

Higher Education accredited veterinary nursing licence to practise qualifications

The following organisations offer Higher Education qualifications that are accredited by the RCVS as a “licence to practise” in veterinary nursing, and which entitle holders to enter the RCVS Register of Veterinary Nurses.

No other higher education qualification or course, regardless of its title, leads to qualification as a veterinary nurse, or eligibility to enter the RCVS Register of Veterinary Nurses. Should you be in any doubt as to the status of a qualification please contact us for advice.

The list of further education qualifications can be found in the “Training routes” section on the following page: <https://animalowners.rcvs.org.uk/veterinary-careers/i-want-to-be-a-veterinary-nurse/>

Classification of Accreditations

Provisional accreditation is granted for Accredited Education Institutions (AEIs) with new qualifications that have made substantial progress towards meeting the accreditation standards. Once the first cohort of students completes the qualification, the Veterinary Nurse Education Committee (VNEC) will be presented with all Quality Monitoring (QM) reports undertaken and consider the AEI for full accreditation. Students undertaking provisionally accredited qualifications may be required to pass the RCVS pre-registration examinations. Provisional accreditation will not normally be extended for more than two years, following the first cohort’s completion. Provisionally accredited programmes are automatically deemed to be high-risk and will be audited accordingly.

Full accreditation for 5 years is given to qualifications that meet, or exceed, all the accreditation standards. Where a Provisionally Accredited programme has been awarded Full Accreditation, this will be for the remainder of the 5-year cycle. The RCVS will undertake a full programme review before the end of the agreed accreditation period.

Full accreditation for a shorter period is applied where deficiencies are identified in an existing programme; accreditation will be subject to the deficiencies being addressed within a set period. The RCVS will undertake a full programme review before the end of the agreed accreditation period.

Probationary accreditation is applied where a fully accredited programme is deficient in its resources or procedures and has failed to meet the RCVS Standards. Students may be required to pass the RCVS pre-registration examinations, as well as all qualification requirements, in order to be deemed competent in the RCVS Day One Competences and Skills. This will be at the discretion of VNEC and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Terminal accreditation is instigated where a programme is significantly non-compliant with the standards and has been unable to address the concerns within a timely manner. Students completing a programme which is assigned terminal accreditation may be required to pass the RCVS pre-registration examinations, as well as all qualification requirements. VNEC will communicate additional conditions to the AEI as required, depending on the rationale for the decision being taken. The programme will move into an exit strategy and specific details and evidence will be requested by the Veterinary Nursing Department to maintain oversight whilst the final students complete the programme. The provision is quality monitored in accordance with a high-risk provider.

Voluntary Terminal Accreditation is applied where a programme has chosen to cease provision; students may be required to pass the RCVS pre-registration examinations dependent upon the rationale for the programme closure. Students are still required to complete all qualification requirements. The programme will move into an exit strategy and specific details and evidence will be requested by the Veterinary Nursing Department to maintain oversight whilst the final students complete the programme.

HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS				
Awarding university	Qualifications offered	Where delivered	Contact details	Accreditation status
Aberystwyth University Penglais Campus Aberystwyth Ceredigion SY23 3DA Web: https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three-year full-time programme)	Aberystwyth University Penglais Campus Aberystwyth SY23 3BY	Tel: Email:	Provisional Accreditation
Anglia Ruskin University Cambridge Campus East Road Cambridge CB1 1PT Web: https://aru.ac.uk/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing with Applied Animal Behaviour (Three year full-time programme) BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing with Applied Animal Behaviour (Four year full-time programme)	University Centre West Anglia Landbeach Road Milton Cambridge CB4 6DB	Tel: 01223 860701 Email: answers@anglia.ac.uk	Terminal Accreditation
Coventry University Priory Street Coventry CV1 5FB Web: http://www.coventry.ac.uk/	BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Four year full-time programme) FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Warwickshire College (Moreton Morrell Campus) Moreton Morrell Warwick Warwickshire CV35 9BL	Tel: 01926 318000 Web: http://www.warwickshire.ac.uk/ Email: enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk	Full Accreditation
		Warwickshire College (Pershore Campus) Avonbank Pershore Worcestershire WR10 3JP	Tel: 01995 640611 Email: enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk	Full Accreditation

Edinburgh Napier University Craiglockhart Campus Edinburgh EH14 1DU Web: http://www.napier.ac.uk/	BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Four year full-time programme)	The College of Animal Welfare (Edinburgh Campus) 9 South Gyle Crescent Edinburgh EH12 9EB	Tel: 0844 372 9405 Email: admin@caw.ac.uk	Voluntary Terminal Accreditation - no longer enrolling students
Harper Adams University Newport Shropshire TF10 8NB Web: www.harper-adams.ac.uk	BSc Veterinary Nursing (Four year programme) BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Four year programme) BSc Veterinary Nursing with Companion Animal Behaviour (Four year full-time programme) BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing with Companion Animal Behaviour (Four year full-time programme) BSc Veterinary Nursing with Small Animal Rehabilitation (Four year full-time programme) BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing with Small Animal Rehabilitation (Four year full-time programme)	Harper Adams University Newport Shropshire TF10 8NB	Tel: 01952 820280 Web: http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
Hartpury University Hartpury University Hartpury Gloucester GL19 3BE Web: www.hartpury.ac.uk	BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing with integrated placement year (Four year full-time programme) BSc (Hons) Equine Veterinary Nursing with integrated placement year (Four year full-time programme) BSc Veterinary Nursing with integrated placement year	Hartpury University Hartpury Gloucester GL19 3BE	Tel: 01452 702345 Web: http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/ Email: enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk	Full Accreditation

	(Three year full-time programme) BSc Equine Veterinary Nursing with integrated placement year (Three year full-time programme) Diploma in Professional Studies in Veterinary Nursing Diploma in Professional Studies in Equine Veterinary Nursing			
Middlesex University The Burroughs London NW4 4BT Web: http://www.mdx.ac.uk/	BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme) BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing with Foundation Year (Four year full-time programme)	The College of Animal Welfare The Burroughs Hendon NW4 4BT	Tel: 01707 244095 Web: http://www.caw.ac.uk/ Email: admin@caw.ac.uk	Full Accreditation
		The College of Animal Welfare Headland House Chord Business Park London Road Godmanchester Cambridgeshire PE29 2BQ	Tel: 01480 422060 Web: http://www.caw.ac.uk/ Email: admin@caw.ac.uk	Full Accreditation
		The College of Animal Welfare Topcliffe Close Capitol Park Tingley Leeds West Yorkshire WF3 1DR	Tel: 0113 322 8048 Web: http://www.caw.ac.uk/ Email: admin@caw.ac.uk	Full Accreditation

Nottingham Trent University Burton Street Nottingham NG1 4BU Web: http://www.ntu.ac.uk/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Nottingham Trent University Brackenhurst campus Southwell Nottinghamshire NG25 0QF	Tel: 0163 681 7000 Web: http://www.ntu.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
University of Bristol Senate House Tyndall Avenue Bristol BS8 1TH Web: http://www.bristol.ac.uk/	BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing and Companion Animal Behaviour (Four year full-time programme)	University of Bristol School of Veterinary Science- Clifton Campus Senate House Tyndall Avenue Bristol BS8 1TH	Tel: 0117 9289517 Web: http://www.bris.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
		University of Bristol School of Veterinary Science- Langford Campus Dolberry House Langford BS40 5DU	Tel: 0117 9289517 Web: http://www.bris.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
University Centre Askham Bryan Askham Bryan College Askham Fields Lane Askham Bryan York YO23 3FR	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Askham Bryan College Askham Bryan York YO23 3FR	Tel: 01904 772277 Email: enquiries@askham-bryan.ac.uk	Provisional Accreditation

Web: https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/		Askham Bryan College Cameron House Metrocentre Gateshead NE11 9XW	Tel: 01904 772277 Email: enquiries@askham-bryan.ac.uk	Provisional Accreditation
University of Lancashire Preston Lancashire PR1 2HE Web: http://www.uclan.ac.uk/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Myerscough College & University Centre St Michaels Road Bilsborrow PR3 0RY	Tel: 01995 640611 Web: http://www.myerscough.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
University of Chester Parkgate Road Campus Chester Cheshire CH1 4BJ Web: https://www1.chester.ac.uk/	BSc(Hons) Veterinary Nursing (Four year full-time programme)	University Centre Reaseheath Nantwich CW5 6DF	Tel: 01270 613284 Email: enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk Web: http://www.reaseheath.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation for one year
University of Glasgow Main Building Glasgow G12 8QQ	Scottish BSc in Veterinary Nursing (SQF Level 9) (Three year full-time programme)	Scotland's Rural University College Barony Campus Parkgate Dumfries DG1 3NE	Tel: 01270 613284 Email: baronyadmin@sruc.ac.uk Web: http://www.sruc.ac.uk/barony	Full Accreditation

Web: http://www.gla.ac.uk/	Scottish BSc (Hons) in Veterinary Nursing (SQF Level 9) (Four year full-time programme)	Scotland's Rural University College Aberdeen Campus Ferguson Building Craibstone Estate Bucksburn Aberdeen AB21 9YA	Tel: 0800 269453 Email: FacultyofficeAberdeen@sruc.ac.uk Web: http://www.sruc.ac.uk/barony	Full Accreditation
University of Greenwich Old Royal Naval College Park Row London SE10 9LS Web: http://www.gre.ac.uk/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Plumpton College Ditchling Road Plumpton Lewes East Sussex BN7 3AE	Tel: 01273 890454 Web: http://www.plumpton.ac.uk/	Provisional Accreditation
University of London Senate House Malet Street Bloomsbury London WC1E 7HU Web: http://www.london.ac.uk/	FdSc in Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	The Royal Veterinary College Hawkshead Lane North Mymms Hertfordshire AL9 7TA	Tel: 01707 666 660 Web: http://www.rvc.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
University of Portsmouth Winston Churchill Avenue Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 2UP Web: http://www.port.ac.uk/	FdSc in Veterinary Nursing Science (Three year full-time programme)	Sparsholt College Westly Lane Sparsholt SO21 2NA	Tel: 01962 797213 Email: courses@sparsholt.ac.uk Web: http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation

University of South Wales Trefforest South Wales CF37 1DL Web: http://www.southwales.ac.uk/	Foundation Degree in Veterinary Nursing (Three year programme)	Coleg Gwent Usk Campus The Rhadyr Usk Monmouthshire NP15 1XJ	Tel: 01495 333777 Web: http://www.coleggwent.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation
Ulster University Cromore Road Coleraine BT52 1SA Web: https://www.ulster.ac.uk/	BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (with Diploma in Professional Practice) (Four year full-time programme)	Ulster University Cromore Road Coleraine BT52 1SA	Tel: 028 7012 3456 Web: https://www.ulster.ac.uk/	Provisional Accreditation
Wrexham University Glyndwr University Northop Campus Holywell Road, Northop, Mold CH7 6AA Web: http://www.glyndwr.ac.uk/	FdSc Veterinary Nursing (Three year full-time programme)	Wrexham University Holywell Road Northop Mold Wrexham CH7 6AA	Tel: 01978 290666 Email: enquiries@glyndwr.ac.uk Web: http://www.glyndwr.ac.uk/	Full Accreditation