Veterinary Education and Accreditation System in Korea

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Veterinary Education is a six-year system. It is composed of pre-veterinary (2 yrs) and veterinary course (4 yrs). The veterinary course consists of pre-clinical (21%), para-clinical (30%) and clinical (49%) curriculum.
Veterinary Curriculum

Pre-veterinary course:
Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Animal science, Ecology, Animal husbandry, Animal nutrition, Philosophy, History, Logics, Genetics, Cell biology, Introduction of veterinary medicine, Veterinary medical terminology, Medical statistics, Elective course

Veterinary course:

**Pre-clinical curriculum:** Anatomy, Histology, Biochemistry, Neuroscience, Embryology, Physiology

**Para-clinical curriculum:** Pathology, Microbiology, Parasitology, Pharmacology, Public health, Toxicology, Immunology, Laboratory animal medicine, Aquatic animal medicine, Biotechnology, Laboratory animal medicine, Environmental hygiene, Zoonoses

**Clinical curriculum:** Medicine, Surgery, Epidemiology, Avian medicine, Obstetrics, Radiology, Diagnostics, Wild and zoo animal medicine, Exotic animal medicine, Complementary medicine, Animal behavior, Animal welfare & ethics, Jurisprudence, Laboratory medicine, Equine medicine, Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Anesthesiology, Hospital management, Elective course, Externship, Clinical rotation
### Veterinary Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Established</th>
<th>Admission/yr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seoul National University</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chonbuk National University</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chonnam National University</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyungbuk National University</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyungsang National University</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chungnam National University</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kangwon National University</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chungbuk National University</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeju National University</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Konkuk University (Private School)</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Korea, there are 10 veterinary schools. One of them is private, the others are national schools. These schools produce about 500 veterinarians per year.
Currently, there are 12,000 veterinarian in Korea. Fifty five percent of them work in clinics, 20% public service, and the others work related fields.
Proportion of Practice

Small Animal Practice: 70%

Mixed Animal Practice: 10%

Large Animal Practice: 20%
# Number of domestic and companion animals ('11)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cattle</th>
<th>Swine</th>
<th>Chicken</th>
<th>Dog</th>
<th>Cat</th>
<th>LU/Vet*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>2080</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>1260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>1163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*LU/Vet = livestock unit (cattle=1, swine=0.2, chicken=0.01, dog & cat=N/A) × number of animals/number of veterinarians. unit: million head. Data sources: OIE, FAO, FEDIAF, etc.
Accreditation

Accreditation for veterinary education and program is a quality assurance and continuous quality improvement process. Also, this is a formal recognition of competencies and outcomes to perform a veterinary medical practice.

Also, the accreditation system gives assurance to the public, veterinary students, veterinary schools, the government and international community.
Accreditation Board

In 2010, Accreditation Board for Veterinary Education in Korea (ABOVE-K) was established and recognized as an accreditation body from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs that is in charge of the license of veterinarians. ABOVE-K enhances professional competencies by impartial evaluation and quality assurance of veterinary education.

From 2012, ABOVE-K has begun to evaluate and accredit ten veterinary schools in Korea.

ABOVE-K is a NGO, NPO and NRO. Also, it is an independent, voluntary and self-governing system for public interests.
The vision of ABOVE-K is to enhance the professional competencies by impartial evaluations and quality assurance of veterinary education on the basis of the veterinary education standards.

The mission for achieving the vision of ABOVE-K is to evaluate, improve, develop, promote and ensure the quality of veterinary education. Therefore, final goal is continuous quality improvement (CQI) and quality assurance (QA) of veterinary education.
Organization of ABOVE-K

- **General Assembly**: The highest decision making body
- **Board of Directors**: Convening the General Assembly
- **Executive Director**: Overseeing the general business
- **Secretariat**: Assisting the ABOVE-K business

- **Standard Committee**
- **Evaluation Committee**
- **Accreditation Committee**
- **Appeals Committee**
- **Executive Committee**

**Evaluation Teams**
## Accreditation Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Areas (Evaluation Elements)</th>
<th>No. of Factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Organization and finances (strategy and planning, Implementation and evaluation, etc.)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Curriculum (pre-clinical curriculum, para-clinical curriculum, clinical curriculum, professional ethics curriculum, clinical practice, etc.)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Students (admission, mentoring system, welfare system and facilities, outcome assessment, etc.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Faculty (basic and clinical faculty, research and community activities, self-development and support, etc.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Educational resources (educational facilities and resources, research facilities and equipment, library and information, etc.)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accreditation Procedure

1. Apply Accreditation
2. Submit Self-Evaluation Report (SER)
3. Formation of Evaluation Team
4. SER Evaluation & Site-visit
5. Preliminary & Final Evaluation Report
6. Approval
7. Consideration of Approval
8. Accept of Final Evaluation or Request for appeals
9. Accept
10. Official Announcement

Evaluation Committee

Accreditation Committee

Appeals Committee

Re-evaluation

Veterinary School

ABOVE-K
Accreditation Status

**Full accreditation** (5 yrs): Full satisfaction of accreditation standards

**Limited accreditation** (2 yrs): Some insufficiency of accreditation standards

**Provisional accreditation** (within 2 yrs): Newly established CVM

**Unsatisfactory accreditation**: More insufficient of accreditation standards

**Revoked accreditation**: Withdrawal of accreditation
Conclusion

The success of accreditation is ensure by the active participation of all veterinary schools, reasonable standards, the fair and clear procedure, and etc.

It is also important to secure international collaboration and co-operation.

In this regard, it is greatly expected that the EAEVE will play a significant role.
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Thank you for your attention

www.abovek.or.kr/eng