

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §20-2D-4

§20-2D-4. Wildlife rehabilitation permits, permit classes, and application requirements.

(a) Any person wishing to conduct wildlife rehabilitation in this state must first make application to the director for a wildlife rehabilitation permit.

(b) No person may be issued a wildlife rehabilitation permit who has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of any Federal, State, or local law or ordinance relating to wildlife, animal welfare, or animal cruelty.

(c) To be eligible for a rehabilitation permit, issued by the Director, the applicant must:

(1) Be at least 18 years of age.

(2) Be a resident of the state of West Virginia.

(3) Have wildlife handling and care training as established by the Director.

(4) Pass a relevant examination relating to biology, care, handling, diet, animal welfare, statutes, rules, and regulations and other such appropriate matters as determined by the Director.

(5) Meet and maintain facility requirements as required by the Director.

(6) Provide written verification that a veterinarian holding an active West Virginia license has agreed to assist and consult with the applicant on the treatment and care of wildlife being rehabilitated and recommends the individual for a wildlife rehabilitation permit. Except, if the applicant is a veterinarian, a copy of their active West Virginia license is required.

(7) Permit holders are required to list on their permit in-facility assistants that assist with daily care and rehabilitation. In-facility assistants must:

(A) Be at least 18 years of age.

(B) Have the appropriate wildlife handling and care training as established by the Director.