ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A

**CLINICAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOURIST**

When completed, please return an electronic copy of your application to: jbedford61@btinternet.com and one paper copy of the application by post (please do not use recorded delivery) to;

Julie Bedford  
2 Grebe Square  
Upper Rissington  
Cheltenham  
Gloucestershire  
GL54 2NH

Please study the ASAB Accreditation web pages go to http://www.asab.org/ccab/ and click on Accreditation. Check carefully before submitting your application and ensure that you have included everything on the checklist at the bottom of this form. Please use a font other than Times Roman for your entries (e.g. Arial). Do not include anything which might breach client confidentiality. The information that you supply in your application and the supporting documents will only be seen by members of the ASAB Accreditation Committee, ASAB Council, and by scrutineers co-opted by ASAB when necessary.

*Please remember that the Committee will base its decision on the information provided on this form and supplementary pages. It is to your advantage to present this information as clearly as possible.*

# 1. Applicant’s personal information and summary of application

Name (including title)

Address:

Telephone number:

Fax number:

E-mail address:

University Education (include type and subject of degree, class, when obtained, Institution awarding degree, e.g. BSc (Hons) Zoology, 2i, 1980, University of ....). If your application is successful we may require formal proof of these qualifications.

Research projects completed and in progress, if any. State: topic; your role in the project; names of collaborators if any, and their roles; sponsors; institution where conducted; reports, academic papers, conference papers and any other presentations arising. Attach copies of any published abstracts, indicating where they were published.

Please attach an up-to-date CV.

**2. Clinical training undertaken**

# Level 1:

Please supply a confidential logbook of **all cases attended** at Level 1, including documentation of competence in **at least** 10 cases through the provision of Level 1 supervision forms signed by your CCAB mentor.

Level 2:

# Please supply a confidential logbook detailing all cases attended at Level 2, including documentation of competence in at least 10 cases through the provision of Level 2 supervision forms signed by your CCAB mentor and a short case history for each. Short case histories should each be on one page of A4.

# Supervision forms at Level 2 must be signed by at least two different CCAB mentors.

# Please include cases from the range shown below

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SPECIES | TYPE OF DISORDER | Number seen in past 12 months | |
|  |  | Total | With case-history |
| DOG | Aggression/threats towards people, non-household/unfamiliar (excluding vet) |  |  |
| Aggression/threats towards people, within household/familiar |  |  |
| Aggression/threats towards vet or groomer |  |  |
| Aggression/threats towards dogs, non-household/unfamiliar |  |  |
| Aggression/threats towards dogs, within-household/familiar |  |  |
| Owner-absent related problems |  |  |
| Apparent fearful or phobic behaviour (non-aggressive) |  |  |
| Problems related to training, attention-seeking, or apparent excessive arousal |  |  |
| Apparent predatory behaviour |  |  |
| Inappropriate elimination |  |  |
| Repetitive behaviours e.g. tail chasing |  |  |
| Other – (avoid using if possible) outline overt behaviour rather than probable motivations |  |  |
| *(Other)* |  |  |
| *(Other)* |  |  |
| CAT | Indoor marking, including spraying and scratching |  |  |
| House soiling problems |  |  |
| Aggression towards cats |  |  |
| Aggression towards people |  |  |
| Attention seeking behaviours |  |  |
| Bonding problems e.g. over-attachment |  |  |
| Repetitive behaviours |  |  |
| Fearful and phobic behaviour |  |  |
| Pica (chewing or eating non-food items) |  |  |
| *(Other)* |  |  |
| *(Other)* |  |  |
| *(Other)* |  |  |
| OTHER e.g. horse *(state)* | *(state)* |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Long case histories:

# Please supply four long case histories for each species for which you wish to claim competence, along with an anonymised copy of the letter/report that you sent to the client and referring veterinary surgeon for each case. These should be detailed (up to 10 A4 pages). Long case histories should include a full evaluation of the rationale used at all stages, should be fully referenced, and should be followed by a brief reflective evaluation (*i.e.* what you learned from that particular case). Any briefing sheets referred to should be attached.

# Please include cases from the range shown on the website

# In these long case-histories, you may wish to indicate evidence for competencies not covered by formal academic qualifications.

**Please do not put your own name on any of the case-histories.**

# All should use the following headings: Case presentation including presenting signs, History, Differentials, Behavioural Diagnosis, Goals of the Treatment Programme, Treatment Programme, Follow-up, Outcome. The case presentation should include a summary of how any medical information supplied was used. Behavioural diagnosis should include predisposing, initiating and maintaining factors.

# 2.2 For each of the four long case-histories, submit the letter or report sent to the client and referring veterinary surgeon (with name and address removed) which summarizes their consultation.

# *Claiming competence for more than one species;*

# Please include a *minimum* of 5 short case histories and 4 long case histories for each species for which you wish to claim competence (see table 1.0), representing the spread of disorders you have seen.

Table 1.0

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Short case histories | Long case histories |
| Competency for single species (e.g.dog) | 10 dog | 4 dog |
| Competency for 2 species (e.g.cats and dogs) | 5 cat  5 dog | 4 cat  4 dog |
| Competency for 3 species (e.g.cats, dogs and rabbits) | 5 cat  5 dog  5 rabbit | 4 cat  4 dog  4 rabbit |

# 3. Evidence of skills, knowledge and abilities that are at least equivalent to the formal academic requirements for Certification (see Appendix 1). Please tick boxes where appropriate.

I certify that I have completed the following course validated by ASAB

**Programme:**

**Date awarded:**

**Or**

**I certify that I have already successfully completed a pre-certification review by ASAB**

**Date awarded:**

If you have not completed a course validated by ASAB, nor been awarded pre-certification, please provide evidence of skills, knowledge and abilities that are at least equivalent to the formal academic requirements for certification. Please complete, in detail, how you have attained knowledge in each of the areas 1-8 in Appendix 1, including content of academic courses and their accredited level (*e.g.* Honours degree, year 3).

Other experience or qualifications which you wish to have taken into account. Attach a list of professional courses undertaken, indicating the level of accreditation for each.

Number of separate sheets attached ………..

*Note that the majority, but not all, “knowledge” needs to have been attained through formal academic qualification; appropriate knowledge gained from clinical experience and ongoing professional development may also be taken into account if sufficient evidence is presented.*

**4. Names and addresses and professional positions of three referees who can vouch for your professional abilities. At least one of these should be a veterinary surgeon who has referred cases to you. Please send reference request form out to each of your referees at the time of submitting your application (see Appendix 2 below)**

**5. Will you be able to supervise intending applicants at (indicate number per year):**

# Level 1? ………………………

# Level 2? ……………………...

**(See Supervised Experience pages on the ASAB web site for definitions of Levels)**

**6. Should your application be successful how would you like to appear on the online register? (See list of CCABs for examples)**

Checklist:

*Please ensure that you have sent reference requests to all three referees and included all of the following in your application for certification as a clinical animal behaviourist:*

Completed application form

CV

Copy of your degree certificate

Confidential logbook of **all cases** attended during practical training

Minimum of ten Level 1 supervision forms signed by a CCAB mentor

Minimum of ten Level 2 supervision forms signed by a least two different CCAB mentors

Ten Short case histories - one to accompany each Level 2 case supervision form (minimum of 5 per species)

Four long case histories for each species you for which you are claiming competency

Copy of your client and vet letter/report for each long case history

# 7. DECLARATION

I certify that the information I have given above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I apply to the ASAB Accreditation Committee for an assessment of the equivalence of my qualifications to those required for certification as a Clinical Animal Behaviourist.

If accepted, I undertake to comply with the Charter, Statutes, Rules and regulations of ASAB from time to time in force and to comply with the Code of Conduct for Certified Clinical Animal Behaviourists. I undertake that, on receiving a notice from the President of ASAB, that in accordance with one or more articles of the Charter, Statutes or Rules, I am no longer Certificated by the Society, I will immediately cease to use any of the privileges of Certification.

I enclose a cheque for £100 made payable to “ASAB Accreditation Ltd”, which is non-refundable, and includes the fee for one year’s certification if granted.

Signed . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Date . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .**Appendix 1. Certification as a Clinical Animal Behaviourist: academic requirements**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ASAB Accreditation academic requirements** | **Evidence of equivalence** | Assessment of Equivalence(for official use). |
| **1. Principles of ethology**  Principles of ethology. Domestication: the process and its effects on behaviour. Ethology of domestic companion animals, including perceptual abilities, communication, maintenance and social behaviour. Behavioural ontogeny; to include sensitive periods, socialisation and attachment. The interactions between biological and evolutionary influences and the domestic environment, and their role in behavioural disorders. Interactions between animals and man, to include the role of animals in human society and artificial selection. |  |  |
| **2. Animal welfare science**  Animal welfare science: ethological, psychological and physiological concepts, including stress, suffering, coping strategies; environmental predictability and control; physiological and behavioural indicators of welfare in vertebrate animals, including stereotypies; methods of assessing welfare, motivation and demand; effects of artificial selection on welfare; welfare considerations in management, welfare issues in training and in clinical practice. |  |  |
| **3. Theory of animal learning**  Theory of animal learning: associative and non-associative learning: habituation; sensitization, classical conditioning, operant conditioning, integration with emotional processing and resultant behavioural organisation. Animal cognition: insight, social learning and the concept of consciousness. Theories underlying learned problem behaviour. The ability to use a range of behaviour modification techniques appropriately, to include systematic desensitization, operant and respondent counter conditioning and habituation and structure behaviour modification programmes to facilitate learning. An understanding of a broad range of training techniques and training aids and the rational assessment of treatment and training options based on the principles of learning theory. |  |  |
| **4. Functional anatomy and physiology of the vertebrate nervous and endocrine systems**  Functional anatomy and physiology of the vertebrate nervous and endocrine systems and their role in mediating behaviour; specific receptor mediated control mechanisms, the role of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenocortical axis and nociception in animals. Neural plasticity and the development of the nervous system. Psychopharmacology: theory; mode of action of major classes of drugs used in clinical animal behaviour and critical evaluation of their role in the treatment of behavioural disorders; to also include the role of nutrition, pheromones. |  |  |
| **5. Clinical procedures – principles, procedures and practice**   1. Clinical principles: human and family psychology, including attitude theory, processes of inter-personal relationships, grief and bereavement. Counselling skills; facilitation and maintenance of behavioural change; to include interpretation of client behaviour and attitude. methods of effective communication and collection of information, assessment of understanding. Communication with professionals; to include methods for resolving deficiencies in information gathered, or client understanding and critical appraisal of information gathered, the owner/pet relationship and provision of appropriate feedback. Ethical issues: professionalism in relationships with clients and others. Human attitude towards animals; to include animal abuse, abandonment, animal-hoarding. 2. Clinical procedures and practice: taking case-histories and effective communication and liaison with clients. Including; History taking techniques, including open questioning, interpretation of spoken and unspoken language and communication. Devising and effective delivery of structured treatment regimes, assessing effectiveness of communication, client understanding, compliance and efficacy of treatments. Approaches to extended treatment and follow-up Applying principles of ethology and learning to techniques for diagnosis and treatment of all common problems. Identification and critical evaluation of contributing factors, role of environmental factors, differential diagnosis.   In addition, students should have experienced animal orientated counselling sessions run by recognised and suitably qualified and skilled clinical animal behaviourists, and are recommended to experience and participate in human orientated counselling sessions where possible. |  |  |
| **6. Animal law and ethics**  Animal law and ethics sufficient for effective clinical animal behaviour practice. Including: ethics of animal use; national and European legislative frameworks, and their operation. Legal obligations and safety concerns of those working with or owning animals (e.g. owners, veterinary surgeons, paraprofessionals and others providing animal related services); legal implications of providing behavioural advice, professional liability. |  |  |
| **7. Interaction between health and behaviour in vertebrate animals**  Interaction between health and behaviour in vertebrate animals. Signs of ill-health and common conditions influencing behaviour and associated veterinary terminology. Understanding of the behavioural consequences of medical disorders. Medical differentials in behavioural disorders. The role of nutrition in health and behaviour. The role of the veterinary surgeon and paraprofessionals in the treatment of behavioural disorders. |  |  |
| **8. Research skills**  Display an understanding of research methods, experimental design, qualitative and quantitative analysis and critical evaluation of data, as evidenced by both formal instruction and a research project or dissertation on a relevant topic, that has been examined with a successful outcome at a level commensurate with at least undergraduate 3rd year Honours (i.e. level 6).  • All subject areas to be covered at a minimum of Honours degree level.  • Individual species should be studied in depth before acquiring supervised clinical experience of, and subsequently taking cases of, that species.  • Teaching and research to be conducted in a relevant research-active environment. |  |  |

**Appendix 2. Standard reference request letter**

(Date)

(Referees name and address)

Dear (Referee’s name),

I am applying to the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) for Certification as a Clinical Animal Behaviourist and I would therefore be very grateful for your opinion as to my suitability for Certification.

Certification constitutes recognition by ASAB that, to the best of its knowledge, I meet the educational, experiential and ethical standards required by the Society for professional clinical animal behaviourists. These requirements are detailed on the Accreditation pages of the ASAB website (http://www.asab.org/ccab/).

In your reference please indicate how long you have been professionally associated with me and in what capacity. Please could you also give your opinion of my clinical ability and professionalism. I have enclosed a copy of the ASAB Code of Conduct to which, if my application is successful, I will be expected to adhere. You are welcome to include in your reference any other information which you think may be relevant.

Please could you send a signed paper copy and email copy to: -

Julie M Bedford, ASAB Accreditation Committee, 2 Grebe Square, Upper Rissington, Cheltenham GL54 2NH

Email:- jbedford61@btinternet.com

Thank you

Yours sincerely