

1 UPDATED: 10/16/2023 – DISCUSSION DRAFT ONLY -- NOT FILED WITH LRC

2 GENERAL GOVERNMENT CABINET

3 Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners

4 (New Administrative Regulation)

5 201 KAR 16:705 **Minimum** Standards for Veterinary Facilities; General Requirements.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 321.203, 321.205, 321.235, 321.236,

7 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 321.235(1)(a), (b), (2)(b)3.c.

8 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 321.175(4) states the purpose
9 of the Kentucky Veterinary Medicine Practice Act is to promote, preserve, and protect the public
10 health, safety, and welfare by and through, in part, the regulation of veterinary facilities and
11 mobile facilities where and from which the practice of veterinary medicine occurs. KRS
12 321.235(1)(a) requires the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners to promulgate
13 administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to effectively carry out and
14 enforce the provisions of the chapter. This administrative regulation establishes minimum
15 standards for veterinary facilities.

16 Section 1. Compliance.

17 (1) A registered responsible party and the veterinarian manager shall ensure compliance
18 with this administrative regulation.

19 (2) All credential holders and other persons working at a veterinary facility shall comply
20 with this administrative regulation.

21 Section 2. General standards for Veterinary Facilities.

1 (1) The delivery of veterinary care shall be provided in a competent and humane manner.

2 (2) Veterinary medicine shall be practiced in a manner compatible with current veterinary
3 medical practice.

4 (3) The required standards shall depend upon the nature, scope, and limitations of the
5 practice as defined on the veterinary facility registration and approved by the board. However,
6 in no case shall standards of cleanliness, hygiene, and sanitation be violated.

7 (4) Inspections shall be conducted upon request of the registered responsible party or
8 veterinarian manager of a registered facility. Inspections shall be conducted by the board
9 inspector or board representative as designated by the board.

10 (5) Upon suspicion of a violation of the Kentucky Veterinary Medicine Practice Act,
11 registered facilities may be subject to inspection at any time during the facility's normal hours of
12 business.

13 (6) A board inspection may not cause the registered veterinary facility to close or cancel
14 appointments during the inspection.

15 Section 3. General Requirements for Veterinary Facilities, Excluding Mobile Units. A
16 veterinary facility shall:

17 (1) Maintain a physical location that conforms to state and local building and fire codes
18 and local zoning requirements;

19 (2) Display the veterinary facility's registration visible to the public from the outside of
20 its physical location. The identification shall include the hours of operation and shall be placed
21 so that it is unobstructed from public view.

22 (3) Have floors, tables, countertops, sinks, and fixtures within the registered veterinary
23 facility are made of nonporous materials that can be sanitized;

- 1 (4) Running water and a means of achieving cold and hot water temperatures;
- 2 (5) Refrigerated storage space large enough to contain all deceased animals except
3 livestock, or pickup within 24 hours, pending necropsy;
- 4 (6) If animals, other than livestock, shall be housed in a registered veterinary facility, an
5 individual compartment, equipped with a latch, for each animal housed in the facility shall be
6 provided;
- 7 (7) Appropriate storage container with proper labeling for biohazardous medical waste
8 and sharps pending disposal or pick-up;
- 9 (8) A working scale is provided for use with animals other than livestock;
- 10 (9) Adequate illumination is provided for the services being provided;
- 11 (10) Storage for all supplies, including food and bedding. The supply storage shall be in
12 areas that adequately protect such supplies against infestation, contamination, or deterioration.
13 Refrigeration shall be provided for all supplies that are of a perishable nature, including foods,
14 drugs, and biologicals;
- 15 (11) A clean and orderly receiving and reception area;
- 16 (12) Training for all staff of the veterinary facility who are responsible for animal care in
17 the basic care of animals;
- 18 (13) Written standard operating procedures are developed and maintained for:
- 19 (a) Staff assessment of an animal patient upon arrival, to ensure that a veterinarian is
20 contacted concerning those animals with certain identifiable symptoms warranting immediate
21 veterinary intervention, ensuring those animals receive the appropriate and timely treatment;
- 22 (b) Proper patient identification, chain of custody, and care of patients; and
- 23 (14) A telephone answering machine or answering service available after business hours.

1 (15) Controlled substances and prescription-only drugs are maintained securely and
2 accessible only to authorized personnel

3 (16) Comply with all federal rules, including proper storage and management of
4 controlled substances.

5 Section 4. When patient is retained for treatment or hospitalization during the hours that
6 the veterinary facility is not regularly open to the public, the client or client's representative shall
7 be provided:

8 (1) Notice, in writing, the hours that the animal will be left unattended and without
9 competent veterinary care; and

10 (2) An opportunity for the client to transfer the patient home or to another veterinary
11 facility for appropriate care and monitoring; or

12 (3) A disclosure to be signed by the client detailing that the client is aware that the patient
13 shall not be monitored or provided competent veterinary care during the hours that the veterinary
14 facility is not regularly open to the public.

15 Section 5. General Requirements for Veterinary Facilities, Including Mobile Units. A
16 veterinary facility shall:

17 (1) Have available equipment and supplies of an adequate number and type to provide the
18 veterinary medical services that are offered at the veterinary facility.

19 (2) Maintenance of the veterinary facility in a good state of repair, including:

20 (a) All exits, corridors, and passageways inside and outside the veterinary facility are
21 unobstructed at all times;

22 (b) Combustible material such as paper, boxes, and rags are not allowed to accumulate
23 inside or outside the veterinary facility;

1 (c) Temperatures are maintained between 60°F and 80°F in each room where an animal,
2 other than livestock or exotics, is treated or housed;

3 (d) Floors, countertops, tables, sinks, and any other equipment or fixtures used in a
4 veterinary facility are maintained in a clean condition and sanitized after contact with an animal
5 or animal tissue; and

6 (e) Animal compartments are cleaned and sanitized at least once every 24 hours when an
7 animal, other than livestock, is being housed and after each animal vacates the compartment.

8 (3) A written emergency evacuation plan exists and that all staff have been educated on
9 that plan.

10 (4) Appropriate storage is provided for medical records to ensure the records remain
11 intact and legible. For digital records, a digital backup copy shall be maintained.

12 Section 6. General requirements for surgical
13 equipment. Ensure that the following is provided on the
14 premises:

15 (1) Caps, masks, and sterile gloves and gowns;

16 (2) Sterile surgical packs, including:

17 (a) Drapes;

18 (b) Sponges; and

19 (c) Surgical instruments necessary to perform a surgical procedure;

20 (2) An oxygen tank or oxygen concentrator device that contains or is capable of
21 producing oxygen sufficient for each animal to whom general anesthesia is administered;

22 (3) A means of administering anesthesia and anesthetic equipment for each animal that
23 will receive general anesthesia or sedation that requires resuscitation in accordance with the level

NOTES FOR DISCUSSION:

Do we need Section 6 in this regulation? This all may be covered in 201 KAR 16:702.

1 of surgery performed. For small animal surgery, this means a functional inhalant anesthesia
2 machine with oxygen;

3 (4) A fixed or portable surgical light to illuminate the surgical site;

4 (5) A light for use if the surgical light will not operate;

5 (6) Access to resources that provide readily accessible reference materials; and

6 (7) All appropriate equipment shall be sterilized, and surgical packs shall be properly
7 prepared for sterilization by heat or gas which is sufficient to kill bacterial spores for each sterile
8 surgical procedure.

9 Section 7. Requirements for Mobile Units. Registered responsible parties and
10 veterinarian managers are required to comply with the requirements of 201 KAR 16:710.

DISCUSSION DRAFT (PRIOR TO IARC FILING)