

Apprenticeship in Veterinary Nursing

This Apprenticeship aims to enable learners to develop specific skills in the care of animals and apply them to practical situations in the veterinary environment.

The programme offers young people the opportunity to achieve City and Guilds qualifications in Animal Care and designated Key Skills whilst gaining practical work experience.

At the same time employers benefit from well-trained and motivated members of staff who can make a significant contribution to the company.

Apprentices follow an approved framework of training at Level 2 then Level 3 that will meet the different needs of both small and large veterinary organisations.

The framework consists of:

A National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Veterinary Nursing at Level 2 and then at Level 3 awarded by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

NVQ's are nationally recognised qualification; they are work based and work relevant and build on practical experience gained in the workplace.

Key Skills

- **Level 2 Apprenticeship:** Application of Number and Communication at Level 1
- **Advanced Apprenticeship:** Application of Number and Communication at Level 2

Key Skills are transferable skills that enhance not just the young person's contribution in the workplace but also everyday life. An external test may be required to be taken by the young person depending on GCSE grades previously achieved.

Technical Certificate

There are Technical Certificates at both Level 2 and Level 3. Assessment is by online tests at both Levels, but also practical tests at Level 3. These awards are designed to contribute to the knowledge and understanding for the NVQ whilst containing additional skills and knowledge, which go beyond the scope of the NVQ standards.

Other Requirements

Level 2 has a requirement that the apprentice must complete the Emergency First Aid (1 day course).

Entry requirements.

All learners will have an initial assessment to determine appropriate level of qualification to be undertaken.



Content to be covered

NVQ Level 2 in Veterinary Nursing

Seven Mandatory Units:

- Monitor health and safety
- Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships
- Carry out veterinary reception duties
- Manage clinical environments for procedures and investigations
- Provide nursing care to animals
- Monitor and care for inpatients to a veterinary practice
- Support clients in caring for animals

NVQ Level 3 in Veterinary Nursing

Seven Mandatory Units:

- Perform laboratory diagnostic tests
- Administer veterinary specialised nursing to animals
- Prepare for diagnostic imaging equipment techniques and conduct radiography on animals
- Prepare for veterinary surgical procedures
- Assist the veterinary surgeon during surgical procedures
- Assist the provision of anaesthetics to animals
- Dispense and administer veterinary medication

Technical Certificates/Key Skills

Day release for 36 weeks for one day a week to cover the underpinning knowledge and preparation for completing on line test at Levels 2 and 3 and practical tests at Level 3.

Staffing

Learners are regularly visited in the workplace by occupationally qualified Training Consultants.

Resources

- > Occupationally competent staff.
- > Technical Certificate and Key Skills training sessions at Prescott Street including practice sessions for tests.

Recommended reading

- > Pre-Veterinary Nursing Textbook by The BVNA, Jo Masters and Carole Bowden
- > The Complete Textbook of Veterinary Nursing by Victoria Aspinall
- > BSAVA Textbook of Veterinary Nursing by Dick Lane

Duration of programme

12 months per level depending on experience.

Venue

Assessment carried out in the workplace by in house assessors. Theory work carried out in the training facilities at Prescott Street.

In order for veterinary nurses to complete training they must be working in an RCVS approved training practice.

For further information please contact us on:

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