

Call for emergency volunteer health practitioners

The WA Department of Health is supporting enrollment and activation of emergency volunteer health practitioners for the COVID-19 response. The department can do this under the authority of the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioner Act ([chapter 70.15](#) RCW). Under RCW 70.15.050, while an emergency proclamation of the Governor is in effect, a volunteer health practitioner who is licensed in another state may practice in Washington without obtaining a Washington license if he or she is in good standing in all states of licensure and is registered in the volunteer health practitioner system. These emergency volunteers will help meet emerging demands for health practitioners in areas impacted by COVID-19.

At this time, it's unclear what role veterinarians and technicians can play in this, but sign up is encouraged. The first step for a volunteer to register is to complete the Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Application; you can find more information about how to apply at the [DOH Emergency Volunteer Medical Worker web page](#). After that, the volunteer will be entered into a database of approved emergency volunteer health practitioners. The Washington State Department of Health will activate approved volunteers as needs arise while an emergency proclamation is in effect.

Need more help understanding the CARES Act and SBA loans? Attend Monday's webinar

On Monday, April 13, 2020 at 12pm, the WSVMA will present a webinar by Katz Sapper & Miller's expert Terry O'Neil, *CARES ACT vs. SBA: Which Loan Program Is Right for You?* The webinar will help you sort out the differences between the CARES Act and SBA loans and know what's right for your hospital.

Discussion topics will include:

- Overview of available loan programs
- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic loans
- CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loans (signed into law Friday)
- Next steps in determining which option is right for your hospital
- Overview of business operational issues to consider
- Preliminary discussion on loan forgiveness provisions

Additionally, the CARES Act introduced several tax provisions that could impact you. More information on those programs will be forthcoming.

Join us Monday and get your questions answered. For more information, visit the WSVMA [website](#).

Resources from Katz Sapper & Miller:

- [SBA Releases New Guidance on the Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- CARES Act: Tax Provisions Explained [webinar](#) and [presentation materials](#).
- [Insurance Coverage Considerations in the Age of COVID-19](#)

Employers must guarantee worker safety while under Governor's orders

Most veterinary practices are adapting well to the new environment and working hard to protect employees, clients, and the community. But there continue to be reports that some veterinary practices are breaking the Governor's Stay at Home, Stay Healthy order and offering full services and putting their employees' health at risk. The WA Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) requires employers to implement [the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order](#). Employers *must* only provide essential services and ensure social distancing for employees and clients, frequent and adequate employee hand-washing, and that sick employees stay home. Employers must also provide basic workplace hazard education about coronavirus and how to prevent transmission in languages best understood by employees. L&I also advises that employers may not retaliate against employees who stay home because of unsafe working conditions.

To those of you successfully navigating this new normal, keep up the great work. We know it's scary and the future is filled with unknowns about the economic fallout, but putting people's safety first is not only an order by the state but an ethical mandate. And just so you know, violators can be reported through the Governor's [website](#) and an investigation will be conducted.

More information is available on the [L&I website](#).

Additional Workplace Safety and Health Links

- [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) safety topic](#): Industry-specific resources from the L&I Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), including guidance for construction, grocery workers, and others.
- [Hazard Alert: Employers will play an important role in controlling the spread of COVID-19](#)
- [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#) (Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA))
- [Prevent Worker Exposure to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) (OSHA)
- [Worker Exposure Risk to COVID-19](#) (OSHA)
- [Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce the Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus](#) (OSHA)
- [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers To Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC))
- [Ten Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus](#) - OSHA (

This Week's Helpful Links

- COVID-19: Economic impacts on the veterinary profession - [AVMA](#)
- Spring Cattle Work calls for Covid-19 precautions – [UC Davis](#)
- Calif. issues guidance for equid care during pandemic – [The Horse](#)
- U.S. advises suspending bat research over concerns coronavirus could infect North American species – [Washington Post](#)
- Veterinarians work despite COVID-19 – [guskagit.com](#)

Featured WSVMA member benefit – Leadership and Career Advancement Opportunities - Whether it's volunteering for a task force or serving on the WSVMA Board of Directors, opportunities to develop your leadership skills are a member benefit that will help you advance personally and professionally.

Save the Date

- April 13 - 12:00 – 1pm - CARES ACT vs. SBA: Which Loan Program Is Right for You?, with Terrence O'Neil, CPA, CVA, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, April 15 - 12:00 – 1pm - Canine Corneal Ulcers and Glaucoma: The Bread and Butter of Ophthalmic Emergencies with Kristina Gronkiewicz, DVM, MS, DACVO, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- April 21, 2020 - WSVMA DVM: Masterclass Webinars - Feline Tooth Resorption: It's a Dog's World, Too with Dr. Gary Goldstein
- Wednesday, April 22 - 12:00 – 1pm - Seizures with Beryl Swanson, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Neurology), FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, April 29 - 12:00 – 1pm - Dental Radiograph Interpretation with Diane Carle, DVM, DAVDC, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, May 6 - 12:00 – 1pm, - Nutritional Modulation of the GI Microbiome with Becky Mullis, DVM, DACVIN, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, May 13 - 12:00 – 1pm - Nutritional Management of Allergic Skin Disease – Stella's Story with Becky Mullis, DVM, DACVIN, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, May 20 - 12:00 – 1pm - Stones and FIC – How Can Nutrition Help These Cats? with Becky Mullis, DVM, DACVIN, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Wednesday, May 27 - 12:00 – 1pm - Busting Myths and Misconceptions – What Does Science Tell Us About Nutrition? With Becky Mullis, DVM, DACVIN, FREE for Members | \$15 for Non-Members, [REGISTER TODAY](#)
- Oct. 2 -4, 2020 – Pacific Northwest Veterinary Conference, Tacoma, Save the Date!

Interested in volunteering? Visit the WSVMA website for a list of opportunities or email info@wsvma.org

The WSVMA exists to advance the cause of veterinary medicine to better the lives of those touched by it. The WSVMA has over 1,700 member veterinarians and veterinary students across a broad spectrum of veterinary practice.