The purpose of this checklist is to guide the residency applicant and residency program to establish that an individual’s experience prior to the residency fulfills the Bylaws requirement as stated, “Has completed one year of general clinical practice of veterinary medicine or a rotating internship prior to the start of an anesthesia residency program.”

A rotating small animal, food animal, zoological species, laboratory animal, or equine internship fulfills this criterion.

Anesthesia internships are not “practice equivalent” nor do they provide rotating experience in all aspects of veterinary medicine (e.g., surgery, internal medicine) and do not meet the intended goal of the Residency Training Standards requirement that the veterinarian have patient and client care responsibilities and be exposed to general veterinary practice.

Rotating internships or private practice experience should include < 30% anesthesia, critical care and/or pain management-specific duties.

Checklist:

✓ Did the individual have regular contact with clients, including participation in discussion about diagnostic and treatment decisions for at least one year’s time?

✓ Did the individual have case responsibility, in terms of decision-making about a patient (possibly with consultation or guidance from a mentor/supervisor) for at least one year’s time?

✓ Was the veterinary experience involved with true patients (either companion animal, zoo, or food animal) and not bench-top non-animal research or food safety inspections?

✓ Was the experience continuous for 12 months, with average amounts of vacation and sick leave accounted for (e.g. less than a total of 4 weeks within that 12 months)?

Can the candidate clearly document one of the following?:

1. Continuous and full-time rotating internship or practice-equivalent experience for a period of 1 year.
2. Fifty-two weeks of rotating internship or practice-equivalent experience within a 5-year period of time. Weeks must represent full-time employment (≥40 hours/week) and may be either continuous or discontinuous.
3. Four thousand three hundred sixty-eight (4,368) hours of rotating internship or practice-equivalent experience within a 5-year period of time. Hours worked may occur on continuous or discontinuous days.

If the answer to any of the above questions was ‘no’, the individual should submit their information to the ACVAA Executive Secretary, who will forward it to the Credentials Committee for review prior to the VIRMP program match date.