Appendix 2: Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing Programme Regulations

Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing [BVN]

To be read in conjunction with Unitec's Academic Statute, Te Kawa Maiorooro | Educational Regulatory Framework and associated Policies and Procedures.

These programme regulations apply to the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing [BVN] programme, which leads to the award of Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (level 7) qualification, (360 Credits) [3995-3].

These regulations come into effect from Semester 1, 2027.

1. Ngā Ture Hei Whakaurunga | Admission Requirements	To be eligible for admission to this programme, all applicants must meet three admission requirements: a. Requirements for either general admission, special admission, or discretionary admission b. Any additional Programme specific requirements c. English language requirements **1.1 Whakaurunga Whānui | General Admission** To be admitted to this programme all applicants must be at least 16 years of age on the date of the programme's commencement for the semester in which they wish to enrol (or provide a completed Early Release Exemption form), and meet the following requirements: A minimum of 42 credits at NCEA Level 3 or higher on the National Qualifications Framework, with 14 credits at Level 3 or higher in each of two science-related subjects, with a further 14 credits at Level 3 or higher taken from no more than two additional domains on the National Qualifications Framework; *And* a minimum of 14 credits at Level 1 or higher in Mathematics or Pangarau on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework; *And* a minimum of 8 credits at Level 2 or higher in English or Te Reo Māori; a minimum of 4 credits must be in Reading and a minimum of 4 credits must be in Writing; *Or* At least 3 'C' passes in the New Zealand University Bursaries Examinations in science or health science related field, where appropriate or equivalent; *Or* Successful completion of an appropriate qualification at Level 3 or above in a science or health science related field, where appropriate or equivalent; *Or* Equivalent. **1.2 Whakaurunga Motuhake | Special Admission** Applicants must have: a. attained the age of 20 years on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the programme is to commence; and b. provided sufficient evidence of aptitude or appropriate work or other life experience that would indicate a successful outcome in the qualification. **1.3 Whakaurunga Kōwhiringa | Discretionary Admission** In exceptional cases an applicant who does not meet the general admission requirements and who has not reached the age of 20 on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the Certificate is to commence may apply for discretionary admission. Applicants must have: A minimum of 68 credits at NCEA Level 2 in their best four subjects; Or Have a maximum total of 12 in New Zealand Sixth Form Certificate in their best four subjects; Or Equivalent.

	In assessing whether to grant discretionary admission in exceptional cases, the primary focus will be on the applicant's level of preparedness for study at the required level **1.4 Whakaurunga Tautui | Programme Specific Requirements** 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. 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. OR Successfully completed the New Zealand Certificate in Animal Technology (Level 5) or equivalent OR Successfully completed the New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Level 6) [Ref:2491] or equivalent. OR Successfully completed the New Zealand Diploma Veterinary Nursing (Level 6) [Ref:4389] or equivalent. Applicants whose veterinary nursing qualifications include credits at Level 4 may be admitted to the *Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing* following successful completion of additional courses from the New Zealand Certificate in Animal Technology or New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing [Ref:4389] schedule as required. **1.5 Whakaurunga Reo Pākehā | English Language Admission Requirements** Applicants must have achieved a minimum standard of English as demonstrated by a minimum of 8 credits at NCEA Level 2 in English (4 in Reading, 4 in Writing). International applicants and any Domestic applicant for whom English, Māori or NZ Sign is not their first language must also provide evidence that they have the necessary English language proficiency required for the Programme as demonstrated by the NZQA Rules and on the Unitec English Language Requirements for International Students Web-page.
2. Paearu Kōwhiri Tukanga| Selection Criteria & Process	**2.1 Paearu Kōwhiri | Selection Criteria** Applicants will be admitted to the programme on a first come, first served basis on the basis of providing a complete application which meets one of the above Admission Requirements.
3. Ngā Ture Hei Whakawhiwhi Tohu Mātauranga | Requirements for the Award of the Programme	**3.1 Whakaemi Tūtukitanga | Credit Accumulation** To be awarded the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing, a student must successfully complete a minimum of 360 credits in the pattern set out in Table 1 from the courses set out in Table 2. ***Table 1: Credit Requirements for Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing*** Level | Compulsory Credits | Elective Credits | Total Credits 5 | 120 | | 120 6 | 135 | | 135 7 | 60 | | 60 7 | | 15 | 15 6 or 7 | | 30 | 30 | | | 360

Table 2: Course Details – Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing

Compulsory courses are shown in **bold** and Elective courses in *italics*.

Course No	Course Name	Credits	Pre- requisites	Co-requisites	Restrictions
Level 5					
ANML5001TPB	**Veterinary Nursing Practice**	**15**			
ANML5002TPB	**Anatomy and Physiology**	**15**			
ANML5103TPB	**Animal Husbandry and Behaviour**	**15**			
ANML5104TPB	**Companion Animal Practicum I**	**15**			
ANML5105TPB	**Introduction to Anaesthesia and Analgesia**	**15**	**ANML5002TPB**		
ANML5106TPB	**Introduction to Medical Nursing**	**15**	**ANML5002TPB**		
ANML5107TPB	**Introduction to Surgery and Diagnostics**	**15**	**ANML5002TPB**		
ANML5108TPB	**Companion Animal Practicum II**	**15**	ANML5001TPB ANML5002TPB ANML5103TPB **ANML5104TPB**		
Level 6					
ANML6101TPB	**Anaesthesia Management and Emergencies**	**15**	ANML5105TPB ANML5107TPB		
ANML6102TPB	**Medical Nursing and Diagnostics**	**15**	ANML5106TPB **ANML5107TPB**		
ANML6103TPB	**Companion Animal Practicum III**	**30**	**ANML5108TPB**		
ANML6104TPB	**Surgical Nursing and Dentistry**	**15**	**ANML5107TPB**		
ANML6105TPB	**Imaging and Veterinary Nursing Services**	**15**			
ANML6106TPB	**Companion Animal Practicum IV**	**30**	**ANML6103TPB**		
NSCI6105	*Introduction to Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Companion Animals*	*15*	*ANML5103 & ANML5002*		
NSCI6730	**Research Methods**	**15**			
NSCI6731	*Companion Animal Behaviour*	*15*			
NSCI6732	*Animal Health and Welfare*	*15*			
NSCI6739	*Behavioural Ecology*	*15*			
NSCI6741	*Vertebrate Physiology*	*15*			
NSCI6747	*Pacific Veterinary Nursing Practicum*	*15*	*ANML5108*		
Level 7					
NSCI7103	*Anthrozoology*	*15*			
NSCI7106	*Applied Animal Behaviour Science*	*15*			
NSCI7109	**Evidence-based Veterinary Nursing**	**15**			
NSCI7421	**One Health**	**15**			
NSCI7731	**Negotiated Research**	**30**		**NSCI6730**	
NSCI7810	*Internship*	*15*			
NSCI7811	*Advanced Anaesthesia and Analgesia*	*15*			
NSCI7812	*Emergency Veterinary Nursing*	*15*	(NSCI6300 & NSCI6102 & NSCI6101) or (ANML6101TPB & ANML6102TPB & ANML6104TPB & ANML6105TPB)		

3.1 Mahi Waehanga Pāhekoheko | Integrated and Work-based components

Students must attend 100 per cent of work-based/clinical practice components for the following courses:

	a. ANML5104TPB and ANML5108TPB: Companion Animal Practicum I and II (240 hours) b. ANML6103TPB and ANML6106TPB: Companion Animal Practicum III and IV (6o credits) (240 hours) **3.3 Mahi Akoranga I A Wāhanga | Course Load per Semester** The normal full-time course load is 60 credits per semester, or 75 credits with the approval of the relevant academic authority. **3.4 Whakaurunga Takiwā | Enrolment Periods** The normal enrolment period is 3 years (full-time study) or 6 years (part-time study). Students who are prevented by ill health, or other cause, from completing the programme requirements within the maximum period of enrolment, the relevant academic authority may approve suspension of enrolment for up to a maximum of 12 months The maximum period to complete this Programme is 8 years. **3.5 Whakawhiwhi Tāpiripiri| Additional Awards** **3.5.1 Senior Scholar Award** To be eligible for consideration to receive a Senior Scholar Award a student must have: a. achieved a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 8.0 (there is no rounding) or better across all degree courses for which s/he has been assessed in the programme; and b. achieved at least 2/3 of the total credits for the degree through enrolment in Unitec courses (i.e. have achieved no more than 1/3 of the credits by cross credits from another institution or by the assessment of prior learning).
4. Tūtukitanga Whakamihi | Credit Recognition	**4.1 Whakawhiti Tūtukitanga | Cross Credit** Credits will not be awarded for successful study that took place more than 5 years prior to the date of first enrolment in the programme. a. A student may be awarded credits or exemptions in recognition of successful equivalent study, at the same or a higher level in the context of another programme. b. The credit recognition may be: i. specified, where there is direct equivalence of the learning outcomes of a completed course and a course in the programme; or ii. unspecified, where the previous study has taken place in a programme with a similar philosophy but there is no exact match in the programme's courses. **4.2 Aromatawai Tōmua | Assessment of Prior Learning (APL)** Assessment of Prior Learning is available for all courses in this programme. APL decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis under the Unitec Assessment of Prior Learning Procedure. **4.3 Ngā whakawhitinga | Credit Transfer** Learners who have completed courses in the New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Level 6, 240 credits) may be awarded credit transfer toward the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing.
5. Waeture Aromatawai | Assessment Regulations *Assessment Regulations comply with Unitec's Assessment, Moderation and Grades Policy and*	**5.1 Paparahi Aromatawai | Assessment Basis** Assessment in this programme is achievement based using an 11-point grading scale. Students must submit all specified assessment items, achieve all learning outcomes, and obtain at least 50% overall in order to pass this course. **5.2 Ākoranga Taumata | Course grades** Course grades will be determined by the mathematical aggregation of weighted assessment marks and reported according to the following scales. Participants must obtain at least 50% overall score in order to pass achievement-based assessment. ***Table 3a: Achievement based 11-point assessment system*** Grade Meaning Result Percentage

associated procedure.

A+	Distinction	Credits Earned	90 – 100
A	Distinction	Credits Earned	85 – 89
A-	Distinction	Credits Earned	80 – 84
B+	Merit	Credits Earned	75 – 79
B	Merit	Credits Earned	70 – 74
B-	Merit	Credits Earned	65 – 69
C+	Pass	Credits Earned	60 – 64
C	Pass	Credits Earned	55 – 59
C-	Pass	Credits Earned	50 – 54
D	Fail	No Credits Earned	40 – 49
E	Fail	No Credits Earned	0 – 39

5.3 Paearu Taumata | Grade Criteria

Students may be awarded one of the following grades for a course:

Table 4: Grade Criteria

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Grade	Meaning	Criteria
P	Ungraded Pass	may be used for the outcome of an RPKS process or anywhere a graded level of achievement cannot be applied
RP	Restricted Pass	may be awarded instead of 'D' in the range 45%-49% to ākonga whose narrow fail has been compensated by good grades in their other courses in the same programme. Note: A course for which a Restricted Pass (RP) has been awarded is not normally accepted as meeting the prerequisite requirements for any other course.
NP	Not Passed	Not Passed
AS	Advanced Standing	award of a block of approved prior learning credits to allow entry to a programme with exemptions
AEG	Aegrotat	successful outcome of an Assessment Concession process
DNC	Did not complete	where a compulsory element of a course is not submitted, or the ākonga formally withdrew after 80% or informally withdrew at any time.
GP	Grade Pending	ākonga has an approved extension to complete an agreed portion of work or assessment beyond the course end date.
WD	Withdrawn	The student withdraws from a Course after 10% of the scheduled Course duration and up to, or at, the date at which 80% of the scheduled Course has passed. No credits earned.
AO	Attendance Only	met course attendance requirements

6. Aromatawai Mahinga | Assessment Procedures

6.1 Ākoranga Aromatawai | Course Assessment

Courses employ both formative and summative assessment activities. Formative assessments do not contribute to the final grade for a given course. All summative assessment elements are compulsory unless otherwise approved and noted in course descriptors.

Students must attempt all compulsory assessment activities in order to pass and receive credit for any course. Students who do not attempt a compulsory item of assessment may be awarded a 'Did Not Complete'(DNC) for the whole course and may not earn any credits.

6.2 Aromatawai I Roto I Te Reo | Assessment in Te Reo

All students have the right to submit any summative assessment task in Te reo Māori. The process for submission of summative assessment work in Te reo Māori is governed by the Unitec Assessment in Te Reo Māori procedure and detailed in course material.

6.3 Tāpaetanga Tōmuri | Submission and late submission of work

a. The due dates for all summative assessment work will be notified at the commencement of each course.
b. Any assessment that is submitted late (and does not have a prior approved extension) will be penalised by a deduction of 10% per day of the participants assignment mark, up to five (5) days, inclusive of weekends.
c. Applications for extensions must be made in writing to the relevant Academic Authority responsible for the assessment at least 24 hours before the due date. All applications must be accompanied by supporting evidence. An extension of up to five days may be awarded.
d. Any extension will be carried out within a specified time period as agreed with the relevant academic authority and no further extensions will be granted.
e. No assignment will be accepted five (5) days (inclusive of weekends) after the due date. If the assessment is not compulsory, the participants will receive a 'zero' grade for that assignment. If the assignment is compulsory, then the participants will receive a Did Not Complete (DNC) grade for the entire course.

6.4 Whakamātautau Anō | Resubmission or Reassessment

A student may apply to undertake a resubmission/reassessment which scored a D grade within 5 days of receiving their marked assessment.
Award of a re-sit and/or re-submission is offered at the point of course results ratification at the end of each semester.

a. Students may only resit or resubmit one assessment item for each course and the overall performance of the student and/or Assessment Concession will be taken into account when offering resits and/or resubmissions
b. Students may only resit an assessment or examination to a maximum of two courses during any one academic year and/or at each level (fees may apply).
c. All resubmissions/reassessments will be carried out within a specified time period as agreed with the relevant academic authority.
d. In all cases for resubmission, the original marked assignment will accompany resubmitted assignments. If resubmitted work is not accompanied by the original marked assignment, the resubmitted work will not be marked, and the original grade will stand.
e. The maximum grade for any resubmission/reassessment of an assessment is the lowest pass grade.
f. Assignments that are handed in late are not eligible for resubmission or reassessment

6.5 Āhuatanga Aromatawai Motuhake | Assessment Concession

A student may apply for Assessment Concession (AC) if:

a. The student is unable to attend an examination, compulsory assessment or fixed time and place assessment activity due to illness, injury, bereavement, or other critical circumstances
b. The student's preparation for, or performance in an examination or any summative assessment has been seriously impaired due to circumstances beyond their control

Applications for AC are made by a student within 5 working days of the affected assessment event. Decisions to approve an AC and to apply any remedy are made according to the Assessment and Grading Procedures and Te Kawa maiorooro | Education Regulatory Framework.

6.6 Pāhi Rāhui | Restricted Pass

A restricted pass may be awarded in a course which was narrowly failed and where there is ample evidence that marginal failure is compensated by good overall performance.

	a. A restricted pass is awarded at the discretion of the relevant academic authority and may not be applied for directly by a student. b. The relevant academic authority may, at their discretion, use a restricted pass to: • set conditions for future performance in other courses; • prevent a student from using a restricted pass to meet the prerequisite requirements of another course. c. A student may decline the award of a restricted pass by notifying the relevant academic authority in writing not later than 20 working days from notification of the results. **6.7 Tuaruatanga | Repeating Courses** Students who are repeating a Level 1–8 course would normally be required to submit all assessment items. In some cases, with the prior approval of the relevant academic authority, students may not be required to repeat an equivalent assessment item that they had previously passed. This should be negotiated within the first two weeks of the commencement of the course and will specify any course grade that will be carried over. Students may enrol and repeat a course that they have failed only once. Permission to enrol for a third time is governed by Exclusion provisions below. **6.8 Whakakorenga | Exclusions** No student will be allowed to enrol in any course more than twice unless there are exceptional circumstances approved by the relevant academic authority. a. Any Student who fails to achieve at least 50 per cent of the credits that he or she is enrolled in in any 12-month period may be excluded by the relevant Academic Authority from re-enrolling in any further courses. The decision whether students can re-enrol in further courses will be based on a student's likelihood of succeeding in further study and will be made by the relevant Head of School. b. When calculating the 12-month period in a. above, Unitec reserves the right to include any relevant time spent by the student studying at another tertiary institution. c. A Student who has not achieved a Pass Grade in the same Course on two occasions shall not be enrolled again for that Course except with the permission of the relevant Academic Authority. d. The relevant Academic Authority will advise the student in writing of their decision, and the reasons for such decision, and any orders made. **6.9 Examination Regulations** All formal examinations in this programme are governed by the Unitec Examinations Regulations; **6.10 Tono Pīra | Appeals** Students may appeal the decisions made under these regulations in accordance with the Student Appeal Procedure.
7. Whakaritenga Whānui | General Provisions	**7.1 Whakamāramatanga ā-kaupapa | Definition of Terms** In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply: • 'Relevant academic authority' refers to an individual or role holder, or in some cases a committee, who have been delegated the authority to make a decision within a specific circumstance. A schedule of the various relevant academic authority delegations is maintained by the Programme Academic Quality Committee responsible for the Programme. **7.2 Āhuatanga Tauwhirowhiro Ritenga | Transitional Arrangements** Transitional arrangements for this programme and associated programmes are detailed in Appendix 5 of the programme document. Unitec is committed to ensure that students are not disadvantaged by this transitional arrangement.
9. Regulation Version Control	

Ver No.	Approved by	Approval Date	Effective from	Description of change
4	*AAC* *NZQA*	*20/04/2021* *23/06/2021*	*2021-Sem2*	*Addition of new elective NSCI6105* ***Introduction to Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Companion Animals***
4.5	*AACSC* *NZQA*	*04/07/2024* *30/09/2024*	*2025-Sem1*	*Addition of new elective NSCI7812 Emergency Veterinary Nursing and removal of compulsory course NSCI7101 Global Issues in Animal Welfare.*
4.6	*AAC*	*25/11/2025*	*2026-Sem1*	*Change additional admission requirements to be the same as for NZDV6:* *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. 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.* ***Remove:*** *In addition to meeting the requirements for general, special, or discretionary admission the following Programme Specific requirements must be met prior to admission:* *a. have completed at least three days' work-experience in a veterinary clinic before applying for this programme AND* *b. provide: i. a letter of recommendation from the clinic at which they completed their work experience; ii. a reference from an employer where the prospective student has worked with the public; and iii. a reference from a teacher (or similar) attesting to the applicant's social skills. AND* *c. sign a consent form that allows Unitec to complete a search of a Ministry of Justice convictions database i. In the event this search uncovers any un-declared convictions, the relevant application will be referred to the Admissions Committee. AND* *d. provide a completed medical declaration indicating there is no evidence of a medical condition that will affect their ability to practice safely as a veterinary nurse;*
4.7	*AAC*	*19/08/2026*	*2027- Sem1*	*Changed the prerequisites to ANML5103 & ANML5002 that align with NZDV6 courses.* *NSCI7810: Corrected administrative error by adding NSCI7810 Internship back to the Programme Regulations Table 2: Course Details.*