



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 01/21

To Notify Certification Support Officers of an Update to their APHA Policy of Authorisation (ET175).

Date issued: 25 May 2021

Purpose

To notify all CSOs of an update to the ET175, Policy for APHA Authorisation of Export Certification Support Officers (CSOs) in Great Britain.

Among other changes, the revalidation interval for CSO training has been amended from three to four years.

Background

The policy for authorisation of CSOs sets out the relationship between the Animal and Plant Health Agency and APHA authorised individuals who hold the Official Controls Qualification (Animal Health Paraprofessional) Certification Support Officer, (OCQ(AHP) - CSO).

When the policy was introduced along with the first CSOs in 2018, the revalidation interval for the OCQ(AHP) - CSO was set at three years. The first CSOs are now reaching that three-year interval. Among other changes to the policy, the revalidation interval has been amended to four years.

For those CSOs whose revalidation interval was originally set at three years, the interval will be automatically updated on 26 May 2021 to four years on their Personal Training Dashboard. Individual CSOs will be notified by Improve International once this update is complete.

There are several other changes to the policy which are applicable to all CSOs.

Action

All CSOs must review the revised ET175 Policy for Authorisation at the earliest opportunity and ensure that their employers are also made aware of the update. All additions to the previous version of the policy are highlighted for ease of reference.

The revised policy can be found on the Animal Health Paraprofessional (AHP) pages of the APHA Vet Gateway (link below).

CSOs who previously had a three-year training revalidation interval must note their new date for the completion of the revalidation. As above, this new date will be automatically updated and the details will be available on your Personal Training Dashboard from 26 May 2021.

Further Information

Link to the revised ET175, Policy for APHA Authorisation of Export Certification Support Officers (CSOs) in Great Britain- <http://apha.defra.gov.uk/external-operations-admin/library/documents/exports/ET175.pdf>

Improve International:

<https://www.improve-ahp.com/home/>

APHA OV Team:

CSCOneHealthOVTeam@apha.gov.uk