## ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing

#### Qualification Description

**Description**

This industry qualification is designed for veterinary nurses who are seeking to enhance their skills and knowledge in clinical nursing, surgery, emergency and critical care and/or clinical leadership across a range of veterinary contexts.

Veterinary nurses work under the supervision of registered veterinarians to provide nursing and general health care to animals. The Diploma of Veterinary Nursing enhances the skills and depth of knowledge of veterinary nurses, enabling them to apply more complex and intensive nursing procedures, perform emergency procedures and/or undertake basic surgical procedures. Graduates at this level will be able to demonstrate clinical leadership, mentor less experienced staff, and support graduate veterinarians as they transition into practice. They should also be capable of advanced clinical decision-making within their legal scope of practice.

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

Skills and knowledge associated with this qualification are transferrable across a wide range of animal care work.

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**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Learning** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Oral communication** | **Numeracy** |
| 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 |

### Other foundation skills information

#### Entry requirements

To commence this qualification an individual must be able to:

* apply veterinary nursing skills and knowledge to support routine clinical care
* perform a broad range of veterinary nursing procedures, including assisting with routine anaesthesia and surgery, taking radiography images, preparing or administering routine medications and treatments and advising clients about maintaining their animal’s health and welfare
* work collaboratively within a veterinary team, contributing to coordinated workflow, patient care and client communication
* prioritise nursing tasks in clinical environments, applying sound judgement to routine and predictable situations and recognising when cases require immediate veterinary attention or escalation.
* read, comprehend and interpret workplace documentation and communicate effectively in both oral and written forms with colleagues, clients, and veterinary professionals.

These competencies may have been acquired through prior higher education or vocational education subjects or units of competency, completion of relevant industry training programs and/or through workplace experience as a practising veterinary nurse.

#### Packaging rules

To achieve this qualification, competency must be demonstrated in:

* 8 units of competency:

2 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.

Electives for the award of the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing are to be chosen as follows:

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

Where appropriate, electives may be packaged to provide a qualification with a specialisation area as follows:

* At least 3 Group A electives must be selected for the award of the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing (Surgical)
* At least 3 Group B electives must be selected for the award of the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing (Clinical Practice and Leadership)
* At least 3 Group C electives must be selected for the award of the *Diploma of Veterinary Nursing (Emergency and Critical Care)*

Remaining electives may be chosen from the electives listed in any other groups below, with a maximum of 2 electives from any other currently endorsed Training Package or accredited course.

Core Units

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET5X19 | Enhance professional practice in veterinary nursing |
| ACMVET5X20 # | Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology |

**Elective Units**

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

**Group A – Surgery**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET5X21 # | Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures |
| ACMVET5X30 # | Perform medical and minor surgical veterinary procedures |
| ACMVET5X22 # | Carry out post-operative nursing routines |
| ACMVET5X29 # | Apply advanced knowledge of anaesthesia in veterinary nursing practice |
| ACMVET5X23 # | Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery |

**Group B – Clinical Practice and Leadership**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET5X24 # | Manage veterinary nursing procedures |
| TAEDEL414 | Mentor in the workplace |
| ACMVET5X31 | Conduct veterinary nurse clinics |
| ACMVET5X25 # | Apply principles of animal behaviour |

**Group C – Emergency and Critical Care**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET5X26 | Coordinate veterinary practice emergency preparedness |
| ACMVET5X27 # | Perform emergency procedures to sustain life |
| ACMVET5X28 # | Provide nursing support for critical care surgery |

**Group D – General electives**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| BSBLDR523 | Lead and manage effective workplace relationships |
| BSBPEF502 | Develop and use emotional intelligence |
| SIRXHWB002 | Promote workplace health and wellbeing |
| **BSBSTR503** | Develop organisational policy |

#### Mapping information

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code and title current version** | **Code and title previous version** | **Equivalence status** | **Comments** |
| ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | ACM50219 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | Not equivalent | Significant change to qualification structure and focus/outcomes. Change to wording of application to reflect the changed focus of the qualification to advanced clinical veterinary nursing, rather than ‘practice management’.  Entry requirement changed from Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing to express entry requirements as competencies as required by the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF)  Total number of units required for the qualification reduced from 9 to 8.  Core units changed from 6 to 2.  ACMVET5X19 Enhance professional practice in veterinary nursing (superseding ACMVET508) retained in core  ACMVET5X20 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology (superseding ACMVET510) added to core  Change to Elective groups/specialisations and units. |

### Overview information

#### Modification History

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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:** Advanced Veterinary Nurse; Specialist surgical veterinary nurse; Specialist emergency and critical care veterinary nurse