

VETERINARY SCIENCE



This is a detailed profile of the veterinary science field of study. It lists the range of specialisations available and compares degree-level courses. We examine the institutions that get the best ratings, based on real student experience and graduate outcome data, which will help you decide the right university for your educational journey.

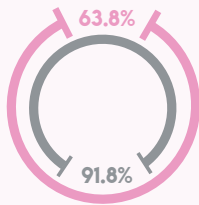
VETERINARY SCIENCE

If you have a passion for animals, a career in veterinary science could be for you. While most veterinary science graduates work in private practice, there are many alternative career destinations including government services and rural industries.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

UNDERGRADUATE **POSTGRADUATE**

Proportion of students who have secured a full-time job within four months of graduating.



MEDIAN GRADUATE SALARY



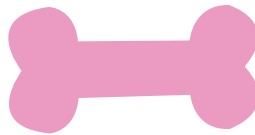
\$50,600

UNDERGRADUATE

\$52,200

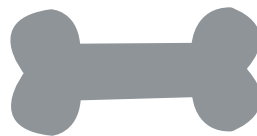
POSTGRADUATE

NUMBER OF STUDENTS



2,947

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL



20,066

UNDERGRADUATE



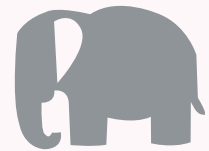
3,124

POSTGRADUATE

WHAT CAN I DO?



Wildlife Conservation



Zoology



Animal Rescue



Veterinary Science



Animal Welfare

Data has been sourced from the Graduate Outcomes Survey. Results are pooled to represent graduates who completed the survey in 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014. Graduate complete the Graduate Outcomes Survey approximately four month post graduation.



FIVE-STAR UNIVERSITIES VETERINARY SCIENCE

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

MURDOCH 88.5%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 79.5%

GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT

CSU 95.3%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 84.9%

LEARNER ENGAGEMENT

MURDOCH 92.3%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 73.6%

LEARNING RESOURCES

ADELAIDE 90.5%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 83.3%

MEDIAN STARTING SALARY

MURDOCH \$52,000

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = \$50,000

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

MURDOCH 91.8%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 83.2%

STUDENT SUPPORT

ADELAIDE 81.3%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 70.1%

TEACHING QUALITY

ADELAIDE 90.7%

NATIONAL
AVERAGE = 82.6%

WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN? The ratings above represent the top 20 per cent of results for each measure in this particular field of study. For overall institution results, see the ratings section at the front of the guide.

VETERINARY SCIENCE

Cute animals aside, one of the best things about being a vet must surely be having the ability to treat and cure disease and sickness in animals and increase their quality of life. If you have a passion for animals — and good communication skills to deal with their owners — a career in veterinary science could be for you.

While most veterinary science graduates work in private practice, there are many alternative career destinations. Each year, a number of graduates find employment in government services (in areas like livestock disease control or diagnostic service work), research or rural industries. Opportunities for veterinary science graduates are also emerging in additional areas such as genetic technologies, food safety, animal welfare and urban animal management.

Other fields of study that may be of interest include agriculture, dentistry, environmental studies, health services and support, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, rehabilitation and some of the sciences, especially the life sciences.

COURSES AND SPECIALISATIONS

Almost all veterinary science courses, which involve five to seven years of full-time study, insist on the same broad-based training to prepare graduates for all areas of practice. Courses place a strong emphasis on practical work, with students working under supervision in external or university-operated veterinary clinics,

sometimes in a farm setting. Courses also require students to undertake professional practical work in semester breaks and between academic years. Australian veterinary practitioners must abide by the code of practice dictated by the AVA. Each year, they must register with the Veterinary Surgeons Board or Veterinary Practitioners Registration Board in the state or territory in which they intend to practise.

For more information, visit:

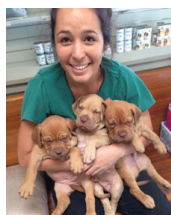
- Australian Veterinary Association — www.ava.com.au

WHERE TO STUDY

Entry into veterinary science courses is extremely competitive and often demands near-perfect ATAR or OP scores. They may also require prerequisite subjects (typically in one or more of maths, physics, biology and chemistry), but this should be checked with individual institutions as they do vary. Part of the reason for the tough entry requirements of veterinary science courses is that only a limited number of institutions offer them. Currently, seven universities offer accredited veterinary science courses, with a few of the more recently established courses based in (and focused on) rural areas in response to the recognition of a skills gap in the rural industries. Courses are available at universities in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL - BIANCA

Bachelor of Veterinary Science



Why did you choose to study veterinary science?

I have always had a passion for animals, so when the opportunity arose (getting the right marks at uni) I gave it a go. It's such an open degree that you can partake in any field in the animal industry even if you find that clinical practice is not for you.

What was the best thing about your course?

I made plenty of great friends! I found that other degrees were all about working hard on your own, while in veterinary science everyone worked together and helped each other out, with no competitive aspect. There was a great sense of comradeship. When someone was struggling you would help them study or take them for a run to make sure they didn't go insane! We also had a pretty amazing social calendar and I got to cuddle a lot of cute animals and spend time in zoos.

What advice would you give to students considering studying veterinary science?

You need to have a true passion for the profession (otherwise don't bother) and a good balance of work and play or you'll drive yourself into the ground. Also take every opportunity to learn and network. Once you're out, that's it — it really helps to be able to rely on your networks for job opportunities.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

FEATURES

This section:

- Contains a detailed profile of Veterinary Science
- lists specialisations available
- rates and compares institutions that offer degree-level courses
- introduces the kinds of jobs you could obtain after graduating
- shows which institutions get the best ratings from graduates
- shows how well institutions do in retaining graduates to a second year of study
- shows which institutions produce the best results for their graduates

UNIVERSITIES COMPARED

The “Five-Star Universities” graphs show the institutions whose results place them in the top 20 per cent of universities in each field of study. These ratings are based on the proportion of students in a given field of study who were satisfied with their institution’s performance in six student experience categories: Overall Quality of Educational Experience, Teaching Quality, Learner Engagement, Learning Resources, Student Support and Skills Development.

The graphs also look at universities in the top 20 per cent for employment outcomes, including the proportion of graduates who gained full-time employment and the median salaries of graduates.

Data has been sourced from the Quality Indicators of Learning and Teaching (QILT) and is based on the results from the Student Experience Survey and Graduate Destination Survey.

WANT MORE INFO?

- To find out more, head to www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au
- Learn all about career paths and potential jobs at www.goodcareersguide.com.au

