

### 169.3 Definitions.

When used in [this chapter](#):

1. “*Accepted livestock management practice*” includes but is not limited to: Dehorning, castration, docking, vaccination, pregnancy testing, clipping swine needle teeth, ear notching, drawing of blood, relief of bloat, draining of abscesses, branding, and other surgical acts of no greater magnitude; artificial insemination, collecting of semen, implanting of growth hormones, feeding commercial feed defined in [section 198.3](#), or administration or prescription of drugs performed by the owner or contract-feeder thereof of livestock, a bona fide employee, or anyone rendering gratuitous assistance with respect to such livestock. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to permit any person except those persons enumerated in [this subsection](#), to provide purportedly gratuitous assistance with regard to the treatment of animals other than advisory assistance, in return for the purchase of goods or services.

2. “*Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine*” means any veterinary college or division of a university or college that offers the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or its equivalent and that conforms to the standards required for accreditation or approval by the board.

3. “*Animal*” means any nonhuman primate, dog, cat, rabbit, rodent, fish, reptile, and other vertebrate or nonvertebrate life forms, living or dead, except domestic poultry.

4. “*Board*” means the Iowa board of veterinary medicine.

5. “*ECFVG certificate*” means a current certificate issued by the American veterinary medical association educational commission for foreign veterinary graduates, indicating that the holder has demonstrated knowledge and skill equivalent to that possessed by a graduate of an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.

6. “*Fee*” means monetary compensation given for a service consisting primarily of an act or acts described in [subsection 10](#), paragraph “a”.

7. “*Licensed veterinarian*” means a person who is validly and currently licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Iowa.

8. “*Owner*” means any person, association, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity in whom is vested the ownership, dominion over, or title to an animal, including one who is obligated by law to care for such animal.

9. “*Person*” means natural person or individual.

10. “*Practice of veterinary medicine*” means any of the following:

a. To diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent, for a fee, any animal disease, deformity, defect, injury or other physical or mental conditions or cosmetic surgery; including the prescription or administration of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique, for a fee; or to evaluate or correct sterility or infertility, for a fee; or to render, advise or recommend with regard to any of the above for a fee.

b. To represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, an ability or willingness to do an act described in paragraph “a”.

c. To use any title, words, abbreviation, or letters in a manner or under circumstances which induce the belief that the person using them is qualified to do any act described in paragraph “a”.

11. “*Veterinarian*” means a person who has received a doctor of veterinary medicine degree or its equivalent from an accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.

12. “*Veterinary assistant*” means an assistant employed by a licensed veterinarian as an animal technician and any other assistant the board designates by rule.

13. “*Veterinary medicine*” includes veterinary surgery, veterinary obstetrics, veterinary dentistry, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine.

[S13, §2538-m; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2764, 2765; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §169.1, 169.2; C79, 81, §169.3]

[83 Acts, ch 115, §2](#)

Further definitions; see [§159.1](#)

For future amendment to subsection 3, effective July 1, 2024, see 2023 Acts, ch 155, §1, 24

For future text of subsection 3A, effective July 1, 2024, see 2023 Acts, ch 155, §2, 24

For future amendment to subsection 10, effective July 1, 2024, see 2023 Acts, ch 155, §3, 24  
For future strike of subsection 12, effective July 1, 2024, see 2023 Acts, ch 155, §4, 24