



This video describes how veterinarians licensed in the state of Iowa can initially obtain, and then maintain, a USDA category II accreditation status and was recorded in November 2020.

Overview

- Requirements to become a category II veterinarian
- Responsibilities of a category II veterinarian
- First time accreditation
- Renewing accreditation
- Introduction to state animal health officials
- Introduction to USDA laboratories in Iowa



During this video, you will get an overview of the basic requirements you must have to obtain category II accreditation status in Iowa and a few of the key responsibilities. The video will explain two pathways on how to become a category II accredited veterinarian. One if you have never before been category II accredited in any state. And a second if you are category II accredited in another state but not Iowa.

Then the video will explain how to renew your accreditation status every three years.

Lastly the video will wrap up with a brief introduction to some of the key state animal health officials and an overview of where the USDA laboratories are located in Iowa.

Requirements

- Must be a licensed veterinarian in Iowa
- Must renew every 3 years
- Must apply in each state duties are performed
- Each state has a NVAP Coordinator to help
 - <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap>



A veterinarian must be licensed by the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine, and in good standing to obtain and maintain a category II accreditation status in Iowa.

While the veterinary accreditation program is administered by USDA at the national level, authorization to conduct accredited activities is still state-specific. This means a veterinarian must hold a category II status in every state they wish to perform the official duties of a category II veterinarian. For example, if a veterinarian is category II accredited in Illinois but not Iowa, and needs to perform the duties of a category II veterinarian in both states, they must be authorized to conduct accredited activities in **BOTH** states.

Once accredited, the status must be renewed every three years.

This video explains the process of obtaining and maintaining a category II accreditation status for Iowa only. This process can vary slightly from state-to-state. To determine the process in another state, contact that state's National Veterinary Accreditation Program Coordinator. A list of NVAP coordinators in each state can be found on the USDA APHIS website listed.

Duties of a Category II Veterinarian

- Outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations (9 CFR 161.1(g))
- Apply official USDA-recognized identification
- Domestic and international health certificates for livestock and poultry
- Vaccinate and certify livestock and poultry for USDA program diseases
- Recognize and report signs of foreign animal diseases
- Work with clients to develop biosecurity protocols



The Code of Federal Regulations (or 9 CFR 161.1(g)) outlines which duties can be performed by a category II veterinarian. Here are a few of the key duties a category II veterinarian may be asked to perform in Iowa. This is not a comprehensive list, but all the duties and responsibilities will be covered in more detail the first time you meet with your District Veterinarian or Veterinary Medical Officer.

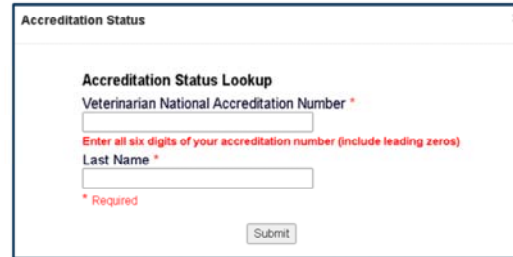
To officially mark livestock with USDA-recognized identification, like ear tags, RFID tags and tattoos, and complete and sign certificates to permit the domestic and international movement of animals, you must hold a USDA category II status in the state of Iowa. For example, if your client wants to move animals from Iowa to another state, or send animals to a show during fair season, you must hold a category II status to inspect the animals and sign the paperwork.

In Iowa, you must also hold a category II status if you assist your clients when participating in a USDA program disease, such as performing a caudal fold test as part of the tuberculosis eradication program, vaccinating heifers against brucellosis, and sending samples to a USDA laboratory for regulatory purposes.

Additionally, all category II veterinarians in Iowa must be able to recognize and report the signs and lesions of exotic animal diseases, such as African swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease, during both physical exams and necropsies. Category II veterinarians must also be able to develop biosecurity protocols with their clients to help control the spread of both endemic and foreign animal diseases.

Check Accreditation Status

- USDA APHIS website
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_areavet
- Enter both accreditation number and last name



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Accreditation Status" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form is titled "Accreditation Status Lookup" and contains two input fields. The first field is labeled "Veterinarian National Accreditation Number *" and has a red instruction below it: "Enter all six digits of your accreditation number (include leading zeros)". The second field is labeled "Last Name *". Below the fields is a red asterisk and the word "Required". A "Submit" button is located at the bottom right of the form.



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You can check your current accreditation status anytime on the USDA APHIS website. The URL is listed on the screen. If you are becoming accredited for the first time, you will not be in the system. But if you are accredited in any state, you can check your current status, as well as the expiration date.

If you are not listed as a category II veterinarian in Iowa, you will need to submit an application to the state NVAP coordinator to start the accreditation process.

Initial Accreditation

- Initial Accreditation Training (IAT)
 - Iowa State University Veterinary Students (second year)
 - Non-students (web-based)
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_ia
- NVAP Core Orientation
 - Iowa State University Veterinary Students (third year)
 - Non-students (in-person)
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_orientat
[ion](#)



National requirements mandate applicants must complete the Initial Accreditation Training and **THEN** attend the National Accreditation Program Core Orientation. **BOTH** of these requirements must be completed before you can apply for accreditation in any state.

The Initial Accreditation Training is web-based. It includes an Introduction followed by three Veterinary Accreditation Lessons, four Emerging and Exotic Diseases of Animals Lessons, and seven Transboundary Disease Incursions. Each ending with a multiple choice quiz, requiring a score of 80% to move past each lesson and ultimately earn a Certificate of Completion. This Certificate of Completion is **REQUIRED** for admission to the NVAP Core Orientation.

Veterinary students at Iowa State University complete the Initial Accreditation Training during part of their second year curriculum and go through the National Veterinary Accreditation Program Core Orientation during their third year. Once the core orientation is completed, remaining requirements must be completed within three years to earn an accreditation status.

Veterinarians that would like to become accredited but did not complete the Initial Accreditation Training or NVAP Core Orientation during veterinary school must complete **BOTH** before applying for accreditation. To complete the web-based Initial Accreditation Training, contact the Iowa NVAP Coordinator, Lisa Roling. This training must be completed before registering for the NVAP Core Orientation.

The NVAP Core Orientation is offered in Iowa during an evening session every February. For information on how to register for a NVAP Core Orientation in Iowa contact the Iowa NVAP Coordinator, Lisa Roling.

Initial Accreditation

- Complete a VS Form 1-36A
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/VS_1_36A.pdf
- Submit the form to Iowa NVAP coordinator Lisa Roling
 - Email: Lisa.M.Roling@usda.gov
 - Fax: (515) 323-2108
 - Mail: 210 Walnut St., Room 891, Des Moines, IA 50309
- Review Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook
 - <https://iowaagriculture.gov/animal-industry-bureau/veterinary-resources>
- Meet with District Veterinarian or VMO



Once the initial requirements have been fulfilled, submit a completed VS Form 1-36A to the Iowa NVAP Coordinator Lisa Roling. You can fax or mail a hard copy to Lisa with the information provided on the screen. You can also email a signed PDF. For security, you should password protect the PDF and send the password in a separate email.

Iowa specific steps to gain accreditation require you to review the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook located on the Iowa Department of Agriculture's webpage. Make sure to review both parts 1 and 2.

Once you have reviewed the Handbook, reach out to the Iowa NVAP Coordinator, Lisa Roling, using the same contact information you used to submit your completed VS Form 1-36A. Either your regional District Veterinarian or VMO will then contact you to schedule a time to review the roles and responsibilities of category II veterinarians in Iowa.

After you complete this session, your District Vet or VMO will submit documentation to the state NVAP coordinator stating you have fulfilled this requirement.

Again, while the national requirements are consistent from state-to-state, some additional requirements vary and this video is only describing the process in Iowa to gain category II accreditation.

Accredited in Another State

- Complete a VS Form 1-36A
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/VS_1_36A.pdf
- Submit the form to Iowa NVAP coordinator Lisa Roling
 - Email: Lisa.M.Roling@usda.gov
 - Fax: (515) 323-2108
 - Mail: 210 Walnut St., Room 891, Des Moines, IA 50309
- Review Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook
 - <https://iowaagriculture.gov/animal-industry-bureau/veterinary-resources>
- Meet with District Veterinarian or VMO



If you have category II accreditation status in another state and wish to become authorized in Iowa, you do not need to restart the entire process described in the previous two slides. Instead complete a VS form 1-36A showing you have completed at least 6 units during the previous three years, and submit it to the Iowa NVAP Coordinator.

Once the Iowa NVAP Coordinator processes your application, review the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook, available at the webpage listed.

Once you've reviewed the handbook, contact the NVAP coordinator to confirm you're ready to meet with a District Veterinarian or VMO.

A District Veterinarian or VMO will then reach out to you to schedule a time to review the roles and responsibilities of category II veterinarians in Iowa.

Category I Accredited

- Complete a VS Form 1-36A
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/VS_1_36A.pdf
- Submit the form to Iowa NVAP coordinator Lisa Roling
 - Email: Lisa.M.Roling@usda.gov
 - Fax: (515) 323-2108
 - Mail: 210 Walnut St., Room 891, Des Moines, IA 50309
- Review Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook
 - <https://iowaagriculture.gov/animal-industry-bureau/veterinary-resources>
- Meet with District Veterinarian or VMO



While this video will not discuss the difference between category I and II veterinarians, some of the duties outlined during this video cannot be performed by a category I veterinarian. Additionally, category I veterinarians must complete 3 units during a three year cycle, whereas category II veterinarians must complete 6 units during a three year cycle.

If you currently have a category I accreditation status, and wish to become category II accredited in Iowa, complete a VS form 1-36A showing you have completed an **additional** 3 units during the previous three years, and submit it to the Iowa NVAP Coordinator.

Once your application is processed, review the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook, available at the webpage listed, and contact Lisa Roling to inform her you are ready to meet with a District Veterinarian or VMO.

One will then reach out to you to schedule a session to review the roles and responsibilities of category II veterinarians in Iowa.

Renewing Accreditation

- Three year cycle from the date first issued
- NVAP Training Modules for Renewal
 - In-person events
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_upcoming_conf
 - Web-based
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_aast



Category II accreditation status must be renewed every three years. This three year cycle is based on the date you first became accredited.

To renew your category II status, you must complete 6 units during this three year cycle. This can be a combination of in-person sessions offered by USDA at various animal health conferences or web-based NVAP training modules.

If you do not attend any in-person sessions, you can complete all 6 units with the web-based modules. As you complete sessions and modules, retain your certificates of completion to show that you have successfully earned the unit(s).

Renewing Accreditation

- Complete a VS Form 1-36A
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/VS_1_36A.pdf
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 - Email: Lisa.M.Roling@usda.gov
 - Fax: (515) 323-2108
 - Mail: 210 Walnut St., Room 891, Des Moines, IA 50309



Once you have completed 6 units, complete a VS form 1-36A and submit it to the Iowa NVAP Coordinator. Remember, it is your responsibility to track your accreditation expiration date, document the units you earn, and renew your accreditation status on time.

Iowa Animal Health Officials

Iowa Department of Agriculture

- Dr. Jeff Kaisand, State Vet
 - (515) 281-0866
 - Jeff.Kaisand@iowaagriculture.gov
- Dr. Troy Brick, Asst. State Vet
 - (515) 725-1123
 - Troy.Brick@iowaagriculture.gov
- Dr. Katie Rumsey, Asst. State Vet
 - (515) 725-1023
 - Katie.Rumsey@IowaAgriculture.gov

USDA

- Dr. Kevin Petersburg
 - (515) 284-4140
 - Kevin.L.Petersburg@usda.gov



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As a veterinarian in Iowa there are four key animal health officials that you should be familiar with, in addition to your regional District Veterinarian and Veterinary Medical Officer. Three at the Iowa Department of Agriculture and one at the USDA.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture employs the State Veterinarian and two Assistant State Veterinarians.

The State Veterinarian, Dr. Jeff Kaisand, is the head animal regulatory official in Iowa. The two Assistant State Veterinarians oversee day-to-day regulatory activities. Dr. Troy Brick oversees anything concerning livestock and poultry, and Dr. Katie Rumsey manages companion animal, animal welfare, and horse regulations.

Our local USDA office houses Dr. Kevin Petersburg, the USDA Area Veterinarian in Charge for Iowa. Dr. Kaisand and Dr. Petersburg work closely on federal regulatory matters, all USDA programmatic diseases, and every foreign animal disease investigation.

If at anytime you suspect an animal may be showing signs of a foreign animal disease, you should immediately contact your District Veterinarian or Veterinary Medical Officer. Their contact information can be located in part 1 of the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook. However, if you cannot immediately reach them, then contact one of the animal health officials listed on the screen.

USDA Laboratories in Iowa

- Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
 - <https://vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl>
- USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL)
 - https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/lab-info-services/sa_nvsl_faqs/ct_faq

For more information about collecting, handling and submitting samples,
please contact the USDA laboratory.



There are two USDA accredited laboratories in the state of Iowa, both located in Ames. More detailed contact information for both can be found in part 1 of the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook, starting on page 6.

For specific information related to the testing offered, samples required, samples accepted, special handling, and mailing instructions, please contact the laboratory directly, or consult with your District Veterinarian or VMO.

Please keep in mind that some samples collected for regulatory purposes need prior approval from an animal health official for testing to be completed at an authorized USDA laboratory.

Conclusion

- Review Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook
 - <https://iowaagriculture.gov/animal-industry-bureau/veterinary-resources>
- Iowa NVAP Coordinator
 - Lisa Roling
 - Lisa.M.Roling@usda.gov



This concludes this video on how to gain and maintain category II accreditation status in the state of Iowa.

If you have any questions about the role and responsibilities of accredited veterinarians in Iowa, review the Iowa Veterinary Accreditation Handbook located on the Iowa Department of Agriculture Veterinary Resources webpage. If you have additional questions after reviewing the handbook, contact your District Veterinarian or VMO.

If you would like to begin the category II accreditation process, please contact the Iowa NVAP Coordinator, Lisa Roling.

Active hyperlinks listed throughout the presentation, in order of first appearance:

- National NVAP Coordinators: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap>
- Check accreditation status: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_areavet
- NVAP Initial Accreditation Training (IAT): https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_iat
- NVAP Core Orientation: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_orientation
- VS Form 1-36A: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/VS_1_36A.pdf
- IDALS Veterinary Resources webpage: <https://iowaagriculture.gov/animal-industry-bureau/veterinary-resources>
- NVAP training modules for renewal:
 - In-Person: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_upcoming_conf
 - Web-Based: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_aast
- ISU VDL: <https://vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl>
- USDA NVSL: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/lab-info-services/sa_nvsl_faqs/ct_faq