewals to your address of record 90 days prior to expiration. The renewal notice will say if [you need to be fingerprinted](#). **This is the only notice that you will receive that indicates that you have a fingerprint requirement. If you receive a notice that indicates that you have a fingerprint requirement, you should get fingerprinted and process your renewal online as soon as possible.**

To obtain and submit electronic fingerprints, you must do the following:

- 1) Download and complete the [VMB Request for Livescan Fingerprints](#) form. (If you are renewing from out-of-state, [special conditions](#) may apply).
- 2) Go to an [authorized Livescan provider](#) with the completed form.
- 3) Ensure that the Livescan technician enters your name in the system exactly as it is on file with the VMB (including any hyphens).
- 4) Ensure that the Livescan technician enters your social security number in the system.
- 5) Once the form is complete, scan and email it to VMB@dca.ca.gov with the subject line of "Livescan, [license type] [license #]" e.g., "Livescan, Veterinarian License #123456."

Livescan will transmit your fingerprints electronically. If this is successful, your license should renew in BreEZe within a few business days.

If the VMB does not have your electronic fingerprints, your renewal application will show "pending" in your "Quick Start Menu." **Your license will not be renewed until you have completed the electronic fingerprint requirements in steps 1-5 above.**

If you completed your license renewal on BreEZe, including your Livescan fingerprinting and payment, but are still seeing a "pending" status, your expired veterinary license will remain valid under the

California Business and Professions Code Section 121. **You must retain your Livescan form as proof of compliance.**

If you experience issues with renewing a license or permit online contact the VMB at 916-515-5220.