**VTS Renewal is 5 years after passing the initial exam**

 Renewal of VTS/VNS (Laboratory Animal Medicine) recognition may be obtained by active members of the Academy by:

1. Writing and submitting five (5) examination questions (mandatory). AND

2. Completion of fifty (50) hours/points of advanced continuing education, with no more than ten (10) hours from outside the applicable practice category, pertaining to clinical practice and other pertinent medical and surgical topics per five (5) year period. The hours may be obtained through attendance at organized conferences, on-line CE coursework, contributing to professional publications, conference presentations, or in-residence training. Members must have a minimum of twenty five (25) hours of practice category specific CE regardless of how they acquire their total points. As of 2016, the following distribution of hours/points is optional in addition to the minimum 25 hours/points to make the 50 hour/point total:

1. Relevant, RACE approved online CE can make up to forty percent (40%) of total CE hours.
2. Members can obtain fifteen (15) recertification points for writing an acceptable book chapter that is related to their practice category. This is limited to one chapter per recertification period.
3. Members can obtain ten (10) recertification points by writing an acceptable journal article related to their practice category. The journal must be a well-known journal that is peer reviewed. This is limited to one (1) article per recertification period.
4. Members can obtain ten (10) recertification points per recertification period for being an active member of an ALAVTN committee (i.e. credentials, appeals, exam, recertification, etc.). You must serve on the committee for at least two (2) years.
5. Members can obtain a total of two (2) recertification points for presenting a case report at a major conference with a maximum of four (4) points per recertification period.
6. Members can obtain one (1) point per acceptable lecture given in their species or practice category with a maximum of ten (10) points per recertification period.

g. Members can obtain one (1) point per journal article read relating to their practice category. No more than five (5) points can be obtained per recertification period and copies of journal articles must be submitted.