

All moderation outcomes will be reported to the responsible local programme committee and reviewed by the National Programme Committee. Quality teams provide monitoring and oversight of moderation activities and report to academic quality committees as needed.

External Moderation will evaluate each course for quality and consistency of outcomes using standardised evaluation tools. The resulting individual course moderation reports will provide feedback which may include a statement of any corrective action considered necessary to take collectively, or at any specific business division. Kaiako will be required to report on the corrective actions undertaken to ensure the national standard is achieved the next time this course is offered.

5.5.4 Moderation practice for provider-based delivery

In this programme, all assessments will be moderated pre- and post-assessment for the first delivery of each course. Thereafter, moderation will occur according to an annual moderation plan. External moderation will be carried out as specified in an agreed moderation plan (See [Appendix: Draft Moderation Plan](#)).

6 Waeture ā-Hōtaka | Programme Regulations

NZQA Programme Approval Criterion 5: Regulations.

Regulations outline the requirements for entry into, progress through and completion of the programme and are aimed at assisting ākonga to understand these requirements. These Regulations are to be read in conjunction with [Te Kawa Maiororo | Educational Regulatory Framework](#). The following details are specific to this programme.

This programme:

1. Ensures currency with amendments to, and replacements of, relevant legislation, regulations, and codes of practice which may include some or all of the following: Veterinarian's Act 2005; Animal Welfare Act 1999; Biosecurity Act 1993, Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996; Resource Management Act 1991; Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997, Misuse of Drugs Act 1975, Privacy Act 2020.
2. Abides by Animal Welfare Act 1999 Part 6 legislating ethics surrounding use of animals in learning and teaching, including seeking Animal Ethics Committee Approval (where applicable).
3. Complies with any professional guidelines provided by both the New Zealand Veterinary Nursing Association (NZVNA) and Allied Veterinary Professionals Regulatory Council (AVPRC).

In this programme there are clear, relevant, and appropriate regulations that specify requirements for:

- admission
- credit recognition and transfer, and recognition of prior learning
- programme structure
- normal progression within the programme
- programme duration
- integration of practical and work-based components
- assessment regulations

The aim is to enable broad access for ākonga and commit to providing barrier-free access and participation for Māori, Pacific, Disabled and other equity groups.

6.1 Whakatapoko | Admission

General Admission	<p>To be admitted to this programme, applicants must meet the following academic admission requirements:</p> <p>NCEA Level 2 or higher including a minimum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits in English at Level 2 or higher • 12 credits in Mathematics at Level 1 or higher • 12 credits of relevant science (preferably Biology) at Level 1 or higher <p>OR</p> <p>this qualification may build on the New Zealand Certificate in Animal Healthcare Assisting (Level 4) with strands in Companion Animal Healthcare, Equine Healthcare and Rural Animal Healthcare [Ref: 4388]; or the New Zealand Certificate in Animal Management (Level 4) with strands in Canine Behaviour and Training; Companion Animals; Fish, Amphibians and Reptiles; Pet Grooming, and Zookeeping [Ref: 2489]; or the New Zealand Certificate in Animal Care with strands in Companion Animal, Equine, and Rural Animals (Level 3) [Ref: 2487]</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A recognised equivalent.</p>
Special admission	<p>Any ākonga who is 20 years of age or older and has not reached the general admission requirements for their intended programme is eligible for Special Admission. Kaimahi work with the ākonga to ensure they are prepared for their intended programme.</p>
Discretionary admission	<p>Any ākonga who is not yet 20 years of age and has not reached the general admission requirements for their intended programme may be eligible for Discretionary Admission. In assessing whether to grant Discretionary Admission, the delegated authority focuses on the applicant's level of preparedness for their intended programme.</p>
Additional requirements	<p>In addition to meeting the requirements for admission, all applicants must complete a health declaration and declaration of any criminal conviction to ensure fitness to practice prior to acceptance into the programme.</p> <p>Note: Convictions of any offence and/or declaration of health conditions will not necessarily exclude applicants from enrolment. Any decision is made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the delegated authority.</p>
English language requirements	<p>Applicants for whom English or te reo Māori is not a first language are required to provide proof of English proficiency.</p> <p>The required level of proficiency for this programme is IELTS (Academic) score of 6 with no individual band lower than 5.5 from a single test taken in the preceding two years, or an equivalent described in NZQA Rules.</p> <p>Domestic learners who have completed the majority or all of their education in New Zealand are deemed to have met this requirement.</p>

6.2 Selection Process

Limits on enrolment may be applied due to health and safety reasons, availability of resources, or availability of work experience placements.

Should limits be placed on enrolment, the following selection criteria will apply:

- Where the number of applications for a programme exceeds the number of available places, ākonga are offered the opportunity to be placed on a waitlist.

- Completed applications are assessed in the order that they are received.

6.3 Recognition of Prior Knowledge and Skills

The provisions and procedures for recognising prior knowledge and skills through cross credit, credit transfer and recognition of prior learning in this programme are set out in [Te Kawa Maiooro | Educational Regulatory Framework](#).

6.4 Award Requirements

To be awarded the New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Level 6) (Companion Animal Veterinary Nursing Strand), ākonga must achieve a minimum number of 240 credits from courses described in Table 1 below and meet the Practicum Requirements listed in Table 2.

Table 1: Schedule of Courses

Course code	Course title	Credits	Pre-requisites	Co-Requisites	Restrictions
level 5 courses					
ANML5001TP	Veterinary Nursing Practice	15			
ANML5002TP	Anatomy and Physiology	15			
ANML5103TP	Animal Husbandry and Behaviour	15			
ANML5104TP	Companion Animal Practicum I	15			
ANML5105TP	Introduction to Anaesthesia and Analgesia	15	ANML5002TP		
ANML5106TP	Introduction to Medical Nursing	15	ANML5002TP		
ANML5107TP	Introduction to Surgery and Diagnostics	15	ANML5002TP		
ANML5108TP	Companion Animal Practicum II	15	ANML5001TP & ANML5002TP & ANML5103TP & ANML5104TP		
level 6 courses					
ANML6101TP	Anaesthesia Management and Emergencies	15	ANML5105TP & ANML5107TP		
ANML6102TP	Medical Nursing and Diagnostics	15	ANML5106TP & ANML5107TP		
ANML6103TP	Companion Animal Practicum III	30	ANML5108TP		
ANML6104TP	Surgical Nursing and Dentistry	15	ANML5107TP		
ANML6105TP	Imaging and Veterinary Nursing Services	15			
ANML6106TP	Companion Animal Practicum IV	30	ANML6103TP		
TOTAL CREDITS		240			

Table 2: Practicum Requirements

- (1) A practicum of at least 750 hours must be completed during the programme.
- (2) The practicum must take place in a suitable animal environment that enables the application of knowledge and skills required by the graduate profile outcomes (GPOs).
- (3) A suitable practicum environment is a veterinary clinic, providing healthcare services for the species applicable to the strand. It may also include an alternative environment where learners can develop and enhance their practical skills.

(4) Within the practicum, learners must attend at least one veterinary clinic, and it is strongly recommended that learners attend a minimum of two veterinary clinics.

6.5 Programme Length and Duration

Ākonga will complete the programme within the minimum and maximum durations specified in the table below according to the delivery mode associated with their course enrolment.

Delivery Type	Provider-based	
Minimum Duration	2 years	
Maximum Duration	6 years	
	<i>Whole Programme</i>	<i>Per Year</i>
Range of Training/ Teaching Weeks	60 - 80	30 – 40
Range of Holiday Weeks	4 - 16	2 – 8
Range of Total (Gross) Weeks	64 - 96	32 – 48
Range of Total Learning Hours (per week)	30 - 40	
Number of Years	2 years	
Total Learning Hours per Year	1200	
Total Programme Hours	2400	
Delivery Pattern (STEO Study Mode)	Full-time (Including Part-time)	

The delegated authority may approve an alternative maximum completion time for the programme. Any reduction in the time frame must be in accordance with credit recognition provision.

6.6 Progression

All courses are compulsory. There are no electives in this programme.

Courses ANML5001TP, ANML5002TP, ANML5103TP, ANML5104TP must be offered prior to any other courses.

Ākonga should pass all Level 5 courses before beginning any Level 6 courses to support success in this programme.

6.7 Assessment Regulations

Assessment regulations follow the guidelines in [Te Kawa Maiooro | Educational Regulatory Framework](#).

Assessment and/or course pass requirements that are specific to this programme are detailed in each course descriptor.

Assessment Mode	Achievement-based and Competency-based
Grade Key	Te Kawa Maiooro Grading Scale
Assessment submission and additional opportunities	Requirements and processes for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessment submission, • resit and/or resubmission opportunities for failed assessments, • reassessment opportunities for failed courses, • late submission of assessments, and • extension of assessment deadlines

	are outlined in programme delivery documentation provided to ākonga at the start of their course.
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6.8 Integration of Practical and Work-based Components

This programme includes a practicum component that meets the requirements of the qualification. This practicum must include at least 750 hours to be completed during the programme. Within the practicum, ākonga will attend at least one animal related facility for a minimum of 45 hours, at least one veterinary clinic, with a strong recommendation to attend a minimum of two veterinary clinics, to complete at least 480 of the total 750 practicum hours, in a veterinary clinic.

These practical components are in the form of practicums which take place in a suitable animal environment that enables the application of knowledge and skills required by the graduate profile outcomes (GPOs).

A suitable practicum environment is a veterinary clinic providing healthcare services for the species applicable to companion animal veterinary nursing strand as described in the qualification. It may also include an alternative environment where ākonga can develop and enhance their practical skills.

Work-integrated learning components are integrated in this programme as a series of practicum courses which are preceded by learning and assessment of health and safety, animal ethics, professional behaviour, and basic animal handling before the practicum is undertaken.

Practicums are designed to develop the knowledge, skills, and competencies to provide different experiences and aspects of practice that provides a balance of application of theoretical knowledge and practical skills acquisition required for the strand. Ākonga will observe and develop competencies in a range of clinical skills in veterinary nursing and working in an interprofessional team.

6.9 Transition Arrangements

This qualification replaced the New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Level 6) [Ref: 2491]. The last date of assessment for that qualification is 31 December 2025, when it will be discontinued.

Transition arrangements may be required for ākonga who will be required to transition to this programme as a result of the discontinuation of the above-mentioned qualification. Each Te Pūkenga business division delivering a programme leading to the previous qualification will create its own transition plan based on equivalencies between existing and new courses. Transition pathways will be identified on a case-by-case basis, informed by these course equivalencies, logistics and individual ākonga knowledge gaps. All care will be taken to minimise any ākonga disadvantage by their transition to the new programme, while still maintaining the integrity of the new unified programme.

7 Te Whakaaetanga me te Uiuitanga | Programme Acceptability and Consultation

NZQA Programme Approval Criterion 4: Acceptability of the programme and consultation.

The acceptability of this programme was informed using the process of engagement that included socialisation and consultation. The following outlines the process and results that are specific to this development.