

Faculty of Veterinary Science 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.