

# **A Summary Of The Role Of The American Registry Of Professional Animal Scientists**

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The American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) is a body that promotes the professionalism of its animal scientists members. Workers in several fields can apply to have their credentials and experience recognized by their peers. After 10 years of different embodiments and halting progress, ARPAS was launched in 1984, operating without a loss in any year since. Sustaining societies are American Society of Animal Science, American Dairy Science Association, Poultry Science Association, American Meat Science Association, and Equine Nutrition and Physiology Society. It is not necessary to be a member of one of these societies, and there are no formal education requirements for general membership.

American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists now numbers 1200 members, and gains about 200 per year. The registry tends to be consultants (21%), company professionals (37%), producers and commodity organization people (4%) and university and government staff (38%). Levels of membership include: Associate, ideal for college seniors, and designed to broaden awareness, Professional Animal Scientist (PAS), the majority of members, and Board Certified, which confers enrollment as a diplomat in specific colleges (behavior, food science, genetics, nutrition, physiology). Continuing education is required to maintain membership and is usually accomplished by attendance at approved professional meetings. Written examinations, drafted by your peers and approved by the ARPAS governing council, are integral to qualification. All members abide by a code of ethics sanctioned by ARPAS. Details of requirements and an application form are on the web at [www.arpas.org](http://www.arpas.org).