## ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing

#### Qualification Description

**Description**

This industry qualification reflects the role of veterinary nurses engaged in a broad range of veterinary practices.

Veterinary nurses work under the supervision of registered veterinarians to provide nursing and general health care to animals. This includes assisting veterinarians to undertake diagnostic tests, supporting veterinarians in performing medical and surgical procedures, dispensing and administering medications, nursing patients and supporting clients or other stakeholders in maintaining the health of animals.

Graduates with this qualification apply a broad range of skills and relevant theoretical knowledge in varied work contexts, using some discretion and judgement.

Skills and knowledge in this qualification associated with monitoring and maintaining animal health, welfare and care and working with others are transferrable across a wide range of animal care workplace settings.

To achieve this qualification, performance of specified tasks or activities as detailed in the Performance Evidence and Assessment Conditions of individual units of competency must be demonstrated in a workplace.

**Licensing, legislative, regulatory requirements**

This qualification is used by regulators in some jurisdictions for licencing purposes. Additionally, the permitted scope of practice for veterinary nurses is determined by state and territory legislative and regulatory requirements. Users of this qualification must refer to the relevant legislation and regulations.

#### Foundation skills outcomes

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| **Learning** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Oral communication** | **Numeracy** |
| 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 |

#### Entry requirements

To commence this qualification an individual must be able to:

* apply fundamental numerical and measurement skills to solve routine problems, interpret data, and perform accurate calculations relevant to workplace contexts
* read, comprehend and interpret workplace documents such as policies, procedures, instructions and basic technical information, such as equipment user manuals
* write legibly, including using technology and digital tools
* apply basic knowledge of animal nutrition, welfare and handling in an animal care environment
* apply work health and safety (WHS) principles to identify and report hazards and follow procedures to maintain safety of self, others and animals
* interact with others in the workplace and contribute positively to workplace outcomes
* proactively manage own physical and mental health and wellbeing, respond appropriately to others, and maintain professionalism in diverse and sometimes challenging situations
* apply logical reasoning, problem solve and make informed decisions to resolve routine workplace issues.

These competencies may have been acquired through achievement of relevant vocational or higher education subjects or units of competency, participation in industry courses or through industry participation in an animal care workplace.

#### Packaging rules

To achieve this qualification, competency must be demonstrated in:

* 21 units of competency:

15 core units plus

6 elective units.

Elective units must ensure the integrity of the qualification’s Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) alignment and contribute to a valid, industry-supported vocational outcome. The electives are to be chosen as follows:

* at least 4 from the electives listed below
* remaining 2 electives from the electives listed below, or from any currently endorsed Training Package or accredited course.

Core Units

A hash (#) next to the unit code indicates mandatory workplace requirements must be met when assessing this unit. Please refer to the individual unit’s Assessment Requirements for details.

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| ACMVET4X06 | Develop knowledge of the veterinary industry and apply to veterinary nursing practice | |
| ACMINF3X04 | Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures in animal care work | |
| ACMGEN3X03 | Maintain cleaning, hygiene and sterility standards in animal care workplaces | |
| ACMGEN3X02 | Communicate effectively in animal-related workplaces | |
| ACMGEN304 | Promote positive wellbeing in self and others in animal care workplaces |
| ACMGEN4X01 | Develop knowledge of animal anatomy and physiology for animal care work | |
| ACMVET4X07 | Triaging and responding to animal emergencies | |
| ACMVET4X08 | Conduct animal care discussions with clients | |
| ACMVET4X09 # | Nurse animals | |
| ACMVET4X10 # | Prepare for and monitor anaesthesia and analgesia in animals | |
| ACMVET4X11 # | Perform veterinary dental nursing procedures | |
| ACMVET4X12 | Perform clinical pathology procedures | |
| ACMVET4X13 | Apply veterinary diagnostic imaging routines | |
| ACMVET4X14 # | Perform surgical nursing routines | |
| ACMVET4X15 | Prepare, handle and administer veterinary medicines and restricted substances | |

Elective Units

A hash (#) next to the unit code indicates mandatory workplace requirements must be met when assessing this unit. Please refer to the individual unit’s Assessment Requirements for details.

An asterisk (\*) next to the unit code indicates that there are prerequisite requirements which must be met when packaging the qualification. Please refer to the Prerequisite requirements table for details.

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| **Note about colour groups of electives**  Listed electives are not intended to be grouped for packaging rules; however, they have been grouped in this draft for the purpose of navigation. Electives listed in the following groups:   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Technical and specialist skills | |  | Practice administration and customer service | |  | Equine | |  | Species-specific (other than equine) | |

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| --- | --- |
| ACMMIC4X05 # | Implant microchip in animals |
| ACMARM405 | Assist with the euthanasia of animals |
| ACMARM301 | Support veterinary activities in remote communities |
| BSBSUS411 | Implement and monitor environmentally sustainable work practices |
| ACMVET4X16 | Undertake administration and client service activities in a veterinary practice |
| CHCPRP003 | Reflect on and improve own professional practice |
| SIRXCEG008 | Manage disrespectful, aggressive or abusive customers |
| ACMEQU212 | Handle horses safely |
| ACMVET4X17 \* | Nurse foals |
| ACMVET4X18 \* # | Provide intensive foal care and nursing |
| ACMEQU417 | Advise on horse nutritional needs |
| ACMEQU422 | Maintain and monitor horse health |
| RGRHBR307 | Carry out procedures for foaling down mares |
| ACMEQU508 | Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements |
| **ACMEQD503** | Perform equine dental treatment and oral care using appropriate instrumentation |
| ACMSPE314 | Provide general care of birds |
| ACMSPE315 | Provide general care of common native mammals |
| ACMSPE316 | Provide general care of domestic dogs |
| ACMSPE317 | Provide general care of domestic cats |
| ACMSPE322 | Provide general care of rodents or rabbits |
| ACMBEH302 | Provide enrichment for animals |

Prerequisite Units

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unit of competency | Prerequisite requirement |
| ACMVET4X17 Nurse foals | ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely |
| ACMVET4X18 Provide intensive foal care and nursing | ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely |

#### Mapping information

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code and title current version** | **Code and title previous version** | **Equivalence status** | **Comments** |
| ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | ACM40418 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | Not equivalent | Description wording changed significantly. Reference to number of hours of required work placement removed from Description. Units requiring mandatory work placement for assessment are indicated by # in the qualification.  Entry requirements have been expressed as competencies as required by the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF) and requirements for specified qualifications or defined pathways have been removed.  Total number of units to complete the qualification remain the same, but core units reduced by 2 from 17 to 15 and elective units increased from 4 to 6.  Significant changes to units of competency including:   * all units re-templated with 7 units in Application of Knowledge and Skills (ASK) format * 1 new unit * 2 units reclassified from veterinary nursing (VET) to general animal care (GEN) * 2 units’ indicative level codes increased to reflect changes to unit outcomes * units split and contents merged – see Summary of Changes |

### Overview information

#### Modification History

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| **Release** | **Comments** |
| 1 | This qualification was first released in ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0. |

**Taxonomy – industry sectors:** Veterinary Nursing

**Taxonomy – Occupations:** Veterinary Nurse