Who registers?

A: Persons who render the services of a
   - Veterinarian / veterinary specialist
   - any of the following four para-veterinary professions:
     - Veterinary Nurse - since 1982
     - Veterinary Technologist - since 1988
     - Laboratory Animal Technologist - since 1997
     - Animal Health Technician - since 2004
B: Students enrolled for prescribed qualifications
C: Juristic persons that render any of the above services (216)
   - Close Corporations & Incorporated Companies
D: Veterinary facilities (918)

Why register?

Registration of persons and facilities are compulsory

Remuneration
No remuneration /fees are recoverable if an unregistered person renders any of the services that pertain to the professions

Section 33 of the Act

Offence
Any person who contravenes the Act (section 23) shall be guilty of an

First conviction liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding
Second or subsequent conviction be liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding

Section 41 of the Act
When is a person entitled to register?

1. Prescribed qualification within three years of obtaining the qualification (after three years – pass the practical component of the examination); or

2. Another qualification if the Council is satisfied that the person has sufficient knowledge and experience and has passed a Council examination.

What are the minimum requirements?

For registration as a veterinarian an applicant shall submit a school certificate of competence in mathematics and physical science. The minimum duration of a veterinary degree is five academic years. Subject courses are specified by Council. A student shall spend a minimum period of six weeks under the supervision of a registered veterinarian.

For registration of any of the para-veterinary professions an applicant shall submit a school certificate of competence in mathematics and physical science or biology. The minimum duration for a veterinary nurse qualification is two academic years and for the other para-veterinary professions three years. Subject courses are specified by Council.

Fees

VETERINARY PROFESSIONS R 400.00
Maintenance R 1 258.00

PARA-VETERINARY PROFESSIONS R 342.00
Maintenance R 502.00

What about foreign qualifications?

- The qualification must entitle the holder to practise the profession in the country where it was obtained.
- That country allows persons with corresponding South African qualifications to practise without an examination in that country.
- Council is satisfied that the standard of knowledge is at least equivalent to a South African qualification.

17 candidates with foreign qualifications registered period 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009

Univ of Zimbabwe 12
Univ of Minnesota USA
Univ of Kerala, India
Trakia Univ Bulgaria
Freie University, Berlin
Univ of Sydney
What is the scope of practice of a veterinary specialist?

- Diagnose/treat/prevent or give advice on a
  - Disease;
  - Physiological or
  - Pathological condition
- Perform
  - Surgery;
  - A dental operation
- Prescribe or administer medicine

What is the scope of practice of a veterinary nurse?

- Basic animal care:
  - Clip nails & beaks of birds
  - Clip nails in dogs & cats
  - Dental scaling and polishing
- Collect, process and examine samples
- Administer and dispose of medicines, inject & maintain anaesthesia
- Take & develop radiographs
- Administer enemas
- Place stomach tubes
- Collect body fluids, tissues & bacterial swabs for diagnostic and experimental purposes
- Assist with minor surgical procedures & assisting with experimental surgical procedures
- Use of the tranquilliser dart gun and blow pipe & capture of wildlife for reproductive and fertility problems
- Take care of experimental animals
- Administer scheduled and experimental substances including anaesthesia and euthanasia
- Collect, examine and analyse samples
- Conduct basic post mortem examinations
- Artificial insemination if registered in terms of the Animal Improvement Act
- Render primary animal health care to resource poor communities
- Supervise of animals
- Wound care, lancing of abscesses, superficial skin stitching, placing of dressings and bandages
- Taking of samples for diagnosis of Brucellosis by a vet and testing for TB
- Physical rehabilitation
- Assisting a vet with surgical procedures

What is the scope of practice of a veterinary technologist?

- Laboratory tests on plant matter, feeds, blood & organs for isolation & identification of microorganisms for vet purposes
- Serological tests, biochemical and microbiological tests to determine the presence of toxins
- Identification of internal and external parasites
- Preparation of histological preparations for examinations
- Conducting laboratory procedures for vet examinations or research projects
- Preparation of veterinary biological products for diagnostic tests, and vaccines for prevention of diseases

What is the scope of practice of a laboratory animal technician?

- Take care of experimental animals
- Administer scheduled and experimental substances including anaesthesia and euthanasia
- Collect, examine and analyse samples
- Conduct basic post mortem examinations
- Artificial insemination if registered in terms of the Animal Improvement Act
- Render primary animal health care to resource poor communities
- Supervision of animals
- Wound care, lancing of abscesses, superficial skin stitching, placing of dressings and bandages
- Taking of samples for diagnosis of Brucellosis by a vet and testing for TB
- Physical rehabilitation
- Assisting a vet with surgical procedures

What is the scope of practice of an animal health technician?

- Surveillance and inspection of livestock, poultry and game
- Implementation of vaccination programs and administering vaccines
- Implementation of disease control
- Conducting laboratory procedures for diagnostic tests, and vaccines for prevention of diseases
- Collect, capture and evaluate data for epidemiological & research projects
- Collect, examine and analyse samples
- Render primary animal health care to resource poor communities
- Supervision of animals
- Wound care, lancing of abscesses, superficial skin stitching, placing of dressings and bandages
- Taking of samples for diagnosis of Brucellosis by a vet and testing for TB
- Physical rehabilitation
- Assisting a vet with surgical procedures


### Competence Specific Registration

Due to the shortages of veterinarians in some areas of specific expertise or competence provision is made for CSR/ restricted registration. Registration is limited to a chosen area of competence without having to complete all the aspects of the standard Council Examination when a person has a non-prescribed relevant qualification.

**Categories**

- Academia * Research * Laboratory diagnostic services * Physical disabilities

**Authorisation**

The Council may authorise an unregistered person in writing to render for gain a particular service deemed to pertain specially to a veterinary or a para-veterinary profession.

- Offer of employment
- Need for the service
- Details of the procedures to be performed with proven evidence of competency

**IF APPROVED**

- Usually limited to a period of 2 years at a time
- Subject to the code of conduct, ethical rules and disciplinary powers of the Council
- Supervision

### Authorised persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal welfare assistants</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal health technicians</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary technologists</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarians</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory animal technologists</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary nurses</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>503</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

31 March 2009

### Any prospective new para-veterinary professions?

- Animal Welfare Assistant (by 2011)
- Animal physiotherapist (preliminary enquiries)
- Meat Inspector/ Veterinary Public Health Officer (preliminary enquiries)
- Equine Dental Technician (newly formed association)

### Termination of registration?

- Own request
- Failure to pay maintenance fees
- Become a patient as defined in terms of the Mental Health Act
- Registration withdrawn after found guilty of unprofessional, improper or disgraceful conduct

### Continuing Professional Development

All veterinary professionals who practise or render professional veterinary services are required to accumulate at least sixty points, of which twenty points have to be structured activities, within a three-year cycle.
The SAVC determines **minimum standards** of training for prescribed qualifications that allow registration. New qualifications are evaluated against these standards. In a six year cycle, all subjects are monitored by the SAVC. Visitations are arranged to the training institutions with 5-8 year intervals. Registration with other qualifications only take place after a SAVC examination.

All persons that practice a veterinary or veterinary para profession should be registered. The various registration authorities should have a harmonised process for the issuing of letters of good standing. Sharing of information between the various registration authorities by introducing a regional forum. Support harmonisation without compromising the quality of service and harmonising training in the region. Consider reciprocal arrangements once quality assurance models have been agreed and entered into.

**“veterinary facility”** means a facility at or from which a person practises a veterinary profession and includes a consulting room, clinic, animal hospital and any other place at or from which a veterinary profession is practised.

**Prescribed veterinary qualifications?**

- B.V.Sc. - University of Pretoria, South Africa
- B.V. M.Ch - Medical University of Southern Africa
- B.V.Sc - Masey University, New Zealand
- B.V.Sc - University of Bristol, England
- Vet.M.B - University of Cambridge, England
- B.V.M. & S. - University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- B.V.M.S. - University of Glasgow, Scotland
- B.V.Sc. - University of Liverpool, England
- M.R.C.V.S. - after examination
- Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, England

**Prescribed para-veterinary qualifications**

- Veterinary nurse
- Veterinary technologist
  - National Diploma in Veterinary Technology – Tshwane University of Technology
- Animal Health Technician
  - B.Sc. Agric (Animal Health)/Diploma Animal Health - University of the North West
  - National Diploma Animal Health – formerly Technikon South Africa (UNISA)