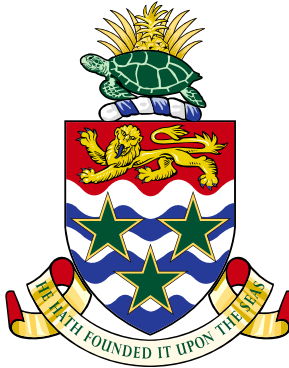


CAYMAN ISLANDS



VETERINARY ACT

(2025 Revision)

Supplement No. 6 published with Legislation Gazette No. 14 of 13th February, 2025.

PUBLISHING DETAILS

Revised under the authority of the *Law Revision Act (2020 Revision)*.

Law 5 of 1978 consolidated with the Citation of Acts of Parliament Act, 2020 [Act 56 of 2020], the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009 (UKSI 2009 No. 1379) and the Cayman Islands Constitution (Amendment) Order 2020 (UKSI 2020 No. 1283).

Originally Enacted —

Law 5 of 1978-6th April, 1978

Act 56 of 2020-7th December, 2020.

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U.K. Order 2009-10th June, 2009

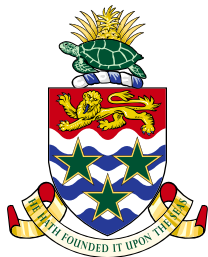
U.K. Order 2020-11th November, 2020.

Consolidated and revised this 31st day of December, 2024.

Note (not forming part of this Act): This revision replaces the 1997 Revision which should now be discarded.



CAYMAN ISLANDS



VETERINARY ACT
(2025 Revision)

Arrangement of Sections

Section	Page
1. Short title	5
2. Definitions.....	5
3. Establishment of Board.....	6
4. Functions of the Board.....	6
5. Register	6
6. Application for registration	6
7. Registration	6
8. Amendment of register.....	7
9. Censure, suspension and striking off	7
10. Appeals	8
11. Penalties.....	8
12. Regulations	10
SCHEDULE	11
CONSTITUTION AND PROCEDURE OF BOARD	11
Constitution of Board.....	11
Tenure of office	11
Acting appointments.....	11
Resignations	11
Revocation of appointments	11
Filling of vacancies	11
Gazetting of membership	12
Funds of Board	12
Accounts and audit.....	12
Annual reports and estimates	12



Procedure and meetings	12
Protection of members	13
Remuneration of members	13
ENDNOTES	15
Table of Legislation history:	15



CAYMAN ISLANDS



VETERINARY ACT

(2025 Revision)

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Veterinary Act (2025 Revision)*.

Definitions

2. In this Act —

“**animal health assistant**” means a person registered as such;

“**Board**” means the Veterinary Board established by section 3;

“**Registrar**” means the Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officer employed by Government, or such other person as the Cabinet may, by notice in the Gazette, appoint;

“**register**” and its cognates has reference to the register of veterinary practitioners;

“**veterinary surgeon**” means a person registered as such; and

“**veterinary surgery**” means the art and science of veterinary surgery and medicine including —

- (a) the diagnosis of diseases in, and injuries to, animals, including tests performed on animals for diagnostic purposes;
- (b) the giving of advice based upon such diagnosis; and
- (c) the surgical or medical treatment of animals.

Establishment of Board

3. (1) There is established a body called the Veterinary Board.
- (2) The Schedule prescribes the constitution and procedure of the Board.

Functions of the Board

4. The functions of the Board are —
- (a) to register veterinary surgeons and animal health assistants;
 - (b) to regulate the training of animal health assistants;
 - (c) to appoint examiners to conduct such examinations in respect of persons applying for registration as veterinary surgeons and animal health assistants as may, from time to time, be required; and
 - (d) to ensure the maintenance of acceptable standards of professional conduct by registered persons.

Register

5. (1) The Registrar shall keep a register of veterinary practitioners upon which shall be entered the name and other particulars as may be prescribed of every person registered.
- (2) The register shall be kept at the office of the Registrar and shall be open to inspection by the public at all reasonable times and a copy of the register shall be gazetted once a year.

Application for registration

6. Applications for registration as a veterinary practitioner shall be made to the Board in the prescribed form and shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee and by such documents as may be prescribed.

Registration

7. (1) If the Board is satisfied in relation to any application for registration that —
- (a) the provisions of section 6 have been complied with;
 - (b) the applicant possesses the prescribed qualifications; and
 - (c) the applicant is of good character and is a fit and proper person to practice veterinary surgery,
- the Board shall authorise the Registrar to register the applicant in that applicant's proper category, and issue to that applicant a prescribed certificate.
- (2) Every registered veterinary practitioner is entitled to practise for gain in accordance with the terms of that practitioner's certificate.



Amendment of register

- 8.** (1) It is the duty of the Registrar —
- (a) to remove from or restore to the register, any entry which the Board, acting under subsection (2), orders the Registrar to remove or restore; and
 - (b) to correct, in accordance with the Board's directions, any entry in the register which the Board directs the Registrar in writing to correct as being in the opinion of the Board an entry which requires correction.
- (2) If the Registrar sends by post to any registered person a registered letter addressed to that person at the address entered in the register, enquiring whether that person has ceased to practise that person's profession and receives no reply to that letter within three months from the date of posting it, the Registrar shall remove that person's name from the register.

Censure, suspension and striking off

- 9.** (1) Whoever, is found upon enquiry by the Board in the prescribed manner to —
- (a) be suffering from any physical or mental condition, or from any habit, which renders that person unfit to practise as a veterinary surgeon or, as the case may be, to perform satisfactorily that person's functions as an animal assistant;
 - (b) have procured that person's registration as a result of any misleading, false or fraudulent representations;
 - (c) have been convicted of a serious criminal offence; or
 - (d) have committed the offence of dishonesty, negligence or incompetence in the performance of that person's functions as a veterinary practitioner,
- the Board may if it thinks fit —
- (i) in the case of the matters specified in paragraph (c) or (d), censure that person; or
 - (ii) in the case of the matters specified in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d), suspend that person's registration for a period not exceeding two years, or direct the Registrar in writing to remove the name of such person from the register.
- (2) The Board may, at any time, if it thinks just, direct the Registrar to restore to the register any name removed therefrom under subsection (1).
- (3) The Board shall, as soon as practicable after —
- (a) the registration of any person has been suspended;
 - (b) the name of any person has been removed from the register; or
 - (c) the name of any person which was so removed is restored to the register,
- cause a notice thereof to be gazetted.

- (4) Where the name of a living person has been removed from the register that person shall surrender that person's certificate to the Registrar.

Appeals

10. (1) Whoever is aggrieved —

- (a) by the refusal of the Board to register that person; or
- (b) by the decision of the Board to censure that person, to suspend that person's registration or to cause that person's name to be removed from the register,

may appeal to the Cabinet against such refusal or such decision in such manner and within such period as may be prescribed.

(2) The Cabinet may —

- (a) at the hearing of an appeal against refusal of registration, dismiss the appeal, or allow the appeal and direct the Board to cause the registration to be effected; or
- (b) at the hearing of an appeal other than an appeal against refusal of registration —

- (i) dismiss the appeal and confirm the decision of the Board;
- (ii) allow the appeal and set aside the decision of the Board;
- (iii) allow the appeal and direct that the disciplinary proceedings in respect of which the decision of the Board was made be reconsidered by the Board; or
- (iv) set aside the punishment inflicted by the Board and impose in substitution therefor a less severe punishment.

- (3) Upon allowing any appeal from any decision of the Board under section 9(1), the Cabinet shall cause notice of the Cabinet's decision to be gazetted and shall, in the event of the appellant's certificate of registration having been returned under section 9(4), direct that such certificate be restored to that appellant.

Penalties

11. (1) Whoever —

- (a) procures or attempts to procure registration for themselves or for any other person by knowingly —
 - (i) making, or causing to be made, any misleading, false or fraudulent representation or declaration, either orally, in writing or otherwise; or
 - (ii) producing, or causing to be produced, any false or fraudulent document or certificate;
- (b) wilfully makes, or causes to be made, any falsification in any matter relating to the register;



- (c) forges, uses, lends to or allows to be used by any other person any certificate issued under this Act; or
 - (d) makes, or has in that person's possession, any document so closely resembling such certificate as to be calculated to deceive,
- commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.
- (2) Whoever, not being registered as a veterinary practitioner —
- (a) takes or uses any title, addition or description implying or calculated to lead persons to believe that that person is so registered;
 - (b) assumes or uses any affix indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of veterinary surgery; or
 - (c) advertises or holds themselves out as a person authorised or qualified to practice veterinary surgery,
- commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars and to imprisonment for twelve months.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), whoever, during a period when that person's registration is suspended, or who, not being registered —
- (a) practices veterinary surgery in any of its branches;
 - (b) for reward, diagnoses or offers to diagnose or attempts to diagnose any animal disease, ailment, deformity, defect or injury, or examines or advises upon any physical condition of any animal;
 - (c) prescribes or administers any drug, serum or any other substance or remedy, applies any apparatus, or performs any operation or manipulation for the cure, treatment or prevention of any animal disease, ailment, deformity, defect or injury; or
 - (d) acts as the assistant or associate of any person who performs any of the acts specified in this subsection,
- commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars and to imprisonment for a term of twelve months.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply to —
- (a) any person registered under this or any other enactment who performs or provides any service which that person is authorised or entitled to perform thereunder;
 - (b) any student of veterinary surgery performing the services approved by that student's faculty or school as part of that student's course of instruction or part of any examination in relation thereto;
 - (c) any services approved by the Board to be performed by any person in the course of that person's training;

- (d) any person performing functions which that person is employed by the Government to perform;
- (e) any person giving necessary veterinary aid in cases of urgent need without reward;
- (f) the domestic administration of home remedies; or
- (g) such other circumstances as may be prescribed.

Regulations

12. (1) The Cabinet may make regulations —

- (a) prescribing the professional qualifications and the requirements which shall be a prerequisite for registration;
 - (b) with respect to the conduct of examinations as specified under paragraph (c) of section 4;
 - (c) prescribing the form of, and particulars to be included in the register, the manner in which additional qualifications obtained in veterinary surgery or related subjects by a registered person may be added to those particulars entered in the register in relation to that person, and the procedure to be followed to ensure that the particulars in the register are kept up to date;
 - (d) prescribing the forms for application for registration and certificates of registration;
 - (e) prescribing fees for registration;
 - (f) prescribing the manner in which enquiries or disciplinary proceedings may be instituted before the Board, the procedure to be followed in the conduct of such enquiries or proceedings and matters incidental to or consequential on such proceeding;
 - (g) prescribing the manner of appealing to the Cabinet and as to the proceedings in any such appeal and matters incidental to or consequential on such proceedings;
 - (h) limiting the functions of animal health assistants and the conditions under which those functions may be performed and any other matters relating thereto; and
 - (i) prescribing any other matter or thing required by this Act to be prescribed.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) may contain different provisions for veterinary surgeons and for animal health assistants.



SCHEDULE

(Section 3)

CONSTITUTION AND PROCEDURE OF BOARD

Constitution of Board

1. The Board shall consist of-
 - (a) the Registrar (as chairperson); and
 - (b) four other persons appointed by the Cabinet.

Tenure of office

2. The appointment of a member of the Board shall, subject to this Schedule, be for a period not exceeding three years, and such member shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Acting appointments

3. If the chairperson or any other member of the Board is absent or unable to act, the Cabinet may appoint any person to act in the chairperson's or Board member's place.

Resignations

4.
 - (1) A member of the Board, other than the chairperson, may at any time resign that Board member's office by instrument in writing addressed to the Cabinet.
 - (2) Every such resignation shall take effect from the receipt by the Cabinet of the instrument of resignation.

Revocation of appointments

5. The Cabinet may, at any time, revoke any appointment made by the Cabinet under this Schedule.

Filling of vacancies

6. If any vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board such vacancy shall be filled by the appointment by the Cabinet of another member who shall, subject to this Schedule, hold office for the remainder of the period for which the previous member was appointed.

Gazetting of membership

7. The names of all members of the Board as first constituted and every change in the membership shall be gazetted.

Funds of Board

8. The funds of the Board shall consist of such moneys as may, from time to time, be placed at its disposition by the Cayman Islands Parliament.

Accounts and audit

9. The Board shall keep proper accounts of its receipts, payments, assets and liabilities and such accounts shall be audited annually by the Government Auditor.

Annual reports and estimates

10. (1) The Board shall, in each year, prepare and submit to the Financial Secretary a report of its proceedings during the twelve months ending on the thirty-first day of March in that year, including a statement of its accounts audited in accordance with paragraph 9.
- (2) The Board shall, on or before the thirty-first day of October in each year, submit to the Financial Secretary for approval its estimates of revenue and expenditure in respect of the period commencing on the first day of April next following and ending on the thirty-first day of March of the subsequent year.

Procedure and meetings

11. (1) The Board shall meet at such times as may be expedient for the transaction of its business, and such meetings shall be held in such places, on such days and at such times as the Board may determine.
- (2) The chairperson may, at any time, call a special meeting of the Board and shall call a special meeting within fourteen days of the receipt of a written requisition for that purpose addressed to the chairperson by any two members of the Board.
- (3) The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Board at which the chairperson is present, and, in the case of the chairperson's absence from the meeting, the members present and constituting a quorum shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.
- (4) The quorum of the Board is three.
- (5) Decisions of the Board shall be by a majority of votes and the chairperson or other member presiding at a meeting shall have a casting but not an original vote.
- (6) Minutes in the proper form of each meeting of the Board shall be kept.



- (7) The validity of the proceedings of the Board shall not be affected by any vacancy amongst the members thereof or by any defect in the appointment of any member thereof.

Protection of members

12. (1) No member of the Board shall be personally liable for any act of the Board done or omitted to be done in good faith in the course of the operations of the Board.
- (2) Where any member of the Board is exempt from liability by reason only of subparagraph (1), the Board shall be liable to the extent that it would be if the member were a servant or agent of the Board.

Remuneration of members

13. There shall be paid, from the funds of the Board to the chairperson and other members of the Board, such remuneration whether by way of honorarium, salary or fees, and such allowances, as the Cabinet may determine.

Publication in consolidated and revised form authorised by the Cabinet this 21st day of January, 2025.

Kim Bullings
Clerk of the Cabinet

ENDNOTES

Table of Legislation history:

SL#	Act/Law #	Legislation	Commencement	Gazette
Proc 5/2020		Proclamation 5 of 2020 - Proclaiming the commencement of Constitution (Amendment) Order UKSI 1283/2020	30-Nov-2020	GE97/2020/s3
UK 1283/2020		Cayman Islands Constitution (Amendment) Order 2020	3-Dec-2020	GE99/2020/p1
	56/2020	Citation of Acts of Parliament Act, 2020	3-Dec-2020	LG89/2020/s1
	35/2020	Civil Partnership Law, 2020	4-Sep-2020	LG64/2020/s1
Proc 4/2009		Proclamation 4 of 2009 - Proclaiming the commencement of Constitution Order UKSI 1379/2009	23-Oct-2009	GE89/2009/p7
UK 1379/2009		Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009	6-Nov-2009	G14/2009/s1
		Veterinary Law (1997 Revision)	17-Feb-1997	G4/1997/s3
	5/1978	Veterinary Law, 1978	24-Apr-1978	G9/1978/s4

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