

CONTINUATION OF CERTIFICATION (recommended terminology by ABVS, 2020)
(Previously known as Maintenance of Certification)

- 1) Maintenance of certification defined—Board certification demonstrates a veterinarian’s expertise in a particular specialty of veterinary medicine at the time awarded. Continuation of certification (COC) requires Diplomates to focus on continuous development to assure that the level of their knowledge and skillset meets contemporaneous expectations for certification in that specialty.
- 2) Continuation of Certification will be required of all individuals who have been certified in 1994 and after. Members of the College who were certified prior to 1994 are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in the continuation of certification program.
- 3) For continuation of certification, the initial 10 year period begins January 1 the year immediately following certification, and ends in 10 years on December 31 (for example January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2020). Subsequent continuation of certification periods begin immediately and extend 10 years, January 1 through December 31.
- 4) To comply with Continuation of Certification, a member is required to amass 7 points during his or her 10 year COC cycle. Points can be accrued by:
 - a) Attendance at ACVD-approved continuing education meetings: 1 point per meeting. A minimum of 4 points out of 10 must be obtained by attending ACVD approved continuing education meetings. Approved meetings include:
 - i) North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum
 - ii) European Veterinary Dermatology Congress
 - iii) World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology
 - iv) Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Dermatology Chapter
 - v) Asian Society of Veterinary Dermatology
 - vi) Latin American Society of Veterinary Dermatology
 - b) As an alternative to a dermatology meeting, attendance of 2 meetings (within the 10 year COC period) from the following:
 - i) Those held by an ABVS (or international equivalent) recognized specialty organization (for example American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine meeting)
 - ii) Major national general veterinary meetings (or international equivalent)
 - iii) Human dermatology meeting
 - c) Publish a paper or chapter in a professional scientific journal or textbook: 1 point per publication with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle.
 - d) Mentor/co-mentor a resident in an ACVD-approved residency program: 1 point per ACVD fully credentialed resident with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle.
 - e) Serve a full term, as defined by committee guidelines, on an ACVD Standing Committee or an ACVD ad hoc committee: 1 point per committee position with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle.
 - f) Provide a minimum of 4 hours of dermatology lecture for a RACE approved continuing education meeting: 1 point per 4 hours with maximum of 2 points per

10 year COC cycle.

g) Submit 5 examination questions deemed acceptable by the Examination Committee: 1 point per 5 questions with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle using the approved question templates available on the acvd.org website,

h) Serve a minimum of one year as a scientific journal editorial board member: 1 point per year of service with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle.

i) Serve as a reviewer for manuscripts submitted to peer review journals: 1 point per five papers with a maximum of 2 points per 10 year period.

j) Provide a minimum of 4 hours of lecture to graduate students or veterinary students: 1 point per 4 hours with maximum of 2 points per 10 year COC cycle

k) Serve a full term, as defined by committee guidelines, on the resident education forum committee: 1 point per committee position per 10 year COC cycle.

5) If a Diplomate's active status is suspended or terminated, the continuation of certification period begins January 1 the year of reinstatement, and ends in 10 years on December 31 (for example January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2020). Subsequent continuation of certification periods begin immediately and extend 10 years, January 1 through December 31. Continuation of certification is required of all reinstated members, regardless of the year they achieved Diplomate status.

6) There is no grace period for completing continuation of certification; the requirements must be met by the end of the individual's stated 10 year period. If an individual does not meet their continuation of certification requirements, the individual's membership will be terminated on December 31 the tenth year of their continuation of certification term. Diplomates whose membership is terminated because they do not fulfill their continuation of certification requirements are considered inactive members, lose their membership in the College, and are no longer able to use the terminology as it pertains to ACVD Terminology Guidelines nor be publicly recognized as a board-certified dermatologist.

7) It is the responsibility of College members to maintain a verifiable record documenting successful completion of predefined options for COC. This record must be submitted to the Executive Secretary at the time of dues in order to be awarded points for completed COC options during the previous year.

8) Active members will be given a warning by the Executive Secretary of the ACVD if or when it appears that they are in jeopardy of not completing their continuation of certification requirements.

9) The Board of Directors is empowered to establish a Continuation of Certification Committee to oversee the continuation of certification process.