



ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHARGE

(last reviewed 10/2024)

Purpose: The Advocacy Committee is established to monitor and evaluate legislative and regulatory issues of strategic importance to the association and the broader veterinary medicine community. In this role, the committee will make recommendations to the Board of Directors on strategies to a) educate stakeholders on topics of interest and importance, b) provide information to legislative and regulatory parties, where AVTE has particular expertise, to aid in their deliberations and c) advocate for specific positions as adopted by the Board of Directors, all in efforts to strengthen and enhance student success on the local level.

Responsibilities:

1. **Monitor Legislation:** Track and analyze local, state, and federal legislative initiatives that affect issues of strategic importance, as identified by the Board of Directors.
2. **Community Education:** Inform and educate association members and the broader community that AVTE serves about legislative issues, including providing appropriate updates on relevant legislation
3. **Decision-Maker Education:** Provide unbiased information to legislative and regulatory decision-makers to aid in their understanding of critical areas of organizational interest, support their deliberations, and advance AVTE's standing within these communities.
4. **Collaboration:** Work closely with other AVTE committees and external organizations to achieve AVTE's goals in these areas. This includes liaising with veterinary associations, accreditation bodies, and other entities in coordination with AVTE's Executive Committee.
5. **Reporting:** Provide regular reports to the association's board of directors on the status of legislative initiatives committee activities, along with recommendations and proposed strategies for action in line with AVTE's One Community Concept and the goal that advocacy efforts be conducted through participation in existing coalitions on any given topic.

Membership: The Advocacy Committee shall consist of a Chairperson appointed by the association's president and a minimum of five members selected based on their expertise and interest in legislative affairs. Committee members should represent diverse perspectives within the veterinary technician education community.



Meetings: The committee shall meet quarterly at a minimum, with additional meetings scheduled as necessary to address urgent legislative issues. Meetings may be conducted in person during the annual conference or virtually, depending on the committee's needs.

Authority: The committee is empowered to make recommendations to the board of directors but needs the authority to make binding decisions or undertake action without board approval.

Review and Evaluation: The board of directors will review the committee's charge and effectiveness annually to ensure alignment with the association's goals and objectives. Adjustments to the charge or membership structure may be made as needed.