



> Life Sciences Careers > Veterinary Nursing

# National Diploma in Veterinary Nursing

<b>Duration:</b>	Two years, part-time.
<b>Location:</b>	Distance, with block courses (Dunedin Only)
<b>Options:</b>	Part-time by distance.
<b>Start:</b>	February
<b>Fee*:</b>	Domestic (approx): \$2,910
<b>Application:</b>	October 31. Applications will be received up until the programme commencement date.

**This is a qualification for experienced veterinary nurses looking to upgrade their skills to a best-practice standard.**

**You will graduate with the skills to perform, without supervision, all veterinary nursing and laboratory tasks in a veterinary clinic plus client education, staff training and financial management.**

**The programme includes two strands of 16 courses that run in alternate years; you may join the programme in either year.**

**All students will be required to undertake at least two days of work experience per week, each year of the programme.**

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

National Certificate in Veterinary Nursing or demonstrable equivalent knowledge and skills.

**International Students:** Are not eligible to enter this part-time programme.

## ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION:

If you have not enrolled in the School of Veterinary Nursing previously, applicants must supply certified copies of proof of identity, academic records, proof of residency (where appropriate), evidence of current tetanus status and a Police, Drug and Health Check form.

## RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING:

Students may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) according to the Otago Polytechnic RPL policy AP501.

## ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROGRAMME:

All applicants are advised within ten working days of receipt of their application whether they have been accepted.

## ADDITIONAL COSTS:

- This programme is delivered electronically – regular access to a computer is compulsory.
  - Access to a still camera
  - Access to a video camera/phone that can record video footage
- You may need to purchase the following if you have not previously enrolled in a Veterinary Nursing programme at Otago Polytechnic:
- Stethoscope \$20

- Closed-in shoes (approx \$100)
- Required text (approx \$200)
- Shirt \$50
- Scrub top \$45
- Name badge \$15
- Photocopy and printing costs for personal work and assessments
- Travel and accommodation costs associated with attendance at block courses and work placement.

## STUDENT LOANS/ALLOWANCES:

Students in this programme are eligible for student loans but are not eligible for course related costs or student allowance. Please contact Studylink for additional information. Phone: 0800 88 99 00 or visit [www.studylink.govt.nz](http://www.studylink.govt.nz)

## PROGRAMME SPECIFIC RISKS:

You will be given full training to minimise all programme specific risks. Examples of risks associated with this programme are: lifting, animal bites and scratches, zoonotic diseases, computers, radiation from x-rays, gaseous anaesthetic gases, chemicals and drugs, UV radiation, sharp instruments, electricity, fire, gas cylinders, mercury thermometers and specialised veterinary equipment. Your tetanus injection status will have to be up-to-date to handle any animals in this programme.

## YOUR WORKLOAD:

All study is self-directed. Typically you should aim for around 10 to 12 hours of study per week. Block courses are run twice a year and attendance is compulsory. Approximately every two weeks an assignment will be due, as per the programme calendar and you will be required to undertake at least two full days of work experience per week in both years.

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**QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE:**

<b>STRAND BEING OFFERED IN 2012</b>			
Course Title	NQF Unit No	Level	NQF Credit
Provide intensive post-operative care for an animal	5159	5	5
Manage a hospitalised animal patient	5161	5	5
Provide specialist care for paediatric companion animal patients and the mother	5168	4	3
Collect, prepare and examine blood samples from animals	5171	5	6
Collect and carry out routine examinations on faecal samples from animals	5172	5	5
Collect and carry out routine examinations on urine samples from animals	5173	5	5
Examine an animal for ectoparasites, collect and examine samples	5174	5	4
Supervise monogastric animal feeding, respond to client requests for advice	5186	5	8
Provide emergency first aid for companion animals in the absence of the veterinarian	5190	6	10
Assist in the collection and storage of blood and administration of a blood transfusion to an animal	5198	3	3
Set up an intravenous drip, manage an animal while on fluid therapy	5199	5	5
Nurse geriatric animals	5206	5	4
Nurse animal patients with specific medical conditions	5207	5	8
Nurse companion animal patients with an infectious disease	5208	5	6
Nurse an intensive care animal patient	5209	5	6
Nurse an orthopaedic animal patient	5212	4	5

**\*DISCLAIMER:** While every effort is made to ensure that this sheet is accurate, Otago Polytechnic reserves the right to amend, alter or withdraw any of the contained information. The fees shown in this document are indicative ONLY. Both domestic and international fees are subject to change and are dependent on the development and implementation of Government policies. Please note that additional fees may from time to time be required for external examination, NZQA fees and/or additional material fees.