



Development of VEE accreditation standards by the Veterinary Council of Thailand

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Accrediting veterinary schools in Thailand

- A responsibility of the VCT in the Veterinarians Act
- New HEA now has overarching responsibility for accreditation of all tertiary qualifications in Thailand
- Intention is that the HEA will evaluate university processes and the VCT will evaluate the veterinary program

Accrediting veterinary schools in Thailand

- Existing criteria evaluated most core functions of VEEs
- But the VCT wanted to extend these to provide a more comprehensive view of each VEE's activities

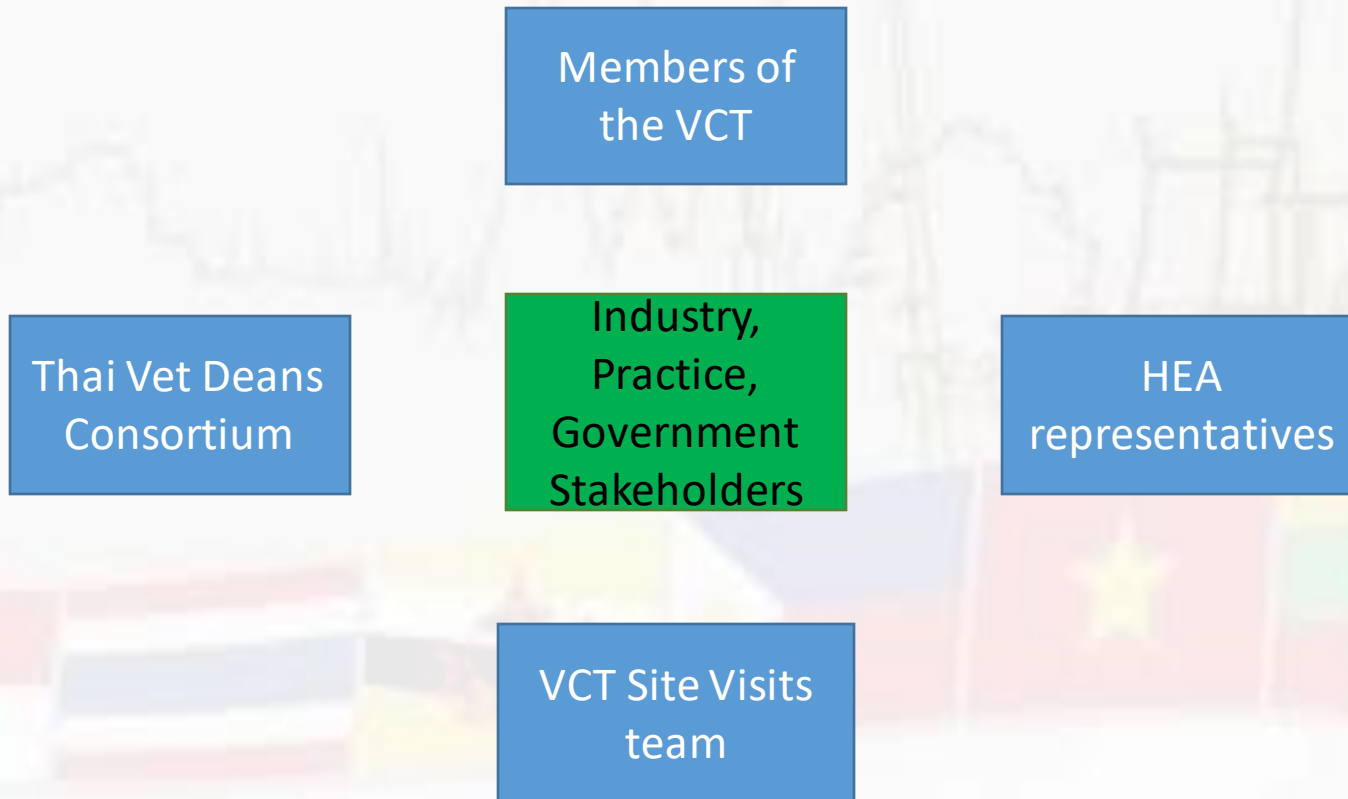
Existing standards

Organisation
Student admission
Library and IT
Curriculum
Teaching facilities
Teaching and support staff
Outcomes (including QA)

Revised standards

Organisation
Finance
Student admission
Learning resources **and student support**
Curriculum
Assessment and progression
Teaching facilities
Animal resources
Teaching and support staff
Research, higher and CE
Outcomes

Developing accreditation standards



Process: What is the standard for?

What evidence is needed? What are the benefits of meeting the standard?

7. Teaching facilities

This standard ensures that the program has adequate physical infrastructure and equipment on-site or at appropriately contracted external locations to ensure program outcomes are achieved by all students.

Inputs / evidence

- Inspection of facilities
- Lists of available equipment for didactic, practical and clinical teaching
- Compliance with ratios related to available teaching space
- Staff / student feedback
- Occupational health and safety

Outcomes

- Facilities and equipment are sufficient to ensure that students develop appropriate cognitive, practical and professional skills
- Facilities are sufficient to enable school to achieve program mission
- Facilities ensure the health and wellbeing of staff, students, public and teaching animals

Process: How is the standard defined? Here is part of the Facilities standard...

Animal facilities

Normal animals of the main domestic species must be available for instructional purposes.

Numbers of animals must be appropriate for the numbers of students enrolled in the program.

Livestock facilities, animal housing, and animal equipment must:

- Be appropriate for the species,
- Promote best husbandry, welfare and management practices,
- Be compatible with students' learning, including observation and handling of the species,
- Be of a high standard and be well maintained,
- Ensure relevant biosecurity and biocontainment standards.

Effective mechanisms must be in place to maintain the welfare of animals used for student instruction.

Schools must ensure that students are competent in animal handling ... before commencing these activities.

Process: How is the standard evaluated?

Criterion	Compliance		
Normal animals of the main domestic species are available for instructional purposes	Y	MD	N
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Numbers of animals are appropriate for the numbers of students enrolled in the program.	Y	MD	N
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Livestock facilities, animal housing, and animal equipment is:			
• Appropriate for the species	Y	MD	N
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Consistent with best husbandry, welfare and management practices	Y	MD	N
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Compatible with students' learning, including observation and handling of the species	Y	MD	N
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Y: Yes, fully complies

N: No, does not fully comply and/or has a major impact upon students' learning or safety

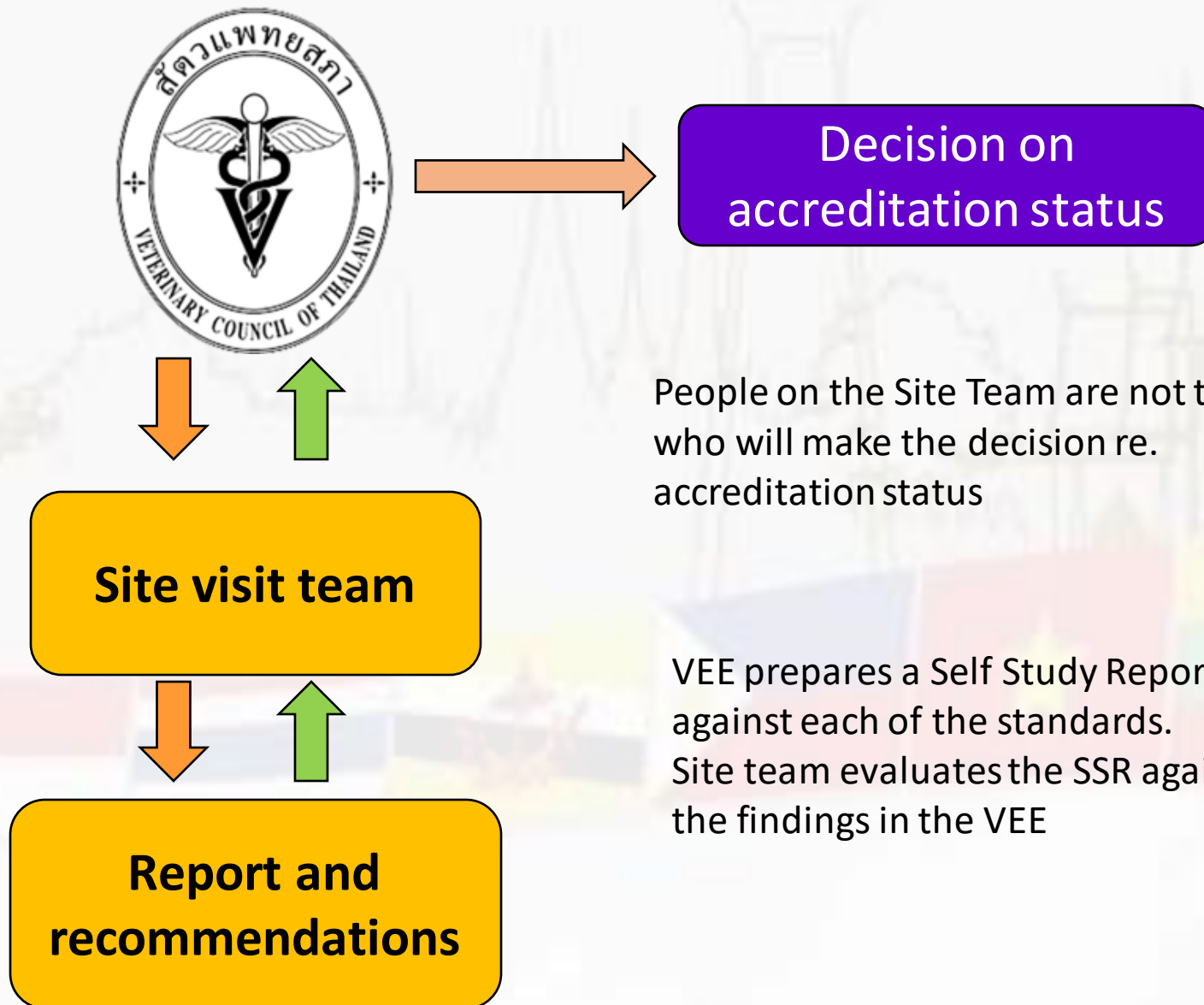
MD: Minor Deficiency, does not fully comply, but that does not have a major impact upon students' learning/safety

Recommendations from a visit

	VEE 1	VEE 2	VEE 3
Standard 1	✓	✗	✓
Standard 2	✓	✓	✓
Standard 3	✓	✗	✓
Standard 4	✓	✓	✓
Standard 5	✓	✗	✓
Standard 6	✓	✓	✓
Standard 7	✓	✓	✗
Standard 8	✓	✗	✓
Standard 9	✓	✓	✗
Standard 10	✓	✓	✗
Standard 11	✓	✓	✓

- VEE 1: Full accreditation for up to 7 years
- VEE 2: Full accreditation for up to 7 years subject to correction of major or minor deficiencies
- VEE 3: Accreditation for a short period of time (often 2 years) during which critical major deficiencies must be corrected
- Terminal accreditation, where major deficiencies have remained uncorrected (or without a plan to correct them)

Visit, recommendations and decision-making



People on the Site Team are not those who will make the decision re. accreditation status

VEE prepares a Self Study Report against each of the standards. Site team evaluates the SSR against the findings in the VEE



Stakeholder-driven process, including VSB, VEEs and “end users”

Standard to precisely define what is required

VEE evaluated against those standards

Separation of the process of evaluation of the VEE from the decision-making about the accreditation status