

ABVP Fellowship FAQ

1. What are ABVP Fellowships?

ABVP Fellowships are for the ABVP Diplomate who demonstrates a high level of expertise in a particular field related to their specialty. One example would be Emergency Practice. Fellows of these programs have specific expertise and knowledge in their specialized species disciplines beyond what can be mastered within an ABVP specialty certification. . In summary, fellowships are specialty training for specialists.

2. Why Fellowships?

A number of Recognized Veterinary Specialty Organizations (RVSO), including ABVP, have started Fellowships in response to their Diplomates' request for further professional development within their RVSO. Another example is ACVS Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Surgery.

3. Are Fellowships regulated by the AVMA?

Currently no. However, the American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS), which is the AVMA committee that oversees RVSO's, is currently researching Fellowships. In the future, there may be formal ABVS rules on Fellowships.

4. Are Fellowships the equivalent of a subspecialty?

No. ABVS has specifically stated that Fellowships are not to be considered subspecialties.

5. How do I apply for a Fellowship?

For current Fellowship details, you can contact 1) the Fellowship Principal of that Fellowship who acts as the Chair of that Fellowship, 2) a member of the Fellowship Oversight Committee, or 3) ABVP's Executive Director.

If you are interested in starting a new Fellowship program, please contact ABVP's Executive Director or a member of the Fellowship Oversight Committee for details.

6. What does the Fellowship title look like?

An example would be Dr. Sara Smith, Diplomate ABVP (Canine & Feline Practice), Fellow Emergency Practice.

7. Is there an annual cost to maintain my Fellowship?

Yes, there is a both an initial fee and annual fee in addition to the annual Diplomate fee to maintain the Fellowship logistics.

8. Can I be a ABVP Fellow without being an ABVP Diplomate?

No. One must be a current ABVP Diplomate in good standing to be an ABVP Fellow.