



TEXAS AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL PROGRAM FOR VETERINARIANS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Texas Authorized Personnel Program (TAPP) was established in 2013. Since that time, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has certified over 2,300 Texas veterinarians.

Authorization in TAPP is required for any veterinarian in Texas who performs regulatory work on equine, domestic and exotic livestock, and domestic and exotic fowl. This includes issuing certificates of veterinary inspection. TAPP has an abundance of opportunities to develop and enhance veterinarians in their field.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for TAPP status with the TAHC, veterinarians must have a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) or equivalent degree from an accredited college of veterinary medicine, an active Texas veterinary license with the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME), and an active Category II Texas Accreditation with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

To become authorized, eligible veterinarians must complete the following steps:

- **Step 1:** Submit the [TAPP application](#) by email to authorized_personnel@tahc.texas.gov.
- **Step 2:** Independently review the four required modules on the TAHC website, <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/vets/authorized/#training>.
- **Step 3:** The Authorized Personnel Department will contact the applicant to coordinate a phone orientation conducted by a TAHC Region Director.

For additional information or questions, contact the TAHC Authorized Personnel Department at authorized_personnel@tahc.texas.gov or at 512-719-0761.

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Veterinarians conducting work in bovine trichomoniasis, chronic wasting disease (CWD) antemortem collection, or cervid tuberculosis must obtain additional certifications.

1. **Bovine Trichomoniasis (trich):** Only veterinarians certified and approved by the TAHC may perform trich program procedures, including but not limited to, collection of samples for official trich tests within the State of Texas, submission of samples to official laboratories, identification of tested bulls and virgin bulls, management of trich infected bull herds, movement of infected bulls, and reporting of test results. To be certified, a veterinarian must complete a one hour training through the TAHC. Veterinarians certified in the bovine trichomoniasis program must be re-certified every five years.
2. **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Antemortem Testing:** Only veterinarians certified and approved by the TAHC may perform the collection, preservation, laboratory submission, and proper record keeping of samples for antemortem (live animal) CWD testing. Veterinarians certified by the TAHC must be re-certified every three years.
3. **Tuberculosis (TB) in Cervidae:** Only veterinarians certified and approved by the USDA or TAHC may perform the Single Cervical Test for TB on cervids and the Cervid Dual-Path Platform (DPP) Test for TB on elk, red deer, white-tailed deer, fallow deer, and reindeer.

Please note, veterinarians who previously had Brucellosis Approved Personnel Status with the TAHC must fill out an application to transfer status from the previous program to TAPP. Upon receipt of the original, signed application, the TAHC will automatically change the veterinarian's status from Brucellosis Approved Personnel to Texas Authorized Personnel.

PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

Veterinarians that perform disease or eradication services without TAPP authorization can face an administrative penalty up to \$5,000 each day, among other actions, that a violation continues or occurs.

RESOURCES

For additional information or questions about the TAPP program, please visit <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/vets/authorized/>.