



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Veterinary Science

Fakulteit Veeartsenykunde
Lefapha la Disaense tša bongakadiruiwa

www.veterinary.up.ac.za



Note: The minimum admission requirements reflected in this brochure are subject to changes in regulations relating to COVID-19. Amendments will reflect in the digital version of this brochure, which can be downloaded from www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Faculty brochures.

2023

UNDERGRADUATE FACULTY BROCHURE

Make today matter

Message from the Dean

As the only Faculty of Veterinary Science in the country, we play a singular role in the training of veterinarians and veterinary nurses, who are indispensable for the country's farming and animal welfare needs. We are also the leading Faculty of Veterinary Science in Africa and enjoy wide international recognition.

Prof Vinny Naidoo
Dean: Faculty of Veterinary Science



In 2020 the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria celebrated 100 years of veterinary education in South Africa. For the last few years, our Faculty has been ranked in the top 50 globally as a provider of veterinary science education.

Despite our international recognition, the Faculty strives to be locally relevant, and we are passionate in our endeavours to meet the needs of South Africa. This not only applies to commercial farming but also to primary animal healthcare, where veterinarians and veterinary nurses assist rural communities and smallholder farmers. By controlling animal diseases and promoting livestock production, veterinarians contribute to increasing the profitability of commercial and small-scale farming enterprises, thereby enhancing food security and economic development of livestock owners.

Our graduates and research programmes are vital for enhancing public and animal health, promoting biosecurity and welfare, and ensuring that our pets are safe and sound. The quality of its training is such that graduates from this Faculty have no difficulty competing for and entering postgraduate programmes at universities in countries

around the world. The Faculty, situated on a separate campus that compares favourably with the best in the world hosts five academic departments, three research centres and the state of the art Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH), through which we offer the majority of our training. The Faculty is also in a unique position to provide clinical training in our surrounding communities and the Hluhuvukani Clinic near the Orpen Gate of the Kruger National Park, with services provided in production animal medicine, herd health, state veterinary medicine, wildlife medicine, community medicine and welfare practice.

While we promote an excellent study environment and boast some of the best pass rates in the country, the Faculty is a vibrant place where a wide variety of social and sports activities on and off-campus is also offered. During your studies, you will develop into a balanced individual and be empowered to start an exciting career as a professional.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Onderstepoort Campus of the University of Pretoria.

Produced by the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration in December 2021.
Comments and queries may be directed to ssc@up.ac.za or tel: +27 (0)12 420 3111.

Disclaimer: This publication contains information about regulations, policies, tuition fees, curricula and programmes of the University of Pretoria applicable at the time of printing. Amendments to or updating of the information in this publication may be affected from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained in this publication is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the published information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.

Cover photograph: In 2021 the Faculty performed the first ever CT scan on a live adult rhino in South Africa. General anesthetics were administered to Oz the rhino for the CT scan procedure. Photograph by Care for Wild Rhino Sanctuary.

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General overview



Acronyms

ACE	Accelerated Christian Education
APS	Admission Point Score
AVBC	Australasian Veterinary Boards Council
BVetNurs	Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing
BVSc	Bachelor of Veterinary Science
CCS	Compulsory Community Service
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
GED	General Education Development Test
IEB	Independent Examination Board
NBT	National Benchmark Test
NCV	National Certificate Vocational
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
NSC	National Senior Certificate
OVAH	Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital
RCVS	Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAVC	South African Veterinary Council
SANDF	South African National Defence Force
SAPS	South African Police Service
SOT	School of Tomorrow
TOEFL	Test of English as Foreign Language
UMAS	University Module Achievement Score
USAf	Universities South Africa
VCN	Veterinary Council of Namibia
VNVAf	Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form
VSVAF	Veterinary Science Value-added Form

General overview of the Faculty of Veterinary Science

The Faculty has the following departments, divisions and centres:

Academic departments:

- Department of Anatomy and Physiology
- Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases
- Department of Paraclinical Sciences
- Department of Production Animal Studies
- Department of Companion Animal Clinical Studies

Faculty administration

- General administration
- Finances
- Human resources
- Marketing, communication and fundraising

Student administration

- Provides full logistical support to academic departments, students and staff for all undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes.
- Provides student and academic administration support services in collaboration with similar service providers on the Hatfield Campus of the University.

Centres

- Equine Research Centre (ERC)
- Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Research (CVWR)
- University of Pretoria Biomedical Research Centre (UPBRC)

Teaching and Learning support services

- Onderstepoort Teaching Animal Unit (OTAU)
- Onderstepoort Skills Laboratory

Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH)

- A state-of-the-art facility for year-round clinical and referral services
- Satellite community clinics
- Experiential work-integrated training of students

Student support services

- Student Health Services (on-site nurse and doctor's appointments)
- Student Counselling Unit (on-site psychologist appointments)
- Faculty Student Advisor (on-site appointments for assistance with time management, study methods, stress management, financial assistance, tutor support, etc)
- The Disability Unit (situated on the Hatfield Campus)

The Faculty of Veterinary Science is based on the Onderstepoort Campus.

Google map
GPS coordinates

<http://goo.gl/gwjD09>
S28° 10' 54" E25° 38' 52"
(22 km from Hatfield Campus)

General overview

General admission principles

- Admission to the University of Pretoria is subject to the General Regulations of the University.
- To register for a first bachelor's degree at the University an applicant should have completed the National Senior Certificate (NSC), or equivalent qualification and meet the minimum requirements for admission to bachelor's degree study.
- Applicants must also comply with the particular subject and achievement level requirements as well as with the minimum Admission Point Score (APS) for the relevant programme.
- The APS calculation is based on an applicant's achievement in six 20-credit recognised subjects, by using the NSC or IEB ratings that is the '1 to 7 scale of achievement' as explained in the table below. Thus, the highest APS that can be achieved is 42.
- Please note that Life Orientation is a 10-credit subject and is excluded from the calculation when determining the APS.
- Grade 11 (or equivalent) results are used in the conditional admission selection process for school leavers.
- With selection into the programme being competitive, applicants generally need to exceed the minimum entry requirements to secure a place in the programme. Compliance with the minimum requirements does not automatically guarantee admission to the degree.
- In the case of school leavers, the results in the final NSC, or equivalent qualification, will be the determining factor for final admission.
- Minimum requirements for admission to the relevant programmes are set out in the Minimum Requirements table on page 4.
- Applications from prospective students who have been excluded or expelled from the University of Pretoria or any other institution of higher education based on misconduct or poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to this institution.
- The following subject rating scores are used for calculating the APS (see Annexure A for the APS conversion table for schooling systems other than the South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) systems).

Subject Rating Scores

Rating code	Rating	Marks %
7	Outstanding achievement	80-100%
6	Meritorious achievement	70-79%
5	Substantial achievement	60-69%
4	Adequate achievement	50-59%
3	Moderate achievement	40-49%
2	Elementary achievement	30-39%
1	Not achieved	0-29%

Applications open: 1 April 2022

Closing date: 30 June

No more applications will be accepted after the closing date as the admission selection process will commence.



Undergraduate programmes

Important information for all prospective students for 2023

- The admission requirements and general information in this brochure apply to students who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) qualifications.
- Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to:
 - **Brochure:** *Undergraduate Programme Information 2023: Qualifications other than the NSC and IEB*, available at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.
 - **Brochure:** *Newcomers Guide 2022*, available at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.
 - **Website:** www.up.ac.za/international-cooperation-division.
- **School of Tomorrow (SOT) and Accelerated Christian Education (ACE):** The University of Pretoria no longer accepts qualifications awarded by these institutions.
- **General Education Development (GED):** South African GED graduates who graduated up to 2019 may be considered for admission provided they qualify for an exemption certificate issued by USAf and comply with university admission requirements, as well as faculty subject requirements. South African GED graduates who graduated after 2019 cannot be considered for admission to UP as the diploma is not accredited by USAf and will not be considered for exemption. Applicants from the USA who completed the GED may apply for a Foreign Conditional Exemption Certificate issued by USAf accompanied by their SAT/TOEFL/IELTS results.
- **National Certificate (Vocational) (NCV) Level 4:** The University of Pretoria may consider NCV candidates, provided they meet the exemption for bachelor's status criteria and the programme requirements.

Important faculty-specific information on undergraduate programmes for 2023

The closing date for all selection programmes is **30 June 2022**. The University of Pretoria has decided not to set a specific closing date for applications to non-selection programmes for 2023. Applications will close when the available study spaces are filled (**close on availability of space**). Once the available number of study places for a specific programme are filled, no further applications for that particular programme will be considered. All applicants are therefore strongly advised and encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible after 1 April 2022 and to check the application site (UP Student Portal) regularly.

- The Faculty offers the following undergraduate programmes:
 - Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)
 - Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs)
- Both undergraduate programmes in this Faculty include selection procedures, which are based on merit within different categories.
- The following persons may be considered for admission:
 - applicants who are currently in their final school year and have applied with their final results of the preceding year of schooling (Grade 11 or equivalent);
 - applicants who have completed their final school year, but have not yet commenced further studies;
 - applicants who have a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required National Senior Certificate (NSC) with university endorsement. This certificate must be certified by Universities South Africa (USAf);
 - applicants who are currently enrolled for tertiary education;
 - applicants who are graduates from another tertiary institution, or have been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and
 - applicants who are graduates of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.
- BVSc applicants, please refer to Annexure C, for the categories of students we admit based on the Merit Point Score.
- BVetNurs applicants, please refer to Annexure D, for the categories of students we admit based on the Merit Point Score.
- The Faculty, being the only one of its kind in South Africa, strives to select students from diverse backgrounds and ethnic representation.
- Designated ethnic groups (see Annexure C and Annexure D) are interpreted in terms of the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 and include black Africans, Coloureds and Indians.
- The highest-ranking applicants are selected until the capacity is reached within each category.
- The Admissions Committee of the Faculty of Veterinary Science may assign spaces to another category when there are insufficient applicants who meet the minimum criteria in a particular category.
- The final number of places offered to applicants is determined by the Admissions Committee, taking into account the teaching facilities and available resources.
- School-leaving and university applicants who are conditionally admitted will forfeit their placement if they fail to meet the conditions as set in Annexure G.
- To retain conditional admission, applicants need to comply with the minimum subject requirements based on their final school year results.
- South African school-leaving applicants enrolled for the NSC or IEB who have forfeited their placement and who still comply with the minimum requirements will automatically be considered in the second round of selection in January.

Specific conditions after conditional selection: See Annexure G.

The application and selection process: See Annexure H.

Note: Achieving the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee a place in the BVSc or BVetNurs programme of the University of Pretoria. Any false information provided by an applicant in his/her application, or on the Veterinary Value-added Form (Annexures E and F), may result in immediate cancellation of the application.

Notes on National Benchmark Test (NBT): The NBT will not be considered for selection and admission in 2023.

Undergraduate programmes

University of Pretoria website www.veterinary.up.ac.za
Enquiries vetug@up.ac.za

Programmes	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2023			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) [6 years] Closing date: 30 June	5	5	5	35
Proposed second choice programmes for BVSc are BSc (Biological Science), BSc (Zoology) and BScAgric (Animal Science). These programmes are also recommended for applicants who intend to apply again for a transfer to the BVSc programme in 2023 or later. Note: Students who intend to apply for admission to BVSc may register for BSc (Biological Sciences) modules, including Medical Terminology (MTL 180).				
Careers: Veterinarians in private practice, research, academia or state veterinary services. Veterinarians can also work in the following fields: diagnostic laboratories, veterinary public health (milk and meat hygiene, control of transfer of disease), technical services, research and product development in pharmaceutical and food industries, consultancy, laboratory animal management, wildlife management, poultry and pig production and animal welfare. Further details appear on page 5.				
Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs) [3 years] Closing date: 30 June	4	4	Physical Sciences or Life Sciences	28
			4	
For advice on a second-choice programme for BVetNurs, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za .				
Careers: The following institutions employ veterinary nurses: veterinary clinics and veterinary hospitals, specialist veterinary facilities, the pharmaceutical industry, the animal food industry, animal welfare societies, zoological gardens, game parks, laboratory animal units, rehabilitation centres, research centres, animal boarding establishments, organised agriculture, dairies and farming operations. Further details appear on page 8.				

For applicants in other schooling systems (IGCSE/LGCSE/BGCSE/SGCSE/GCSE/HIGCSE/NSC/O Level/AS Level/A Level/IBSL/IBHL or ABITUR), refer to Annexure A for the conversion of scores to the NSC equivalent. Applicants from schooling systems in which Physical Sciences is taught as two separate subjects (Physics and Chemistry) have to achieve the equivalent minimum level in both subjects. For more information, refer to the brochure: Undergraduate Programme Information 2023: Qualifications other than the National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.

Applicants from countries other than South Africa must comply with all UP and the Department of Home Affairs regulations related to foreign students. If an applicant has multiple citizenships which includes South African citizenship, s/he will be considered as a South African applicant. Applicants with GED and School of Tomorrow qualifications will not be considered for admission. Any false information or any deliberate omission of information, provided by an applicant in his/her application may result in immediate cancellation of the application, admission or registration.

The Merit Point Score

The Merit Point Score (see Annexure C and D) is calculated as follows:

- For school leavers the NSC/IEB Grade 11 scores (or equivalent) are used to determine conditional admission:
 - Mathematics contributes 40%,
 - English contributes 20%,
 - Physical Sciences (or Life Sciences in the case of BVetNurs) contributes 20%; and
 - the Veterinary Value-added Form contributes 20%.
- For applicants with university exposure, the following are used to determine the Merit Point Score:
 - UMAS contributes 80% (See Annexure B); and
 - the VSVAf/VNVAf contributes 20% (See Annexures E and F).

The Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAf) and the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (VNVAf)

The VSVAf/VNVAf is used in the Faculty of Veterinary Science to ensure that the applicant makes an informed decision about his/her career choice. These forms will indicate prior exposure to veterinary science and veterinary nursing as professions, and the Faculty will allocate a score based on the prospective student's veterinary profile.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the online VSVAf/VNVAf is completed by the relevant deadline and that all related documents are uploaded.

The components are:

- Applicants should provide evidence of their **balanced lifestyle that will promote and sustain personal wellness** (leadership positions, participation in sports, culture and adventure activities, etc).
- Animal experience:** Applicants should reflect on their experience with aspects, including animals being killed for humane purposes, animals being slaughtered (Veterinary Science only) or animals giving birth. There is a section in the online VSVAf/VNVAf where these reflections must be typed in.
- Career shadowing:** Applicants should provide evidence of career shadowing of practising professionals (veterinarians in the case of BVSc applicants and veterinary nurses in the case of BVetNurs applicants). Applicants should attempt to get exposure to as wide a range as possible of practice areas within the relevant profession. This includes career shadowing of a professional in the relevant profession in government (Veterinary Science only) and in private practice (production animals, equines, wildlife and small animals).
- Note:** Applicants may be requested to participate in additional selection activities to verify the score obtained from the VSVAf/VNVAf. This may include an interview and/or additional selection tests. More on the VSVAf/VNVAf in Annexure E and F in this brochure.

Why you should complete the Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAf) or the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (VNVAf)

- Completion of the VSVAf/VNVAf will help you to make an informed decision about the profession as a suitable career choice for you.
- The score achieved for the VSVAf/VNVAf can improve an applicant's chances for selection.
- The VSVAf/VNVAf will help to prepare you for your studies by providing you with prior learning opportunities in the particular profession.**

Veterinary Science (BVSc)



Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)

The full-time BVSc programme is offered by the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria, the only faculty of its kind in South Africa.

Entry into the BVSc programme is highly competitive due to the popularity of the programme and limited available spaces. Selection is based on academic merit and the compulsory Veterinary Science Value-added Form or the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (Read in conjunction with Annexures C, E and F (pages 13-20)).



What does the programme entail?

- Applicants in the six-year BVSc programme will complete a core curriculum over four and a half years (nine semesters) and then conclude their programme with 18 months of work-integrated training in the core and elective components and a research project.
- The BVSc programme consists of a combination of lectures, electronic learning opportunities, discussions, demonstrations, seminars, assignments, curricular community engagement, group work, practicals and clinical work, which are offered mainly in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital and its satellite community clinics and include exposure to private practices, state veterinary services, commercial and small-scale farms, abattoirs and various other related industries.
- The programme's first year is a biological science foundation year and is presented on the Hatfield Campus. The remaining veterinary-specific years are offered at the Onderstepoort Campus.
- The language of tuition is English at the University of Pretoria.
- **Veterinarians and personal wellbeing:** The BVSc programme and a career in veterinary science is both challenging and enriching, and applicants should take note that a high level of mental resilience is required to thrive in this profession. Applicants with prior or existing mental health risks should consider this carefully and seek professional advice when considering a career as a veterinary professional.

A video about the BVSc curriculum is available at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vuV0tabSiXn3D9iEucPTV2KltMZHPutD/view?usp=drive_web

Veterinary Science (BVSc)

State veterinary services

A significant number of veterinarians are employed as state or provincial veterinarians in government service. They render essential regulatory services related to the diagnosis, surveillance, monitoring, control, prevention and eradication of notifiable diseases. State veterinarians are also responsible for matters related to the import and export of animals and animal products and food safety and security. In regions where there are no private practitioners, state veterinarians also provide clinical services. Veterinarians are also employed in the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and the South African Police Service (SAPS).

Private practice

Most veterinarians in the country are gainfully employed in private practice, either in their own practices, in partnership, as assistants or as locums. There are several specialisations in private practice: production animal practice, providing veterinary services to the livestock farmer (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry and game), companion animal practice (dogs, cats, horses, cage birds, etc) and mixed practice (pets/production animals/wildlife). The services provided by the private practitioner include, among others, clinical services, disease prevention strategies, advice and a whole range of consultative services on nutrition, management, production, reproduction, and biotechnology.

Research

Research can be conducted in a broad spectrum of areas (veterinary, agricultural and biomedical sciences), attending to problems related to both animals and humans.

Academia

Graduates can teach at veterinary, medical, agricultural and natural science institutions, conduct research, participate in community engagement activities and provide clinical services.

Private, state and provincial diagnostic laboratories

Graduates can provide routine or forensic diagnostic services involving pathology, clinical pathology, microbiology and toxicology.

Career opportunities

The **Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)** employs all South African BVSc graduates for 12 months' **Compulsory Community Service (CCS)** after completing the BVSc programme and before graduates are allowed to practice as veterinarians in South Africa for any other employer including self-employment. For more information, visit www.dalrrd.gov.za.

Veterinary public health

Food security and the production of safe food for human consumption are critical fields in which the veterinarian plays a key role. Veterinarians are responsible for ensuring the maintenance of meat and milk hygiene in abattoirs and milk processing plants and their role in the maintenance and improvement of animal health on farms. Veterinarians involved in veterinary public health play an essential role in the control of zoonotic diseases (ie diseases transferred from animals to humans).

Consultancy

The veterinarian can provide specialised or specialist services to the farm animal and pet industries, such as a consultant in the pig and poultry industries, feedlots, or specialist practices (such as surgery, internal medicine, ophthalmology, and dentistry). In a specialist practice, the practitioner will need to have the appropriate postgraduate qualification and be registered with the SAVC to practise as a specialist veterinarian.

Commerce

The veterinarian is involved in research and product development in the pharmaceutical and feed industries and the provision of technical advice in sales and management.

Laboratory animal science

The veterinarian is an essential member of the team involved in the welfare of laboratory animals, monitoring the utilisation of animals for experimental purposes and giving advice on ethical issues.

Poultry production

The poultry industry provides large volumes of animal protein for human consumption, and veterinarians play a pivotal role in food security.

Animal welfare

The veterinarian is intimately involved in animal welfare in providing clinical services and advice, and management at welfare organisations. Veterinarians are involved in general matters pertaining to the welfare of animals through the promotion of appropriate husbandry practices, nutritional practices, disease prevention strategies and sound production systems.

Wildlife management

The veterinarian may pursue career opportunities in wildlife ranching, conservation and zoological institutions. This has been a growing field in recent years.

International employment

Graduates from the Faculty enjoy wide national and international recognition. The BVSc degree of the University of Pretoria is accredited for registration as a veterinarian in the United Kingdom by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council, and the Veterinary Council of Namibia.

More information

South African Veterinary Association (SAVA): www.sava.co.za

SAVA Young members:
www.facebook.com/SAVAyoungmembers

South African Veterinary Council (SAVC):
www.savc.org.za

Veterinary Science (BVSc)



Who is the ideal candidate?

For a young person who likes working with people and is interested in animals and a career in biomedical sciences, veterinary science provides a spectrum of exciting opportunities. Like many similar career options, veterinary science may perhaps be considered a 'calling', and the decision to become a veterinarian involves the mind, the body, as well as the heart.

While love for animals may be a component of the decision to pursue veterinary science or veterinary nursing as a career, a more profound empathy will be required, as well as the passion for improving people's lives by improving food safety and security, coupled with a sense of compassion and caring for animals, their owners and farmers. The course is demanding and requires significant mental and emotional resilience, engagement, dedication and hard work.

Being a veterinarian or a veterinary nurse are both careers with long and often irregular hours and usually involves hard physical work while testing tolerance levels. The ability to work with animals, but even more so with people, is essential.

What makes this programme unique?

BVSc is regarded as level 8 of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), enabling the graduate to enter postgraduate programmes at the master's level.

Accreditation and professional registration

The BVSc programme is accredited with the **South African Veterinary Council (SAVC)**, the **Veterinary Council of Namibia (VCN)**, the **Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)** in the United Kingdom, and the **Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC)** in Australia and New Zealand. BVSc graduates are eligible to register as veterinarians in these and several other countries without passing any further professional examinations. The **SAVC** governs the ethics and standards of veterinary education and practice in South Africa. All students must register with the Council at first registration in the BVSc programme, maintain their registration annually, and adhere to its rules. Registration with the SAVC is a prerequisite for practising as a veterinarian in South Africa.



Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2023			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) [6 years] Closing date: 30 June	5	5	5	35

Proposed second choice programmes for BVSc are BSc (Biological Science), BSc (Zoology) and BScAgric (Animal Science). These programmes are also recommended for applicants who intend to apply again for a transfer to the BVSc programme in 2023 or later. Note: Students who intend to apply for admission to BVSc may register for BSc (Biological Sciences) modules, including Medical Terminology (MTL 180).

Careers: Veterinarians in private practice, research, academia or state veterinary services. Veterinarians can also work in the following fields: diagnostic laboratories, veterinary public health (milk and meat hygiene, control of transfer of disease), technical services, research and product development in pharmaceutical and food industries, consultancy, laboratory animal management, wildlife management, poultry and pig production and animal welfare. Further details appear on page 5.

Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs)

Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs)

What does the programme entail?

- The language of tuition is English at the University of Pretoria.
- Applications for the BVetNurs programme close on 30 June.
- The BVetNurs programme requires three years of full-time study. The first and second years of the programme are devoted to didactic teaching and practical skills training.
- In the third (final) year of the programme, students undergo work-integrated clinical training.
- The BVetNurs programme consists of lectures, electronic learning opportunities, discussions, demonstrations, assignments, curricular community engagement activities, group work, practicals and clinical work. The latter is offered mainly in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital and its community clinics and includes exposure to private practices and other facilities.
- Student support provided includes tutoring and academic support.
- Entry into the BVetNurs programme is highly competitive due to its increasing popularity and limited available spaces.
- Selection is based on academic merit and the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (VNVAf)
- A graduate who successfully completed the programme will have received broad-based training in veterinary nursing. It is regarded to be at the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) level 7. A graduate can enter a postgraduate diploma in veterinary nursing, which is at NQF level 8.



A video about the BVetNurs curriculum is available at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12alg1sCNkM5vOL2jeS36S1sfx3FivhLk/view?usp=drive_web



Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs)

Who is the ideal candidate?

Veterinary nursing requires a dedicated and motivated person with a particular interest in working with animals and their owners. The veterinary nurse is a professional team member that includes veterinarians and is expected to show a high degree of responsibility, organisational skills, and patience. Self-discipline, compassion, honesty, dedication and a sense of humour are recommended attributes.

The programme is demanding and requires dedication and hard work. It is a career with long and often irregular hours. The ability to work with both people and animals is essential.

What makes this programme unique?

Accreditation and professional registration

The BVetNurs programme is accredited by the **South African Veterinary Council (SAVC)**.

The SAVC governs the ethics and standards of veterinary nursing education and practice in South Africa. All students must register with the Council at first registration in the BVetNurs programme, maintain their registration annually, and adhere to its rules. Registration with the SAVC is a prerequisite for practising as a veterinary nurse in South Africa.

Career opportunities

Industries

Employment in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital and the pharmaceutical and animal feed industries.

Research

Zoological gardens, game parks, laboratory animal units, rehabilitation centres, research centres, boarding establishments, organised agriculture, dairies and farming operations also offer gainful employment.

Private veterinary practice that could range from urban to rural, mixed general or species-specific. The veterinary nurse assists with anaesthesia, operating theatre management, intensive care, radiography, laboratory analysis, animal patient care and nursing, disease prevention, administration and practice management.

State veterinary services

Veterinary nurses are also employed in provincial and national government departments and animal welfare societies throughout South Africa.

More information

Veterinary Nursing Association of South Africa (VNASA): www.sava.co.za

South African Veterinary Council (SAVC): www.savc.org.za

Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2023			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences or Life Sciences	
Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs) [3 years] Closing date: 30 June	4	4	4	28

For advice on a second-choice programme for BVetNurs, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

Careers: The following institutions employ veterinary nurses: veterinary clinics and veterinary hospitals, specialist veterinary facilities, the pharmaceutical industry, the animal food industry, animal welfare societies, zoological gardens, game parks, laboratory animal units, rehabilitation centres, research centres, animal boarding establishments, organised agriculture, dairies and farming operations.

Annexure A

Admission Point Score (APS) Conversion Table

The following table is used to convert symbols of schooling systems other than the National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) systems to an APS or a percentage for selection purposes when applying for studies at the University of Pretoria. Note that USAf exemption applies and that applicants must meet faculty-specific requirements before they will be considered for admission/conditional admission.

Percentage awarded by UP (equivalent NSC achievement level)	IGCSE/ LGCSE/ BGCSE/ SGCSE/ GCSE/ NSSC OL/ O Level = Gr 11#	HIGCSE/ NSSC HL	AS Level	A Level	IB SL	IB HL	KOMBI ABITUR	CGCE UCE NECO WAEC ZIMSEC O Level = Gr 11#	CGCE UACE WAEC ZIMSEC A Level	KCSE	NCV % (Performance level)	
											Fundamental	Vocational
100% (7)							100%					
95% (7)				A*		7	95%			A+		
90% (7)	A*	1	A	A	7	6	90%		A			
85% (7)	A			B	6	5	85%	A	B	A		
80% (7)				C			80%		C		80% (7)	80–100% (5)
75% (6)	B	2	B	D	5	4	75%	B	D	A-		
70% (6)							70%				70% (6)	70–79% (4)
65% (5)	C		C		4	3	65%	C		B+		
60% (5)		3		E			60%		E		60% (5)	
55% (4)	D		D		3	2	55%	D		B		
50% (4)					2		50%				50% (4)	50–69% (3)
45% (3)		4	E		1	1	45%			B-		
40% (3)	E						40%	E			40% (3)	40–49% (2)

IGCSE—International General Certificate of Secondary Education
LGCSE—Lesotho General Certificate of Secondary Education
BGCSE—Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education
SGCSE—Swazini General Certificate of Secondary Education
GCSE—General Certificate of Secondary Education
NSSC—Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate
O Level—Ordinary Level
HIGCSE—Higher International General Certificate of Secondary Education
AS Level—Advanced Subsidiary Level
A Level—Advanced Level

IB SL—International Baccalaureate (Standard Levels)
IB HL—International Baccalaureate (Higher Levels)
CGCE—Cameroon General Certificate of Education
KCSE—Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
NECO—Nigeria National Examinations Council
UCE—Uganda Certificate of Education
UACE—Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education
WAEC—West African Examination Council
ZIMSEC—Zimbabwe School Examination Council
NCV—National Certificate (Vocational)

Only English with at least a C-symbol on this level can be used for final admission (excluding the Faculty of Health Sciences where English is required at either A Level or AS Level). All other subject requirements per faculty must be on A Level and/or AS Level for final admission before registration—refer to the subject requirements per faculty tables in the brochure: *Undergraduate Programme Information 2023*.
Qualifications other than the NSC and IEB, available at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.

Annexures

Annexure A (continued)

Admission Point Score (APS) Conversion Table

Percentage awarded by UP (equivalent NSC or IEB achievement level)	Zeugnis Der Allgemeinen Hochschule REIFE/ ABITUR (Germany)	Baccalauréat Général (France) and Certificado De Fim De Estudos Secundários (Portugal)	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (Canada)						HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (United States of America)				AP (College Board)	
			Alberta		British Columbia/Yukon		Ontario		UP APS Level	%	Grade	GPA	Grade	AP Score
			%	Grade	%	Grade	%	Grade						
100% (7)	15	20							7	97–100	A+	4.0		
95% (7)	14	19	90–100	A+	86–100	A	4	90–100	A+	93–96	A	4.0	A+	5
90% (7)	13	18	85–89	A	73–85	B	3	80–89	A	90–92	A-	3.7		
85% (7)	12	17	80–84	A-	67–72	C+	2.5	70–79	B	87–89	B+	3.3	A-	4
80% (7)	11	16	77–79	B+	60–66	C	2	60–69	C	83–86	B	3.0	B-	3
75% (6)	10 to 9	15	73–76	B	50–59	C-	1	50–59	D	80–82	B-	2.7		
70% (6)	8	14	70–72	B-	0–49	Failed	0	0–49	Failed	77–79	C+	2.3		
65% (5)	7	13	67–69	C+					5	73–76	C	2.0		
60% (5)	6	12	63–66	C					5	70–72	C-	1.3		
55% (4)	5	11	60–62	C-					4	67–69	D+	1.0		
50% (4)	4	10	55–59	D+					4	63–66	D	0.7		
45% (3)			50–54	D					4	60–62	D-	0.0		
40% (3)			0–49	F										

Zeugnis der Allgemeinen Hochschule/Abitur—German school-leaving certificate

Baccalauréat Général—France, Monaco and other French territories school-leaving certificate

Certificado de Fim de Estudos Secundários—Portugal school-leaving certificate

High School Diploma—Canada school-leaving certificate

High School Diploma—United States of America (USA) school-leaving certificate

Advanced Placement—College Board

School leaving qualifications from countries not mentioned above, eg New Zealand, Spain, Morocco, Scotland, Australia etc. These qualifications will also be considered provided they comply with USAF exemption requirements for a complete/foreign exemption certificate. Faculties will determine admission requirements based on the school subjects passed and their symbols/percentages.

Annexures

Annexure B

Calculation of the University Module Achievement Score (UMAS) for applicants with previous university exposure

The UMAS of applicants who are currently registered will be calculated based on their academic achievement during the last three semesters of tertiary studies. The UMAS of applicants who are not registered and have completed a tertiary qualification will be calculated based on their academic achievement during the last year of tertiary studies.

Applicants from other universities will be responsible to key in the relevant completed module codes, module names, final grades, credits and the year completed on the Student Portal before 15 September, up to the minimum value of 120 credits. Failed modules must be captured as well. All captured information will be validated before the university module achievement score (UMAS) will be calculated. All transcripts (academic records) for completed modules must be uploaded on the Student Portal. UP students' results will be transferred and need not be keyed in on the Student Portal.

The UMAS calculation is based on the number of completed subjects/modules. The formula returns a score which has a maximum value of 80 (excluding bonus points).

The grid below will be used to calculate the UMAS:

Number of university subjects	Results/grades obtained per university subject				
	>75%	70–74%	60–69%	50–59%	<50%
3	25.0	20.0	16.7	13.3	1.7
4	19.5	15.5	12.9	10.3	1.3
5	16.0	12.8	10.6	8.4	1.0
6	13.3	11.0	9.0	7.2	0.8
7	11.4	9.7	7.9	6.3	0.7
8	10.0	8.8	7.1	5.7	0.6
9	8.9	7.8	6.5	5.2	0.5
10	8.0	7.0	6.0	4.8	0.5
11	7.3	6.4	5.5	4.4	0.4
12	6.7	5.8	5.0	4.2	0.4
13	6.2	5.4	4.6	3.8	0.4
14	5.7	5.0	4.3	3.6	0.3
15	5.3	4.7	4.0	3.3	0.3
16	5.0	4.4	3.8	3.1	0.3
17	4.7	4.1	3.5	2.9	0.3
18	4.4	3.9	3.3	2.8	0.3
19	4.2	3.7	3.2	2.6	0.2
20	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	0.2
Total	80	70	60	50	5

Bonus points are added as follows for the highest degree obtained:

3-year Bachelor's degree completed (NQF Level 7):	+1
4-year (or more) bachelor's degree, honours degree and/or postgraduate diploma completed (NQF Level 8):	+2
Master's degree completed (NQF Level 9):	+4
Doctoral degree completed (NQF Level 10):	+5
One additional bonus point is scored for every degree and/or postgraduate qualification obtained with distinction.	

Annexures

Annexure C

Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) 08130005: Selection categories

				Maximum number of admissions per year of study			
Category		Minimum requirements to be placed on the selection list	Calculation of the Merit Point Score	First year		Second year	
				Ethnic category		Ethnic category	
				Open	Designated	Open	Designated
A1	South African school leavers enrolled for the NSC or IEB: first round of selection in July	NSC or IEB (Grade 11 for conditional selection) with APS 35 AND English 60%; Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60%	NSC or IEB (Grade 11 for conditional selection) final scores in Mathematics (40%); English (20%); Physical Sciences (20%); and VSVAF score (20%) (see Annexure E)	50	50	-	-
A2	South African school leavers enrolled for the NSC or IEB: second round of selection in January	NSC or IEB with APS 35 AND English 60%; Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60%; AND placement on the selection list for Category A1.	NSC or IEB final scores in Mathematics (40%); English (20%); Physical Sciences (20%); and VSVAF score (20%) (see Annexure E)	Numbers determined by cancellations and forfeited places in January of the registration year		-	-
A3	South African school leavers enrolled in other schooling systems (as defined in Annexure A)	A minimum APS score of 35 using the conversion table in Annexure A (Grade 11 equivalent for conditional selection) AND An equivalent of English 60%, Mathematics 60%, Physical Sciences (or Physics and Chemistry) 60% using the conversion table in Annexure A	Final (Grade 11 equivalent for conditional selection) available scores in Mathematics (40%), Physical Science or average for Physics and Chemistry (20%), English (20%) and VSVAF/VNVAF score (20%)	The total number of places allocated in A1 and A3 is 50 per open and designated groups. The number of places allocated to A3 will be determined in proportion to the number of applications, eg 500 applications of which 400 NSC or IEB and 100 others will result in 40 NSC or IEB admissions and 10 other admissions.		-	-
B1	South African applicants with university exposure: internal transfers from first year BSc (UP) (excluding the BSc Extended Programme)	Registered for a BSc programme at the University of Pretoria, including all fundamental modules AND Registered for the following specific modules: CMY117, WTW134, MLB111, PHY131, MTL180, BME120, CMY127, GTS161 and ZEN161	Average of the following modules: CMY 117, WTW 134, MLB 111, and PHY 131 (80%); VSVAF (20%) (Annexure E)	-	-	16	12
B2	South African applicants with university exposure: internal transfers from second to final year BSc (UP)	Registered for a BSc programme at the University of Pretoria AND completed a minimum of 120 credits including all fundamental modules AND Registered for or obtained credits for the following specific UP modules: CMY117, WTW134, MLB111, PHY131, MTL180, BME120, CMY127, GTS161 and ZEN161.	UMAS (80%) (Annexure B); and VSVAF score (20%) (Annexure E)	-	-	5	5
B3	South African applicants with university exposure: UP BSc Graduates and postgraduates (BSc degree completed) (May include external transfer students who completed the required modules at UP within the past 5 years)	Completed a BSc degree and/or BSc postgraduate qualification at the University of Pretoria; AND Obtained credits for the following specific UP modules: CMY117, WTW134, MLB111, PHY131, MTL180, BME120, CMY127, GTS161 and EN161		-	-	3	3
B4	South African applicants with university exposure: external transfers (other universities) from second to final year BSc (medically or biologically related) programmes, and BSc graduates and postgraduates	Valid NSC or IEB with APS 35; AND English 60%, Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60% OR Evidence of university tuition in English; AND Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics passed at university level; AND Completed a minimum of 120 credits at South African University level.	UMAS (80%) (Annexure B); and VSVAF score (20%) (Annexure E)	6	6	-	-

Annexures

Annexure C (continued)

Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) 08130005: Selection categories

Category	Minimum requirements to be placed on the selection list	Calculation of the Merit Point Score	Maximum number of admissions per year of study			
			First year		Second year	
			Ethnic category		Ethnic category	
			Open	Designated	Open	Designated
B5	South African applicants enrolled in the third semester of the extended BSc programme of UP AND Completed the following modules with a minimum final mark of 65%: AIM111, AIM121, CMY133, CMY143, LST133, LST143, MLB133, MLB143, PHY133, PHY144, UPO120, WTW133 and WTW144 AND Registered for the following modules: BME120, CMY154, CMY127, MLB153, MTL180, PHY154, WTW154, GTS161 and ZEN161	Average of the following modules: CMY133, CMY143, CMY154, WTW133, WTW144, WTW154, MLB133, MLB143, MLB153, PHY133, PHY144 and PHY154) (80%) VSVAf (20%) (Annexure E)	-	-	-	4
B6	South African applicants with university exposure: BSc graduates (BSc degree completed) registered for the final year of postgraduate studies in the Faculty of Veterinary Science, UP. OR Valid NSC or IEB with APS 35; AND English 60%, Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60% OR evidence of university tuition in English, AND Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics passed at university level. AND BSc degree completed at a South African University or equivalent level AND in the final year of registration in a postgraduate diploma or MSc programme at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, UP.	UMAS (80%) (Annexure C5); and VSVAf score (20%) (Annexure C3)	1		1	
C	Applicants nominated by DALRRD, Provincial Departments of Agriculture, SANDF or SAPS	Same as for category A or B in accordance with entrance level of applicant	Same as for category A or B	6	-	-
D1	School leavers from countries other than South Africa, who wrote the NSC or IEB	NSC or IEB with admission to degree studies with APS 35 and English 60%; Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60%	Same as for category A1	9	-	-
D2	School leavers from countries other than South Africa	A minimum APS score of 35 using the conversion table in Annexure A (Grade 11 equivalent for conditional selection) AND An equivalent of English 60%, Mathematics 60%, Physical Sciences (or Physics and Chemistry) 60% using the conversion table in Annexure A	Final (Grade 11 equivalent for conditional selection) available scores in Mathematics (40%), Physical Sciences or average for Physics and Chemistry (20%), English (20%) and VSVAf/VNVAf score (20%)	9	-	-
D3	Applicants from countries other than South Africa, with university exposure	NSC or IEB with admission to degree studies with APS 35 and English 60%; Mathematics 60%; Physical Sciences 60% OR Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics passed at NSC (or equivalent qualification) or university level; and evidence of tuition in English or UP accepted score in Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) AND Completed equivalent of a minimum of 120 credits at South African University level	UMAS (80%) (Annexure B); VSVAf (20%) (Annexure E).	4	-	-
TOTAL			140		50	

Annexures

Annexure C (continued)

Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) 08130005: Selection categories

1. School leavers

- A school leaver is someone who has never been registered in a tertiary education programme.
- A valid NSC/IEB or equivalent qualification (See Annexure A) with admission for degree purposes.
- Subject requirements and the required Admission Point Score (APS) are indicated in the table on page 4 and in Annexure A in this brochure. The APS is calculated from the achievement levels obtained in the six 20-credit subjects of the NSC.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.
- For applicants in the NSC or IEB schooling systems, conditional admission is based on Grade 11 final examination results and the Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAF), and final admission is based on maintaining a similar performance in the NSC/IEB final examinations (Refer to Annexures E and F).
- For applicants from other schooling systems (as defined in Annexure A) conditional admission is based on the final results of the year preceding the last year of schooling or equivalent, and final admission is based on submitting a certificate for admission to degree studies or complete or conditional exemption by USAf.
- Additional admission criteria may be used, including an interview and additional selection tests.

2. Applicants with previous higher education exposure

There is an opportunity for students with previous higher education experience to also apply for the BVSc programme. Placement in either the first or second year of the BVSc programme will depend on, among others, merit and subject choices. Applicants in this category should also consult Annexure B in this brochure for the calculation of UMAS.

3. Applicants who are not South African citizens

- A small number of students from countries other than South Africa are admitted to the programme, including those from neighbouring Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.
- Applicants who are accepted receive a letter of confirmation from the University, which will facilitate their application for a study permit.
- A valid study permit, obtained in the country of origin, is a prerequisite for registration.
- Applicants from countries other than South Africa must comply with all UP and the Department of Home Affairs' regulations relating to students in this category.
- The APS conversion table is provided in Annexure A.
- Please consult the International Cooperation Division's **Newcomers Guide 2022** for more information: www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.

4. Conditional admission

- Conditionally admitted applicants forfeit their placement if they do not comply with the relevant conditions (refer to Annexure G)



Annexures

Annexure D

Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs) 08130006: Selection categories

				Maximum number of admissions	
Category		Minimum requirements to be placed on the selection list	Calculation of the Merit Point Score	Category	
				Open	Designated
A1	South African school leavers enrolled for the NSC or IEB: first round of selection in July	NSC or IEB (Grade 11 for conditional selection) with APS 28 AND English 50%; Mathematics 50%; Physical Sciences or Life Sciences 50%	Applicants indicating BVetNurs as first choice will be favoured. NSC or IEB (Grade 11 for conditional selection) final scores in Mathematics (40%); English (20%); Physical Sciences or Life Sciences (20%); and VNVAF (20%) (Annexure E)	16	16
A2	South African school leavers enrolled for the NSC or IEB: second round of selection in January	NSC or IEB with APS 28 AND English 50%; Mathematics 50%; Physical Sciences or Life Sciences 50% AND placement on the selection list for category A1	NSC or IEB final scores in Mathematics (40%); English (20%); Physical Sciences or Life Sciences (20%); and VNVAF (20%) (Annexure E)	Numbers determined by cancellations or forfeited places in January of the registration year	
A3	South African school leavers enrolled in other educational schooling systems (IGCSE/GCSE/ NSSC OL/O level or HIGCSE/NSSC HL or A/AS level or IB Diploma or ABITUR)	A minimum APS score of 28 when using the conversion table in Annexure A. AND an equivalent of English 50%, Mathematics 50%, Physical Sciences or Life Sciences (or Physics and Chemistry or Biology) 50% when using the conversion table in Annexure A.	Final (Grade 11 equivalent for conditional selection) available scores in Mathematics (40%), Physical Science or Life Sciences or average for Physics and Chemistry or Biology (20%), English (20%) and VSVAF/VNVAF score (20%).	The total number of places allocated in A1 and A3 is 16 per open and designated groups. The number of places allocated to A3 will be determined in proportion to the number of applications, eg 100 applications of which 40 NSC or IEB and 10 others will result in 4 NSC or IEB admissions and 1 other admission.	
B1	Applicants with university exposure	Valid NSC or IEB with APS 28; AND English 50%, Mathematics 50%; Physical Sciences or Life Sciences 50%	Applicants indicating BVetNurs as first choice will be favoured.	4	4
B2	Applicants with university exposure: graduates (degree completed)	OR evidence of university tuition in English AND Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics or Biology passed at university level. Completed a minimum of 120 credits in an accredited NQF level 6 or higher programme.	UMAS (80%) (Annexure B); VNVAF (20%) (Annexure E).	2	2
D1	School leavers from countries other than South Africa	NSC or IEB with admission to degree studies with APS 28 and English 50%; Mathematics 50%; Physical Sciences or Life Sciences 50%	Applicants indicating BVetNurs as first choice will be favoured. SADC preferred; then same as for category A1 Final available scores in Mathematics (40%), Physical Science or Life Sciences or average for Physics and Chemistry or Biology (20%), English (20%) and VSVAF/VNVAF score (20%).	4	
D2	Applicants from countries other than South Africa, with university exposure	NSC or IEB with admission to degree studies with APS 28 AND English 50%; Mathematics 50%; Physical Sciences (or Physics and Chemistry) or Life Sciences/Biology 50% OR Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics or Biology passed at university level, AND evidence of university tuition in English OR UP accepted score in Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL)	Applicants indicating BVetNurs as first choice will be favoured. SADC preferred; then same as for categories B1–B2.	2	
TOTAL				50	

Annexures

Annexure D (continued)

Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs) 08130006: Selection categories

1. School leavers

- A valid NSC/IEB or equivalent qualification with admission for degree purposes is required.
- Subject requirements and the required Admission Point Score (APS) are indicated in the table on page 4 in this brochure. The APS is calculated from the achievement levels obtained in six 20-credit NSC subjects.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.
- For applicants in the NSC or IEB schooling systems, conditional admission is based on Grade 11 final examination results and the Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAf), and final admission is based on maintaining a similar performance in the NSC/IEB final examinations (Refer to Annexures E and F).
- For applicants from other schooling systems (as defined in Annexure A), conditional admission is based on the final results of the year preceding the last year of schooling or equivalent, and final admission is based on the submission of a certificate for admission to degree studies, or complete or conditional exemption by USAf.
- Additional admission criteria may be used, including an interview and additional selection tests.
- School leaving applicants who are conditionally admitted based on their Grade 11 results will forfeit their placement if their NSC APS is more than 2 points lower than the Grade 11 APS used for conditional admission.

2. Applicants with previous higher education exposure

There is an opportunity for students with previous higher education experience to also apply for the BVetNurs programme. Also, refer to Annexure F for the calculation of UMAS.

3. Applicants who are not South African citizens

- A small number of students from countries other than South Africa may be admitted to the programme, including those from neighbouring Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.
- Applicants who are accepted receive a letter of confirmation from the University, which will facilitate their application for a study permit.
- A valid study permit, obtained in the country of origin, is a prerequisite for registration.
- Applicants from countries other than South Africa must comply with all UP and Department of Home Affairs' regulations relating to students in this category.
- The APS conversion table appears in Annexure A.
- Please consult the International Cooperation Division's Newcomers Guide 2022 for more information: www.up.ac.za/programmes
> Undergraduate > Admission information

4. Conditional admission

- Conditionally admitted applicants forfeit their placement if they do not comply with the relevant conditions (refer to Annexure G)



Annexures

Annexure E

Veterinary Science or Veterinary Nursing Value Added Form (VSVAF/VNVAF)

1. The Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAF) or the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (VNVAF) is intended to guide applicants in the type of prior exposure that will help them to make an informed decision about a veterinary or veterinary nursing career and prepare them for their studies.
2. Each applicant's VSVAF/VNVAF is scored (for selection) using a rubric. The rubric, as well as scores per question, may be adjusted annually by the selection committee based on new information and the needs of the FVS and the veterinary or veterinary nursing industries in RSA.
3. Submission of the VSVAF/VNVAF is compulsory, and the score obtained contributes 20% towards the merit point score used for selection within each category as explained in Annexure C or D.
4. The final date for online submission of the VSVAF/VNVAF to be considered is 31 July. An applicant who does not submit the VSVAF/VNVAF by 31 July will no longer be considered for selection.
5. Applicants must complete the VSVAF/VNVAF with each application, except for school leavers considered in the second round of selection in January, in which case the score obtained during the first round of selection in July will be transferred to the second round of selection in January.
6. Applicants submitting the VSVAF/VNVAF must submit evidence for sections 1, 2 and 3 in the form, and must write a short reflection about their experience in the case of section 2.
7. Applicants can download the forms to be completed for section 3 (Annexure F). These forms will be used as evidence to validate the information provided by the applicant.
8. Prospective BVSc students must shadow a veterinarian, and prospective BVetNurs students must shadow a veterinary nurse.
9. Any false information provided by an applicant on the Veterinary Value-added Form may result in immediate cancellation of the application.

A summary of the content of the Veterinary Science Value-added Form (VSVAF) or the Veterinary Nursing Value-added Form (VNVAF) that prospective veterinary and veterinary nursing students at the University of Pretoria will complete online after the application is processed.

The sections used in the VSVAF/VNVAF are as follows:

1. Evidence of a balanced lifestyle to promote and sustain personal wellness (sports, culture, leadership, religious, adventure and other such activities)	2. Animal experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School/university official leadership positions ▪ School/university/club/provincial or other activities <p><i>You will be required to upload evidence.</i></p> <p><i>Maximum score awarded: 5 points</i></p>	<p>Personal experience and observation of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An animal being killed for humane purposes ▪ An animal being slaughtered (only for BVSc applicants) ▪ An animal giving birth <p><i>You will be required to upload evidence (where possible) and reflect on your experience in writing.</i></p> <p><i>Maximum score awarded: 6 points</i></p>
3. Evidence of career shadowing and recommendation by a relevant professional person	
<p>Indicate if you have accompanied a veterinarian or veterinary nurse (depending on the programme that you are applying for) in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farm and food animal private practice* ▪ Small animal private practice ▪ State veterinary office (only for BVSc applicants) ▪ Welfare organisation ▪ Other employment <p><i>You will be required to submit proof (Annexure F1/F2)</i></p> <p><i>Maximum score awarded: 9 points</i></p> <p><small>* Farm and food animal private practice include practices working with cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, ostriches, poultry, fish and wildlife.</small></p>	

Annexures

Annexure F1: BVSc

Career Shadowing Validation form: BVSc applicants

Prospective BVSc students should shadow a veterinarian

This form must only be completed by a SAVC-registered veterinary professional (veterinarian), depending on the programme that the prospective student is applying for.

Name of BVSc applicant/prospective student:			
ID number of applicant/prospective student:			
Name of veterinarian:			
SAVC registration no:			
Practice/office/organisation name:			
Email address of veterinarian:			
Period shadowed:	From:	To:	
Please indicate the specific career shadowing done with veterinarian:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Farm and food animals			
<input type="checkbox"/> Small animals			
<input type="checkbox"/> State veterinary office			
<input type="checkbox"/> Welfare organisation			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other shadowing:			
Additional comments by veterinarian:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I agree that the applicant may share my information with UP for administrative purposes only			
Declaration of conflict of interest by veterinarian (compulsory)			
<input type="checkbox"/> I declare that I have the following conflict of interest with this application:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I declare that I have no conflict of interest with this application			
Signed at (place)			
by (full names of veterinarian)			
on this	day of	20	
Signature of veterinarian		Signature of applicant/prospective student	

Annexures

Annexure F2: BVetNurs

Career Shadowing Validation form: BVetNurs applicants

Prospective BVetNurs students should shadow a veterinary nurse.

This form must only be completed by a SAVC-registered veterinary professional (veterinary nurse), depending on the programme that the prospective student is applying for.

Name of BVetNurs applicant/prospective student:			
ID number of applicant/prospective student:			
Name of veterinary nurse:			
SAVC registration no:			
Practice/office/organisation name:			
Email address of veterinary nurse:			
Period shadowed:	From:	To:	
Please indicate the specific career shadowing done with veterinary nurse:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Farm and food animals			
<input type="checkbox"/> Small animals			
<input type="checkbox"/> Welfare organisation			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other shadowing:			
Additional comments by veterinary nurse:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I agree that the applicant may share my information with UP for administrative purposes only			
Declaration of conflict of interest by veterinary nurse (compulsory)			
<input type="checkbox"/> I declare that I have the following conflict of interest with this application:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I declare that I have no conflict of interest with this application			
Signed at (place)			
by (full names of veterinary nurse)			
on this	day of	20	
Signature of veterinary nurse		Signature of applicant/prospective student	

Annexures

Annexure G

Specific conditions after conditional selection for BVSc or BVetNurs

Category	Minimum requirements to be placed on the selection list
A1 South African school leavers enrolled for the NSC or IEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If conditionally selected on the grounds of final Gr 11 results, the Merit Point Score based on NSC or IEB results should not be more than 5% lower than that based on final Grade 11 scores that resulted in selection. If conditionally selected on the grounds of final Gr 11 results, the APS for the final NSC or IEB results should still meet the minimum required APS of 35 for BVSc or 28 for BVetNurs. If conditionally selected on the grounds of final Gr 11 results, the final NSC or IEB results should still meet the minimum required score of 60% for BVSc for English, Mathematics and Physical Sciences or 50% for BVetNurs for English, Mathematics and Physical Sciences or Life Sciences. Forfeiture will not be reversed based on amended NSC or IEB results after the remarking of NSC or IEB examination papers.
A3 South African school leavers in other schooling systems (As defined in Annexure A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants conditionally selected must submit a certificate for admission to degree studies or complete or conditional exemption by USAf before registration.
B1 – B5 Applicants with university exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants conditionally selected must pass all modules registered for at the time of selection, during the examination period after selection. Applicants conditionally selected may not deregister ('drop') any required first-year BVSc module.
D1 – D3 Applicants from countries other than South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants from countries other than South Africa, conditionally selected in category D1 should comply with all conditions as set for Category A. Applicants from countries other than South Africa, conditionally selected in category D3 (for BVSc) or D2 (for BVetNurs) should comply with all conditions as set for Category B. Applicants from countries other than South Africa, conditionally selected must submit a certificate for admission to degree studies or complete conditional exemption by USAf before registration.



Annexures

Annexure H

The application and selection process (all applicants):

- Step 1** Applications **open on 1 April** for the first as well as the second round of selection. Apply on the UP website: www.up.ac.za/apply.
- Step 2** All information on the initial application is verified. Only applicants who comply with the **minimum requirements** proceed to step 3. All future communication will happen through the contact information provided by the applicant.
- Step 3** The **VSVAF/VNVAF link** will open on the UP Student Portal. Applicants should complete the online VSVAF/VNVAF and upload supporting documents.
- Step 4** Applications **close on 30 June** for all applicants (first as well as the second round of selection).
- Step 5** The online **VSVAF/VNVAF closes on 31 July**, and a score is automatically awarded based on the self-declaration by the applicant. Should an applicant fail to complete the electronic VSVAF/VNVAF, the system will automatically submit the form on behalf of the applicant on 1 September.
- Step 6** The VSVAF/VNVAF is manually **validated**, and the score adjusted (when applicable) for all applicants that are within or close to the cut-off level for selection.
- Step 7** Outstanding academic records of **external transferring** applicants (from other universities) must be submitted by the latest **15 September**, and all academic records of external transferring applicants are verified.
- Step 8** **Merit Point Scores (MPS)** are calculated for all applicants based on academic score (80%), and the value-added (VSVAF/VNVAF) score (20%).
- Step 9** Applicants are ranked based on the MPS within each category, and selection based on the number of available spaces per category takes place. In the case of school leavers in the NSC and IEB schooling systems, this represents the **first round of selection**.
- Step 10** Applicants who are conditionally admitted, or have been admitted, are **informed by 30 September**.
- Step 11** Successful applicants have to log onto the UP Student Portal and **accept/decline the offer**.
- Step 12** Unsuccessful applicants in categories A3, B, C or D that are close to the cut-off level for selection are placed on the **waiting list** in categories where cancellations might occur. Unsuccessful applicants in categories A3, B, C or D that are not informed that they are on the waiting list must not expect to be placed during the current enrolment year and should consider other options. Unsuccessful South African school leavers in Category A1 are not placed on a waiting list at this point but are automatically transferred to the second round of selection in January (Category A2).
- Step 13** When places become available in categories A3, B, C or D due to cancellation or forfeiture, they are periodically offered to candidates that have been placed on the waiting list on the original ranked selection list. This process may continue until the end of the University of Pretoria's orientation week.
- Step 14** The final admission of conditionally admitted applicants is **confirmed by no later than seven days after the release of the NSC and IEB results**. Successful applicants that have forfeited their placement are informed of their forfeiture.
- Step 15** Places must be taken up by the end of the first week after the commencement of lectures.

The second round selection process (for South African NSC and IEB school leavers):

- Step 1** All unsuccessful applicants in Category A1, as well as all successful applicants in Category A1 that have forfeited their placement, are **automatically transferred to Category A2** for the second round of selection in January. No new applications will be considered, and no additions to the VSVAF/VNVAF will be possible.
- Step 2** Once all final NSC and IEB results have been obtained, the Merit Point Scores (MPS) are re-calculated for Category A2 using final schooling results.
- Step 3** Applicants are ranked based on the MPS within Category A2, and the **second round of selection** takes place based on the number of available spaces after cancellations and forfeitures are considered.
- Step 4** Applicants who have been admitted in Category A2 are **informed before the start of the University of Pretoria orientation programme**.
- Step 5** Successful applicants have to log onto the UP Portal and **accept/decline the offer**.
- Step 6** Places must be taken up by the end of the first week after the commencement of lectures.

Unsuccessful applicants may enquire about the following information regarding their application:

- The category in which the applicant was considered;
- The total number of applicants that were considered in that category;
- The number of applicants that were admitted or conditionally admitted and the number that were placed on the waiting list;
- The position of the applicant on the ranked list in that category;
- The calculated value (/80) of the academic component of the Merit Point Score (MPS);
- Whether the VSVAF/VNVAF score was correctly recorded;
- Whether the VSVAF/VNVAF score was validated.

The Admissions Committee's findings are final.

Article

Faculty's veterinary experts cast a tiger's eye over Fushan

By Chris van Blerk



Home again. Fushan is in his camp, awake and happy. ↑

To receive a tiger as a patient in the Faculty's Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH) these days may not be that unusual anymore, but every time that happens, one cannot escape the lasting impression such a magnificent and majestic beast has left.

This time it was Fushan, a nine-year-old male Siberian tiger from Cheetah Experience in Bela-Bela in the Limpopo Province. Fushan was born in South Africa and donated to Cheetah Experience (at the time they were still located in Bloemfontein) when he was around five months old because of an existing hip problem. He was always likely to need medical intervention at some stage in future and the centre—home to several endangered and threatened species—always accepted animals with special needs.

When Fushan arrived at his new home at that young age, he already limped but ran around and played happily. Previous examinations led to the centre being told that it was believed he had hip dysplasia and

they had to wait until he was fully grown to be evaluated. They were advised to monitor him and give him calcium supplements.

As he became older, the limp became more pronounced and in 2017, the centre had set up their veterinary practice in Bloemfontein. They were able to sedate and examine him after which their veterinarian, Dr Sandra Bertram, diagnosed serious osteoarthritis in the left hip, likely caused by trauma as a young animal. The acetabulum (or socket of the hip bone) also showed damage and had an abnormal shape, while the left hip was unable to extend more than a few centimetres. The tiger was prescribed pain medication and supplements and had access to a swimming pool to offer some therapeutic value. Over the next few years, his behaviour was closely monitored and his medication and supplements were adjusted, particularly in instances when the weather got particularly cold or he had over-exerted himself, which influenced his mobility.

In February 2021, Fushan was relocated to Cheetah Experience's new property in Bela-Bela. His new enclosure is 7 500 m² and he has a swimming pool that is 3 m x 5 m x 1.5 m deep, lots of trees, bushes and rocks. Fushan was always active in Bloemfontein and he enjoyed walking along the fence line with volunteers and staff. In Bela-Bela, he does the same. On good days he stalks, runs and jumps around.

Fast forward to early July 2021 when Fushan was brought to the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH) to get some dental work done as well as to assess his hips. Our Faculty's veterinary experts, among others Prof Katja Koeppel, veterinary wildlife specialist, Prof Gerhard Steenkamp, a specialist veterinary dental surgeon, and wildlife veterinarians Dr Jennie Hewlett and Dr Annette Roug were on hand to perform comprehensive examinations and treat the beautiful animal.

Particular examinations on his hips were aimed at determining if there was any degeneration of the joints and to find out if there was something more that could be done for him. As more or less expected, there was some deterioration of his left hip/joint but Cheetah Experience will be able to continue managing his condition with medication and assess him regularly. His current supplements will also be reviewed and alternatives will be recommended if needed.

Staff at Cheetah Experience have always also wondered why Fushan does not chew on things and an examination by Prof Steenkamp revealed chipping on some canines, which has developed over time. For this, Prof Steenkamp performed root canal procedures on three of Fushan's canines. He will review the dental work in six months unless there is earlier evidence of problems.



↑ Prof Gerhard Steenkamp (back, middle) is busy performing root canals on Fushan while Dr Annette Roug (right) is monitoring the animal



↑ Prof Katja Koeppel (right) has a first look at Fushan

Article

Faculty's OVAH acquires its first MRI scanner, the first of its kind in Africa

By Prim Gower

The Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH) of the University of Pretoria's (UP) Faculty of Veterinary Science has acquired its first magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner. This means that the hospital now no longer has to make special arrangements with human hospitals to perform MRI scans.

'In South Africa, the use of MRIs for diagnostic purposes is limited to small animals, and most MRI scans are done in human facilities by special arrangement,' said Dr Paul van Dam, Director of the OVAH. 'An MRI scan takes 45 minutes or longer, which limits the number of cases that can be referred. With our own MRI scanner, we can now do scans at any time of the day, on-site, without the additional time to travel to another facility. An added advantage is that our MRI scanner will be the only high-field MRI in South Africa and Africa with image acquisition optimised for veterinary patients.'

MRI scanners differ in strength in terms of the magnetic field that is used, which is rated in Tesla (T) units. Stronger magnetic fields make for faster examinations, with greater detail and clearer pictures compared to lower-strength units. 'The new MRI scanner at the OVAH is a 1,5T unit, which is believed to be the strongest unit in veterinary use anywhere in Africa,' Dr Van Dam said. 'The unit has the biggest diameter available, which allows us to scan the bodies of the largest dogs and many other animals, including wildlife such as big cats and great apes. We can also scan the limbs and necks of larger animals like horses on a purpose-built (and locally designed) table.'

MRI scanners have been used in human medicine since 1977, and have been used in veterinary medicine since the mid-1990s. MRI imaging is the diagnostic method of choice when there is low contrast between neighbouring tissue types. This includes the brain—where the MRI distinguishes between grey matter, white matter, nerves and cerebrospinal fluid—as well as the locomotor system, where it can distinguish between muscle, tendons and ligaments surrounding joints, joint fluid and joint cartilage.

'By providing excellent images of soft tissue, MRI scans enable the clinician to make an accurate and often early diagnosis, allowing properly targeted treatment plans,'

said Dr Van Dam.

'The acquisition of the MRI scanner provides the hospital with a comprehensive set of imaging modalities including conventional radiographs [X-rays], ultrasound, scintigraphy, computed tomography [CT] and now magnetic resonance imaging [MRI],' said Professor Vinny Naidoo, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science at UP. He explained that the MRI scanner was made



↑ Wiskey the dog is being prepared for a scan with Sr Sinazo Nikelo assisting.

possible in part by a generous bequest from Miss Betty Noakes, who left a large part of her estate to the OVAH to be used for the benefit of animals. 'We trust that the MRI will indeed play a large role in improving the life of our patients.'

Prof Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UP, who officially opened the new facility on 26 July 2021 during an online event, also acknowledged the importance of the new acquisition. 'Over the years, the OVAH has distinguished itself on various levels. It has now begun another exciting chapter in the faculty's more than 100-year history—the beginning of a new era in service delivery and patient care. It reinforces the hospital's invaluable role and position as the country's leading veterinary hospital.'



↑ Lulama Nsele (student) with Bear, a Yorkshire terrier and the first-ever patient in the MRI facility



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