About this course

Have you always wanted to work with animals?

Do you want to work in a profession where you are dealing with something different every day? Are you ready to play Nurse Dolittle and work with animals ranging from pocket pets, birds, reptiles, companion animals and livestock, to horses? Do you want to work in a profession that allows you to travel around our country and the world?

Vet nurses are often described as the face of the clinic as they are the first person a client and patient will see. There is the opportunity to create strong rewarding relationships with customers which will build trust and respect. Highly trained vet nurses can hold a great deal of responsibility within a clinic on many levels, including client and patient care, management of other staff and clinic activities, such as social media, fund raising and welfare awareness.

You will gain knowledge and skills in:

- Working with teams of people who are willing to help make a difference to the lives of our animal companions.
- Communicating and educating clients on better health care for their pets. Handling animals safely and confidently in a range of situations.
- Dealing with emergencies.
- Learning to work by yourself and developing problem solving techniques.
- Observing, monitoring and recognising health issues in animals.
• Educating clients in preventative medicine for their pets.
• Being able to give advice and assist in treating diseases and illness.
• Assisting the vet during surgery.
• Performing and assisting with routine tests, x-rays and other diagnostic procedures.
• Carrying out routine dental procedures including scale and polish teeth.
• Being confident to organise clinic promotions and marketing of health products, and
• Operating and maintaining equipment such as endoscopes, ultrasound and ECG machines.

Overview
Entrance requirements

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<th>School Leaver</th>
<th>Non-School Leaver</th>
<th>AQF</th>
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<tr>
<td>C Grades in Year 11 WACE General English, and OLNA; or NAPLAN 9 Band 8</td>
<td>C Grades in Year 11 English and Maths or equivalent</td>
<td>Certificate II or Certificate III</td>
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Study pathway

- [Certificate II in Animal Studies](#)
- [Certificate III in Animal Studies](#)

Further study opportunities

Central Regional TAFE has many further study opportunities available. Check out our Course Guide for all your future study options.

Job opportunities

- [Your guide to a career in Veterinary Nursing](#)
Completion of this qualification provides you with the skills and knowledge to work as a

- veterinary nurse
- veterinary surgical assistant
- veterinary receptionist
- animal carer
- animal welfare worker.

**Important information**

To be successful in this course you must be well organised, efficient, be able to think on your feet and deal with dirty, smelly and challenging situations, and able to accept and deal with a variety of views and ethical decisions.

**Attendance, studying and assessment**

For the full time face-to-face course you will attend the College Campus at either Geraldton or Muresk 3 days per week for lectures, practical demonstrations, field trips and excursions.

Students can study vet nursing locally at either location (student accommodation is available at both campuses) rather than moving to Perth. For external workplace assessment you need to be working either paid or unpaid in a veterinary clinic to gain practical skills. Study is supported with on-line learning, Facebook contact and regular contact with your lecturer, which may include visits to their clinic. You can choose electives which are suited to your place of work.

**Licensing and Legislation**

There is a direct link between this qualification and approval to perform veterinary nursing duties under the Western Australian (WA) Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960 as amended. The WA Veterinary Surgeons Board must approve qualified persons to carry out the duties of veterinary nurses and must authorise persons enrolled in approved courses to perform the duties of trainee veterinary nurses. Candidates should confirm the regulatory requirements that apply in their relevant state or territory.

**Disclaimer**

Courses at Central Regional TAFE are delivered subject to resources and demand. For the latest information, check with the appropriate campus, as course availability may be subject to review and change.

**Fees and charges**

Find our Indicative Price List [here](#).
At Central Regional TAFE, three types of fees may be charged.

Course Fees
The course fee is determined by multiplying the tuition fee rate by the nominal hours, which is the number of hours in which an average student could be expected to complete each unit.

Resource Fees
Resource fees are charges for materials that are considered essential to a course or unit of study and which do not form part of the course fee. The resource fee covers materials purchased by the College to be consumed or transformed by students in the course of instruction, such as workshop materials, workbooks and essential uniforms.

Other Fees
Other fees may be charged for goods or services that are not essential to the course such as parking, membership to student organisations and security passes.

In addition to these fees students may need to purchase textbooks, uniforms and other course specific equipment. Your Pre Enrolment Information package will provide additional information if these are required.

Please note, fees are subject to change.