

Veterinary Services Process Streamlining

Veterinary Services Process Streamlining (VSPS) is part of a developing initiative by Veterinary Services (VS), a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. This Web-based system offers a single point of access to electronic forms, applications, and certification processes required for the interstate and international movement of animals and animal products. Designed for USDA accredited veterinarians and State and Federal animal health officials, VSPS is part of an agency-wide eGov initiative to move from paper to electronic forms. As a result, it meets the requirements of the Government Paperwork Elimination Act and also contributes to the 48-hour traceback goal of the National Animal Identification System.

With VSPS, accredited veterinarians can update their accreditation status, access State regulations and foreign country import requirements, create electronic certificates of veterinary inspection for interstate movement, incorporate required diagnostic tests and vaccination records, and electronically submit documents to origin and destination State officials.

In order to access VSPS, which is a USDA mandated secure system, accredited veterinarians and State and Federal animal health officials must first apply for USDA eAuthentication and then create a VSPS profile specific to their role. VSPS profiles with specific role designations are also available for veterinary assistants, lab technicians, importers, and others. For more information about accessing VSPS, see "Getting Started" below.

Once a user has been granted a role in VSPS, the user can access the two currently available modules:

- The electronic Veterinary Accreditation Program (eVAP) Module and
- The electronic Interstate Module and related test records.

Additional modules such as import and export will soon be available through VSPS.

eVAP Module

In October 2005, the National Veterinary Accreditation Program staff transferred records of approximately 65,000 accredited veterinarians from its legacy national database to the new eVap Module. The eVAP Module allows new veterinarians to apply for

accreditation online and legacy accredited veterinarians to validate or update their contact information. Legacy accredited veterinarians are encouraged to begin using the eVAP Module immediately to confirm that their accreditation and contact data is current and correct.

VS area veterinarians in charge (AVIC) can use the module to approve roles in VSPS, verify accreditation status, process applications for accreditation, approve and print accreditation certificates, and create mailing labels, accreditation certificates and reports. State animal health officials can find accredited veterinarians and verify their accreditation status.

eInterstate Module

Accredited veterinarians with an active VSPS role can use the eInterstate Module to create electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI) and related test records. This module provides a standard method of data capture that automatically disseminates State of origin and destination data to the appropriate State animal health officials and various VS databases. Accredited veterinarians can also access State import regulations and create test record templates.

The eInterstate Module also has a laboratory component that provides online connectivity to participating equine infectious anemia (EIA) laboratories approved by VS' National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), leading to shorter turn around for EIA test results. Using the eInterstate laboratory component, veterinarians can submit EIA test records electronically. The laboratory component of the eInterstate Module currently provides official test charts for the VS Form 10-11, Equine Infectious Anemia (eEIA) Laboratory Test (digital photos may be included by the veterinarian). The VS Form 4-33, Brucellosis Test Record and VS Form 6-22, Tuberculosis Test Record are in development and will be added in the near future.

Report Tools

VSPS also offers report tools for accredited veterinarians, diagnostic laboratories, and State and Federal animal health officials. Accredited veterinarians can store, print, and run reports on their own eCVIs and test records. State animal health officials can export their own State data to their State databases as well as batch print eCVI and related test and vaccination records for animals originating from or entering into their own State. Specific VSPS mail boxes have been established at VS' AVIC area offices to receive

accreditation and role requests as well as animal and animal product import/export permit requests.

Getting Started

To access VSPS and its suite of modules, users need to become USDA eAuthenticated and then create a VSPS profile. eAuthentication is a USDA mandated identity proofing concept for security purposes. VSPS requires a level 2 authorization.

To create a USDA eAuthentication level 2 account, go to <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> and click on Create an Account. After the server sends you an e-mail asking you to authenticate your profile, take your State drivers license, U.S. passport, or military ID to your Local Registration Authority (LRA), which can be found by clicking on the Service Center link of the eAuthentication Web site: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>. Each AVIC also has an LRA in their office.

When you have completed these two steps, you will receive an e-mail notification containing your user ID and password. Keep this e-mail in a safe place. It will be the only link you have to retrieving your password if it is lost. Otherwise, you will have to reset your password.

To create a VSPS login, go to <https://vsps.aphis.usda.gov/vsps/> and use your eAuthentication user ID and password to access the VSPS main page and follow the prompts to create your VSPS profile and select the appropriate role. An e-mail will be sent to the AVIC requesting approval of your requested role. When your role is approved, you will be able to use the VSPS suite of modules.

Additional Information

For more information about VSPS and eAuthentication go to

<https://vsps.aphis.usda.gov/vsps> or

<http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> or

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/aphis_general/index.shtml.

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