Pennsylvania FFA Veterinary Science CDE

**Purpose:** The purpose of the veterinary science career development event is to promote college and career readiness by providing opportunities to develop technical knowledge and demonstrate practical skills in the field of veterinary science.

**Objectives:**

A. Participants will demonstrate professional ethics, decision-making, communication and problem-solving skills.

B. Participants will demonstrate technical competency with small and large animals in the areas of:

1. Anatomy and physiology

2. Clinical procedures

3. Identification

4. Health and safety

5. Medical terminology

6. Veterinary math applications

**Event Rules:**

A. Teams will consist of four members with all four members’ scores counting toward total team score.

B. Dress code:

1. Day 1: Participants will wear FFA Official Dress for the first day of the contest.

2. Day 2: All participants must wear either scrubs (top and bottoms) or polo with slacks. All participants must wear closed toe, closed heel and flat shoes (no clogs, sandals, or flip-flops). No jewelry may be worn on the second day of the event. This includes rings, bracelets, earrings and exposed body piercings. Wristwatches are permitted.

**Participants will lose 50 points off their final score for each day that they are dressed inappropriately.**

C. Students must provide their own pencils, calculators, and clipboards. NO phones will be allowed to be used as a calculator.

D. Please visit the nationals CDE website to view the score cards that will be utilized for this event. <https://www.ffa.org/documents/cde_vetscience.pdf>

E. Live animals will NOT be used in the contest including during any of the practicums.

**Event Format:**

A. Individual Activities

1. Written Exam – 100 points (30 Minutes)

Each participant will complete a written exam that consists of 50 multiple-choice questions (2 points each). All questions will be taken from the question bank listed on the PA FFA website. Topics for the exam may include:

* Behavior
* Disease (causes and sources, signs and symptoms)
* Medical terminology
* Medical records
* Anatomy/physiology
* Regulations (federal OSHA, MSDS)
* Patient management
* Facility management
* Practice management
* Genetics
* Nutrition
* Husbandry

2. Identification – All items will be worth 2 points in the identification practicums. The identification lists that will be used are those found in the National Vet Science CDE Handbook.

a. Breed Identification – 100 points

Participants will identify 50 breeds of small and large animals. They will have 30 minutes to complete this portion.

b. Equipment Identification – 50 points

Participants will identify 25 pieces of equipment. They will have 20 minutes to complete this portion.

c. Parasitology Identification – 30 points

Participants will identify 15 parasites. They will have 20 minutes to complete this portion.

3. Dosage Calculations – 100 points (30 minutes)

Participants will be given scenarios where they must complete basic mathematical calculations and find the answer in multiple-choice format. Questions may include conversions, dosage calculations, dilutions, cost calculations and invoices.

4. Current Events Question – 100 points (30 minutes)

Participants will be asked to respond to a scenario that may be encountered in the veterinary science field. The questions associated with the scenarios will allow students to utilize critical thinking and problem solving skills. Please visit the National FFA CDE website for the current events scorecard.

5. Practicums – Three at 50 points each

Three practicums will be selected each year for participants to complete. At least one practicum will be a **clinical** practicum list and one a **handling** practicum from the national list. These practicums will rotate and a shortened list has been selected from the National contest. Time given for the practicum is dependent on the practicum that is selected. Participants are expected to talk through the steps to a judge as they are being scored. Judges may speak and ask questions to the participant at the end of each activity, if time allows. Participants will be given 25 points for completing the practicum and 25 points for interacting with the judge and describing the steps of the practicum. Teams DO NOT need to bring any supplies to be used with the practicums.

B. Team Activity – 500 points

Teams will conduct research using local veterinarians and veterinary resources based on the annual topic posted on the National CDE webpage in November. The team will be provided a specific scenario when they begin their team activity. They will have a total of 15 minutes to prepare their presentation. Teamwork will be assessed during the plan development time.

Teams will evaluate the information provided and prepare the questions, diagnostics and recommendations as well as explain steps and procedures for the veterinary process in their plan. Teams need to determine what aspects of veterinary medicine and roles are most important to demonstrate based on the annual topic.

After preparation the team will be required to give an oral presentation for a maximum of 10 minutes explaining decisions made by the team. All team members are expected to participate in the presentation. The team will then be required to answer questions from judges regarding the decisions reached by their team.

Resources provided for the team activity may include diagnostic information like blood work, synopsis of disease state, treatment recommendations and cost information.

C. Event Scoring:

**Day 1 Events: Individual Points Team Points**

Written Exam 100 (2 pts/question) 400

Equipment Id 50 (2 pts/item) 200

Breed Id 100 (2 pts/item) 400

Parasite Id 30 (2 pts/item) 120

**Day 2 Events:**

Dosage Calculations 100 400

Handling and Restraint Practicum 50 200

Clinical Procedures Practicum 50 200

Third Practicum – Announced 50 200

Current Event Practicum 100 400

Team Activity 500

630 3,020

D. Tiebreakers

A. Team tiebreakers will be settled in the following order:

1. Combined individual practicum total score

2. Combined individual written exam total score

B. Individual tiebreakers will be settled in the following order:

1. Combined practicum score

2. Written exam score