

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.



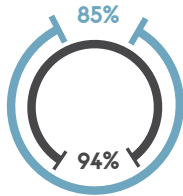
VETERINARY SCIENCE

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.



NUMBER OF STUDENTS



537
UNDERGRADUATE
INTERNATIONAL

3,637
UNDERGRADUATE

1,449
POSTGRADUATE



MEDIAN GRADUATE SALARY

\$52,200
UNDERGRADUATE

\$53,000
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 2018, 2017 and 2016. Graduates complete the Graduate Outcomes Survey approximately four months post-graduation.



FIVE-STAR UNIVERSITIES

VETERINARY SCIENCE

<p>EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE</p> <p>JCU 87.4%</p> <p>ADELAIDE 86.9%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 81.9%</p>	<p>GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT</p> <p>JCU 95.9%</p> <p>CSU 95.5%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 84.8%</p>	<p>LEARNER ENGAGEMENT</p> <p>ADELAIDE 89.5%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 73.5%</p>	<p>LEARNING RESOURCES</p> <p>ADELAIDE 92.6%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 84.0%</p>
<p>MEDIAN STARTING SALARY</p> <p>CSU \$58,000</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = \$52,200</p>	<p>SKILLS DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>MURDOCH 94.1%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 83.9%</p>	<p>STUDENT SUPPORT</p> <p>ADELAIDE 83.3%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 72.4%</p>	<p>TEACHING QUALITY</p> <p>LA TROBE 87.7%</p> <p>NATIONAL AVERAGE = 83.1%</p>

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.