

Membership Benefits

The AAVA provides a network among all members to promote communication, continuing education, and member support. Membership benefits include our newsletter, *The Meridian*; access to the members-only section of our web site, www.aava.org; regional continuing education meetings; and our annual general membership meeting.

Active membership benefits include:

- Opportunity to vote on Academy business
- May serve as an officer or member of the Board of Directors
- May serve as a committee member

* Student Membership guidelines

- Student members must be currently enrolled full time in a college of Veterinary Medicine accredited by the AVMA.
- Student memberships will be from September to September.
- Within the US, individual student memberships include a hard copy of *The Meridian* newsletter and access to the AAVA website.
- Student membership is **FREE** for those attending approved acupuncture courses.

* (does not include IVAS membership)

The Meridian

Our newsletter, which is published quarterly, serves as a resource to members. **Sample Meridian articles include:**

- International meeting reports
- Upcoming continuing education



Non-profit organization
Founded 1998

**American Academy of Veterinary
Acupuncture**

AAVA

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History

The American Academy of Veterinary Acupuncture (AAVA) is a not-for-profit organization, formed in 1998 in response to the re-structuring of the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society (IVAS). In 1974 a group of forward-thinking veterinarians founded IVAS. Over the years IVAS has grown to become a truly international organization, and the AAVA was formed to meet the specific needs of American veterinary acupuncturists. The AAVA is an affiliate organization, and is fully recognized by IVAS.



AAVA Membership

“To promote the art and science of Veterinary Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine, to further the professional development of our members, to encourage the education of veterinarians in Veterinary Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine, and to provide leadership and resources in the United States for the advancement of these disciplines.”

AAVA Website

The Academy website, www.aava.org, is an excellent resource for both members and the public, providing the public with an online resource for locating an AAVA member veterinarian in their area.

Members-only section:

- Access the AAVA newsletter, *The Meridian*, online
- Register for continuing education
- Participate in online discussions

Continuing Education

Members are provided with the opportunity to attend advanced TCM and Veterinary Acupuncture seminars around the country and throughout the year. These seminars are designed for small groups of 12 to 30 participants, to encourage and promote learning in a personal environment. Active members receive first priority to attend the seminars, followed by Associate members, and then Student and International members. CE information can be found in *The Meridian*, online, or by contacting the AAVA office.

Annual Membership Meeting

The Academy holds an annual general membership meeting, often held in conjunction with other veterinary CE meetings, such as NAVC and AHVMA. This is an exciting, inspiring event for certified veterinary acupuncturists, veterinary acupuncture students, and those individuals exploring what this modality has to offer. Lectures are stimulating and informative.

Executive Committee and Board of Directors

The Executive Committee consists of five positions: President, President Elect/Vice President, Treasurer, Past President and a representative from the Board of Directors. Officers are elected by Active members and are responsible for AAVA business proceedings. The Board of Directors consists of seven members elected by the Active members. The role of the Board of Directors is to establish general policy of the Academy.

Please Join Us!

In order to become a competent, trained veterinary acupuncturist, you must open your mind and heart to a new way of thinking about how to heal. Join the Academy now, and we will assist you in your journey to discover how you can help animals heal through acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine.



How to Become a Member

You may fill out the enclosed membership application or request a membership application by contacting AAVA or by visiting www.aava.org.

Membership Types

The Academy is open to all veterinarians, with four different membership categories:

Active; Associate; Student; and International.

Active members must be citizens of the United States, licensed graduates of a college or school of veterinary medicine, and have taken and successfully completed an AAVA approved veterinary acupuncture course or an equivalent program in Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine and/or veterinary acupuncture. In addition, to maintain Active status, members must complete a minimum of ten hours of AAVA approved continuing education every two years. Active Members enjoy all benefits of membership, including the ability to vote on Academy business, and may hold positions as an officer, member of the Board of Directors, and/or committee member. Members receive an annual membership certificate suitable for wall hanging.

Associate members must be citizens of the United States and licensed graduates from a college or school of veterinary medicine, but have not yet successfully completed an AAVA approved course in Veterinary Acupuncture or an equivalent program in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and/or veterinary acupuncture. Associate members enjoy all benefits of membership except for the ability to vote on Academy business or hold positions as noted above. Veterinary students and International members are also encouraged to join. All three non-voting membership categories still enjoy access to our newsletter and website.

International veterinarians are also encouraged to join.