

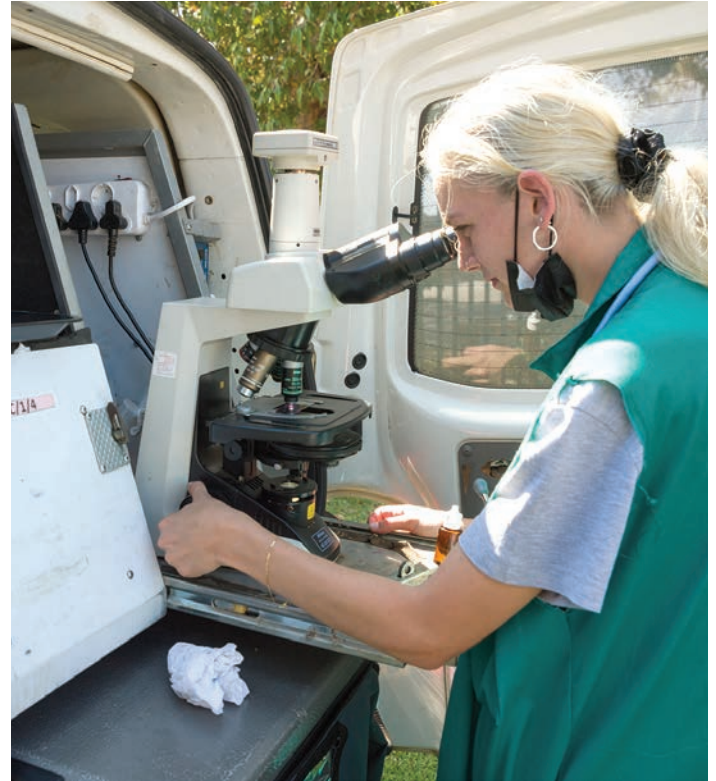


Make today matter



What does the programme entail?

- The language of tuition at the University of Pretoria is English.
- Applications for the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing programme close on 31 May.
- The Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing 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 Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing programme consists of lectures, electronic learning opportunities, discussions, demonstrations, assignments, curricular community engagement activities, group work, practical sessions 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 Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing programme is highly competitive due to its increasing popularity and limited available spaces.
- Selection is based on academic merit.
- 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 Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing curriculum is available at:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/12alg1sCNkM5vOL2jeS36S1sfx3F1vhLk/view?usp=drive_web





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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.



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.



Career opportunities

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.



What makes this programme unique?

Accreditation and professional registration

The Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing 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 Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing 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.



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/IEB for 2026			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences or Life Sciences	
Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing [3 years]	4	4	4	28

For advice on a second-choice programme for Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing, 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.



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Veterinary Science

Fakulteit Veeartsenykunde
Lefapha la Disaense tša Bongakadiruiwa

Minimum requirements for
applicants with a school
leaving certificate not issued
by Umalusi (South Africa)



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Refer to the International undergraduate prospectus at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission Information or [click here](#) for more information.

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 31 May.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2026									
	Achievement level									
	Compulsory subjects	GCSE #		HIGCSE NSSC HL	AS Level	A Level	IB		KOMBI ABITUR	KCSE
		The qualifications in the two columns below will be considered only for conditional admission. If final AS and/or A levels have been completed, these two columns will not apply. It can also not be used for final admission and/ or registration.								
		CIE	UK							
IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE		England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE								
Bachelor of Veterinary Science	English Mathematics Physics Chemistry	C C C C	4 4 4 4	3 3 3 3	C C C C	E E E E	4 4 4 4	3 3 3 3	60-69% 60-69% 60-69% 60-69%	B B B B
Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing	English Mathematics Physics/ Chemistry combination or Biology*	D D D D	3 3 3 3	3 3 3 3	D D D D	E E E E	2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	50-59% 50-59% 50-59% 50-59%	C+ C+ C+ C+

Only English with at least a C symbol on this level can be used for final admission.

* A PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY combination, or BIOLOGY and another subject on the A or AS Level