The South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) is established in terms of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act 19 of 1982) and only persons who are registered with the Council may practice as veterinary nurses in South Africa.

The position with regard to registration is as follows:

1. **SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS**

   Persons holding the qualifications prescribed in the Act and Regulations are entitled to automatic registration with the Council on receipt of the requisite application form and fee. At present the qualifications are the University Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (University of Pretoria) and Diploma Cur Anim (University of Pretoria).

2. **PERSONS WITH FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS**

   Persons with qualifications from any other institution throughout the world are required to pass an examination prior to being registered in South Africa to practice the profession of a veterinary nurse in South Africa. This requirement must not be construed in any way as a comment on the standard or quality of other educational training but is purely related to the fact that no agreement of reciprocity exists between this Council and other bodies concerned.

   Such persons shall submit an application to the Council for permission to enroll for the registration examination. Applications for permission to write must be received by this office on or before 1 April. If permission is granted, the applicant will be required to sit the examination during September of the same year in Pretoria or a venue to be advised. Please note that an examination is required unless the Council expressly decides otherwise. All applicants are required to submit certified copies of all educational certificates together with their application and produce original copies of the said certificates for scrutiny on the first day of the examination and prior to sitting the South African Veterinary Council registration examination.

   Persons registered with other registering authorities prior, are required to submit with their application a certificate of good standing issued within the previous three months by the relevant registering authorities. The Veterinary Council is the regulatory authority governing the registration of qualified persons and the conduct of the profession.

   The Council is not in a position to render assistance with regard to the obtaining of employment in this country.

3. **EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A VETERINARY NURSE**

   **GENERAL INFORMATION**

   1. Application to sit for the examination of the South African Veterinary Council must be made in writing and on the prescribed application form to:

      The Registrar: South African Veterinary Council

      874 STANZA BOPAPE (CHURCH) STREET, LISDOGAN PARK, PRETORIA;
      P.O. Box 40510, ARCADIOA, 0007, South Africa
      Tel: (012) 342 1612
      Fax: (012) 342 4354
2. An examination is held annually in September at:

THE FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE, UP, ONDERSTEPOORT OR
874 STANZA BOPAPE (CHURCH) STREET, LISDOGAN PARK, PRETORIA OR
AT A VENUE/S TO BE ADVISED

3. The closing date for enrolment is 1 April.

4. Late entries will NOT be considered. [Refer Rule 2.1 of the rules.]

5. Application must be made on the application form and must be accompanied by the relevant documents as listed on the application form, checklist and in the Rules.

5.1 A non-refundable application/processing fee and a non-refundable examination fee determined by the SA Veterinary Council is payable in South African currency. Cheques and/or postal orders must be crossed and made out in favour of the South African Veterinary Council. Proof of payment must be submitted when candidates present themselves for examination. The non-refundable examination fee may be transferred once, on motivation, to the following year subject to the escalation of the fee in the following year. [Refer Rule 2.2 of the rules.]

5.2 Certified copies of degrees, diplomas and/or certificates should accompany the application form. [Refer Rule 2.4 of the rules.]

5.3 A certificate of good standing (issued within the last three months by the veterinary authorities in the country in which the candidate has been registered as a para-veterinarian) should be submitted or in the absence of a professional Council/Board or registering authority a certified reference from the faculty from where the applicant qualified should be submitted or from the present employer. A police clearance from the authorities in the country where the applicant was last employed should accompany the application. [Refer Rules 2.5 and 2.6 of the rules.]

6. All candidates who failed the examination twice are permitted to apply for an additional examination based on the criteria, that

The candidate provides:

- Additional proof that enhances the chances of passing an additional examination based on past performance;
- Proof of further studies (continuing veterinary education courses) in the relevant areas wherein the person was previously deficient;
- Other factors relevant to the candidate’s personal circumstances;
- Information that at least two years lapsed between the second and third year or any follow up examinations in which the candidate prepared him/herself with further studies.

7. The examination consists of at least two parts.

7.1 A Computer Based Examination (CBE) consisting of two sessions which is of a general nature and which will test the candidate’s basic knowledge and understanding of specific and important South African conditions. Candidates will be given an opportunity before the actual examination to complete an unrelated computer based questionnaire (dummy run) to enable candidates to familiarise themselves with the CBE format.
7.2 A practical and a practical/oral examination conducted by a panel or panels of examiners appointed by the Council.

7.2.1 During the practical examination the candidate’s proficiency in English and the applicant’s professional attitude will figure prominently. [Refer Rule 2.11 of the rules.]

7.3 A sub minimum of 50% in each of the two CBE sessions and a sub minimum of 50% in the practical and practical/oral examination as well as an overall final combined mark of 50% is required to pass the examination and allow registration. Sessions one and two of the computer based examination will contribute equally to a mark for the CBE component. The final combined mark will be computed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBE component</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical component</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Refer Rule 3.11 of the rules.]

8. Candidates must have a sound knowledge of the main laws pertaining to veterinary science and the veterinary- and para-veterinary professions in South Africa, viz:

8.1 Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act 36 of 1947)

8.2 Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984)

8.3 Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, 1965 (Act 101 of 1965) as amended

8.4 Animals Protection Act (Act 71 of 1962) as amended

8.5 Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act 19 of 1982) as amended

8.5.1 Applied regulations and rules;

8.5.2 The ethical code of veterinary nurses.

These Acts are published in Government Gazettes, which are obtainable at libraries and specifically at:

The National Library of South Africa
165 Thabo Sehume (Andries) Street 165
Pretoria
South Africa

P O Box 397
Pretoria
0001

Or click on the link: http://www.library.up.ac.za/vet/acts.htm

9. In addition, candidates must have an acceptable applied knowledge of:

9.1 Anatomy and Histology
9.2 Physiology and Physiological Chemistry
9.3 Veterinary Ethology
9.4 Laboratory Technique
9.5 Microbiology, Epidemiology, Immunology
10. Candidates must have a sound theoretical and practical knowledge of the following clinical nursing subjects:

10.1 General Nursing

Ethical aspects, clinical relations, responsibilities towards the employer, patient and clients. General precaution and safety aspects during hospitalisation, nursing and treatment of patients. Hygiene of the hospital, apparatus and patient. Safe storage of medicines, safe medication and the recording thereof. Observation of the patient and accounting to the veterinarian with the use of correct veterinary terminology. Rules pertaining to transport of animals and basic bandaging.

10.2 Medical Nursing


10.3 Surgical Nursing


10.4 Reproductive Nursing


10.5 Theatre Practice


10.6 Radiography

10.7 **Anaesthesia**


**PLEASE NOTE**

11. If candidates should require any additional information regarding:

11.1 examination policy, the administration and organisation of the examination, they may direct their enquiries to:

*The Registrar South African Veterinary Council*

P.O. Box 40510

Arcadia

0007

*Republic of South Africa*

Tel: (012) 342 1612

Fax: (012) 342 4354
SOUTH AFRICAN VETERINARY COUNCIL

Payments to the South African Veterinary Council:

Persons in foreign countries should please note that payments to the South African Veterinary Council should be remitted to **ABSA Bank Limited, Hatfield Branch (Bank reference number 335 545), Pretoria** for credit of **Account 020 166 762** and payees are to ensure that the amount transferred is the correct amount in South African Rand. When transfers are made **ABSA** must be advised of the details pertaining to payment, as follows:

Payment for application to sit registration with the South African Veterinary Council

Person’s name: ____________________________

Copy of Identity document: ____________________________

Date of payment: ____________________________

Please advise the South African Veterinary Council of transfer of payment, as follows:

Person’s name: ____________________________

Name of bank of origin: ____________________________

Payee’s account number: ____________________________

Amount of payment: ____________________________

Date of payment: ____________________________

Fax the information to 0027 (012) 342 4354

Applicants should avail themselves of the Examination Rules as per Document C of the Examination Documentation.