

**GENERAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION**  
**SAVC REGISTRATION EXAMINATION**  
**VETERINARIANS - 2017**

The South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) was established in terms of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, Act No 19 of 1982 and only persons who are registered with the Council may practice as veterinarians 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 this refers only to the BVSc from the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria.

**2. PERSONS QUALIFIED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA OR NEW ZEALAND**

Persons holding the following degrees are also entitled to automatic registration:

**United Kingdom**

- University of Bristol - Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)
- University of Cambridge - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (VetMB)
- University of Edinburgh - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S)
- University of Glasgow - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVMS)
- University of Liverpool - Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)
- University of Nottingham - Bachelor Veterinary Medicine and Bachelor of Veterinary Surgery (BVM BVS)
- Royal Veterinary College London - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed)

**Australia**

- BVSc granted by Murdoch University, Australia
- BVSc granted by University of Sydney, Australia
- BVSc granted by University of Melbourne, Australia
- BVSc granted by University of Queensland, Australia
- BVSc granted by Charles Sturt University, Australia
- BVSc granted by James Cook University, Australia

**New Zealand**

- BVSc granted by Massey University, New Zealand

**3. PERSONS WITH FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS**

The acceptances of persons as set out in Item 2 above are based on signed reciprocity agreements between the SAVC and the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) and the SAVC and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS). Persons with qualifications from any other institution throughout the world are required to pass an examination prior to being registered 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 the registering authorities of these countries.

Such persons shall submit an application to the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) for permission to enrol for the examination. Applications for permission to write must be received by the SAVC Administration on or before 1 April. If permission is granted the applicant is required to sit the examination in October or at a date as advised by Council of the same year in Pretoria or a venue to be advised. Please note that an examination will be required unless the Council expressly decides otherwise.

The South African 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 South Africa.

### 3. **COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE (CCS)**

In terms of regulation 2.1 of the Regulations relating to the performance of compulsory community service (CCS), Persons Who Shall Perform Compulsory Community Service, published in Government Gazette No. 39380, Notice NO. R. 1082, on 9 November 2015 compulsory community service shall be performed by every person registering for the first time as a veterinarian in terms of the Act and shall include a person who obtained his or her qualifications outside the Republic of South Africa, unless exempted in terms of these regulations.

Regulation 7 provides for the circumstances under which certain persons may be exempted from the performance of compulsory community service and reads as follows:

*“The Minister may, after consultation with the Council, exempt persons who fall within the following categories from compulsory community service:*

- a) Persons who obtained veterinary related post graduate qualifications outside the Republic of South Africa; or*
- b) Persons who belong to para-veterinary professions.”*

### 4. **EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A VETERINARIAN**

#### **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:

Exams: South African Veterinary Council  
26 Victoria Link Street, Route 21 Corporate Park, Nellmapius Drive, Irene

PO Box 60114, Pierre van Ryneveld, 0045, South Africa

Tel: 0027 (012) 345 6360  
E-mail: [exams@savc.org.za](mailto:exams@savc.org.za)

2. Examinations are held at:
  - The Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria (UP), Onderstepoort OR
  - The SAVC offices: 26 Victoria Link Street, Route 21 Corporate Park, Nellmapius Drive, Irene 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 Requirement 2.1 of the Rules).
5. Applications must be made on the relevant application form and must be accompanied by relevant documents as listed on application forms, checklist and in the Rules.
  - 5.1 A non-refundable administration 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 to the SAVC Administration on [exams@savc.org.za](mailto:exams@savc.org.za) with the application form and 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 Requirements 2.2 and 2.3 of the Rules). Payments must be made in full. No down payments will be accepted.
  - 5.2 A clear passport photograph: the applicant should write his/her name on the back of the photograph and staple it to the front of the application form.
  - 5.3 All applicants are required to submit certified copies of all educational certificates together with their application and to produce original copies of the said certificates for scrutiny on the first day of the examination prior to sitting the South African Veterinary Council registration examination (refer Requirement 2.5 of the Rules).
  - 5.4 A certificate of good standing issued within the last three (3) months by: the veterinary authorities in the country in which the applicant has been registered as a veterinarian OR from the present employer OR in the absence of a professional Council/Board or registering authority, then a certified reference from the faculty where the applicant qualified. This reference should be submitted within three (3) years of qualifying from the faculty. *\*If an application is transferred to the next year then a new updated certificate of good standing must be submitted* (refer Requirement 2.7 of the Rules).
  - 5.5 A police clearance certificate (issued within the last three (3) months) from the authorities in the country where the applicant resided the preceding year/months should accompany the application. *\* If an application is transferred to the next year then a new updated police clearance certificate must be submitted* (refer Requirement 2.8 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 Examination conducted by 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 Requirement 2.12 of the Rules).

7.3 A progression mark of 60% for the CBE sessions, a sub-minimum of 50% in the Practical Examination with a sub-minimum of 45% per panel as well as an overall final combined mark of 50% is required to pass the examination and allow registration. The final combined mark will be computed as follows:

CBE component	50%
Practical component	50%

(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 profession in South Africa and their application regulations, viz:

8.1 Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No 36 of 1947)

8.2 Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No 35 of 1984) as amended

8.3 Medicines and Related Substances Control Act, (Act No 101 of 1965) as amended

8.4 Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, (Act No 19 of 1982), as amended

8.4.1 Rules and Regulations

8.5 Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act 40 of 2000)

8.6 Animal Improvement Act, 1977 (Act No 25 of 1977) as amended [Animal Improvement Act, (Act No 62 of 1998)]

INCLUDING all relevant gazetted regulations promulgated in terms of the above Acts.  
These Acts are published in Government Gazettes, which are obtainable at libraries and specifically at:

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

*Tel: 0027 (012) 401 9700*

*Private Bag X990*  
*Pretoria*  
*0001*  
*South Africa*

*Website: [www.nlsa.ac.za](http://www.nlsa.ac.za)*

9. In addition, candidates must have a sound knowledge, *inter alia*, of:

9.1 General pathology and the pathology of infectious and non-infectious diseases, including toxicological and parasitological conditions, toxicology, pharmacology, small and large animal medicine, surgery and (reproduction) theriogenology, state veterinary medicine, herd health, poultry health, infectious diseases of production and companion animals, veterinary public health and the common internal and external parasites of domestic animals. General veterinary practice and disease conditions of the various organ systems, including shock, general surgery, internal medicine and clinical procedures, including applied anatomy, will also be examined.

9.2 The most important tropical diseases of the country, their differential diagnoses and control measures, viz:

#### 9.2.1 PROTOZOAL AND RICKETTSIAL DISEASES

- Anaplasmosis
- Babesiosis (all species)
- Besnoitiosis
- Coccidiosis
- Corridor disease
- Dourine
- Ehrlichiosis
- Heartwater
- Trichomoniasis

#### 9.2.2 VIRAL DISEASES

- African horse sickness
- African swine fever
- Avian influenza
- Bluetongue
- Ephemeral fever
- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Lumpy skin disease
- Malignant cattarrhal fever
- Newcastle disease

- Peste des Petits ruminants (PPR/Goat plague)(not presently in South Africa)
- Rabies
- Rift Valley fever
- Rinderpest (although declared eradicated)
- Wesselsbron disease

### 9.2.3 BACTERIAL DISEASE

- Abscessation in all species
- Anthrax
- Black quarter and related diseases
- Botulism (all species)
- Brucellosis (cattle, sheep)
- Colibacillosis (pigs, calves)
- Dermatomycoses
- Enterotoxaemia (sheep)
- Enzootic pneumonia (pigs)
- Infectious coryza and chronic respiratory disease (poultry)
- Lamb dysentery
- Mastitis
- Mycoplasmosis (cattle, sheep)
- Pasteurellosis
- Salmonellosis (calves, sheep, poultry, pigs)
- Strangles (horses)
- Swine dysentery
- Swine erysipelas
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis
- Vibriosis (Campylobacteriosis – cattle, pigs)

### 9.2.4 IMPORTANT ZONOSSES IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Anthrax
- Brucellosis
- Bubonic/pneumonic plague (*Yersinia pestis*)
- Campylobacteriosis
- Cat scratch fever
- Congo Haemorrhagic fever
- Dermatomycoses – ringworm
- *Dipylidium caninum*
- Erysipeloid
- Hydatidosis/Echinococcosis
- Larval migrans (cutaneous)
- Larval migrans (visceral and ocular)
- Leptospirosis
- Psittacosis/Ornithosis
- Q-fever
- Rabies
- Rift Valley fever
- Salmonellosis
- South African tick-bite fever
- Systemic Mycoses
- Taeniasis (cysticercosis, *Taenia solium*, *Taenia saginata*)
- Toxoplasmosis
- Tuberculosis

9.3 The most important southern African plant poisonings and mycotoxicoses of livestock; recognition, pathogenesis, diagnosis and control. These are grouped according to the organ systems affected and the syndromes caused.

#### 9.3.1 LIVER

- Hepatotoxicoses without photosensitivity
  - *Aspergillus flavus*
  - *Cestrum spp.*
  - *Crotalaria spp.*
  - *Galenia africana*
  - *Senecio spp.*
- Hepatotoxicoses with photosensitivity primarily due to damage to liver parenchyma
  - *Athanasia trifurcata*
  - *Lantana*
  - *Lasiospermum bipinnatum*
  - *Microcystis aeruginosa*
- Hepatotoxicoses with photosensitivity primarily due to damage to biliary system
  - *Panicum spp.*
  - *Pithomyces chartarum*
  - *Tribulus terrestris*

#### 9.3.2 CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

- Neurological disorders without notable pathological lesions
  - Annual Rye Grass toxicosis
  - *Cynanchum spp.*
  - *Diplodia maydis*
- Neurological disorders with distinct pathological lesions
  - *Aspergillus clavatus*
  - *Fusarium moniliforme*
  - *Matricaria nigellifolia*
  - *Solanum kwebense*

#### 9.3.3 HEART

- Cardiac glycoside intoxication
  - Acute poisoning
    - Cardenolide-containing plants
      - *Asclepias fruticosa*
      - *Nerium oleander*
    - Non-cumulative bufadienolide-containing plants
      - *Homeria spp.*
      - *Moraea spp.*
      - *Urginea spp.*
  - Chronic poisoning with cumulative bufadienolides
    - *Cotyledon spp.*
    - *Kalanchoe spp.*
    - *Tylecodon spp.*
- Fluoroacetate poisoning
  - *Dichapetalum cymosum*
- Gousiekte
  - *Fadogia spp.*
  - *Pachystigma spp.*

- *Pavetta spp.*

#### 9.3.4 GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT

- Vermeersiekte
  - *Geigeria spp.*
- Kikuyu poisoning
  - *Pennisetum clandestinum*
- Chinkerinchee poisoning
  - *Ornithogalum spp.*
  - *Gnidia* poisoning

#### 9.3.5 UROGENITAL SYSTEM

- Primary nephropathy
  - *Quercus spp.*
  - Soluble oxalate poisoning
- Intoxication affecting reproduction and the developing foetus
  - *Diplodia zae*
  - *Fusarium graminearum*

#### 9.3.6 RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- Acute bovine pulmonary oedema and emphysema

#### 9.3.7 HAEMOPOIETIC SYSTEM

- Phytogenous copper poisoning
- Heinz body anaemia
  - *Allium spp.*
  - *Brassica spp.*
- Prussic acid poisoning
  - *Acacia spp.*
  - *Cynodon spp.*
  - *Eucalyptus spp.*
  - *Sorghum spp.*
- Bracken poisoning
  - *Pteridium aquilinum*

#### 9.3.8 SKIN AND ADNEXA

- *Crotalaria* laminitis

#### 9.4 The most important extoparasites and their control measures, viz:

##### 9.4.1 FLIES

- *Chrysomya albiceps*
- *Chrysomya chloropyga*
- *Culicoides*
- *Gastrophilus spp*
- *Hippobosca*
- *Lucillia cuprina*
- *Melophagus*
- *Musca*

- *Oestrus ovis*
- *Parafilaria*
- *Simulium*
- *Stomoxys*

#### 9.4.2 LICE

The basic life cycle and morphological characteristics of the genera *Linognathus* and *Damalinia*.

#### 9.4.3 FLEAS

- *Ctenocephalides canis/felis*
- *Echidnophaga*

#### 9.4.4 TAMPANS

- *Argas persicus*
- *Ornithodoros savignyi*
- *Otobius megnini*

#### 9.4.5 TICKS

- *Amblyomma* spp.
- *Rhipicephalus* spp.
- *Haemaphysalis leachii*
- *Hyalomma* spp.
- *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*
- *Rhipicephalus evertsi*
- *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*

#### 9.4.6 MITES

- *Demodex*
- *Psoroptes*
- *Sarcoptes*

9.5 The most important helminths and their control measures, viz:

#### 9.5.1 NEMATODES

Sheep and cattle: Bunostomum

- *Chabertia*
- *Gaigeria*
- *Haemonchus*
- *Nematodirus*
- *Oesophagostomum*
- *Ostertagia*
- *Trichostrongylus*

Horses; Cyathostomes = (*Trichonema* spp)

- *Parascaris*
- *Strongylus edentatus*
- *Strongylus equi*
- *Strongylus vulgaris*

Dogs: *Ancylostoma*\*

- *Oslerus (Filaroides)*
- *Spirocera*
- *Toxocara\**

#### 9.5.2 LUNGWORMS

- *Dictyocaulus* spp
- *Oslerus osleri*

#### MISCELLANEOUS NEMATODES (ALL SPECIES)

- *Ascaris* spp (pigs)
- *Gongylonema*
- *Habronema* and *Draschia* (horses)
- *Parafilaria*
- *Spirocerca lupi*
- *Strongyloides*
- *Trichinella*
- *Trichuris*

#### 9.5.3 TREMATODES

- *Fasciola*
- *Paramphistomum*
- *Schistosoma*

#### 9.5.4 CESTODES

- *Avitellina*
- *Dipylidium caninum*
- *Echinococcus* spp
- *Moniezia*
- *Stilesia*
- *Taenia saginata*
- *Taenia solium*
- *Taenia multiceps*

10. Candidates should avail themselves of the following scientific journals, which concentrate on disease in South Africa and are available in the libraries of veterinary faculties abroad:

10.1 The Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research

10.2 The Journal of the South African Veterinary Association

#### PLEASE NOTE

11. If candidates should require any additional information regarding examination policy, the administration and organisation of the examination, they may direct their enquiries to:

*The South African Veterinary Council: Exams*  
*PO Box 60114*  
*PIERRE VAN RYNEVELD*  
*0045*  
*Republic of South Africa*  
*E-mail: exams@savc.org.za*  
*Tel: 0027 (012) 345 6360*

**Payments to the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC)**

Persons in foreign countries should please note that payments to the South African Veterinary Council should be remitted to:

Bank: ABSA Bank Limited  
Account Number: 020 166 762  
Branch: Hatfield Branch  
Branch Code: 632 005  
Swift code: ABSA-2A-JJ  
IBAN NO: 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail the information to:** [exams@savc.org.za](mailto:exams@savc.org.za)