

A Career as a Veterinary Nurse: Is it for you?

The College of Animal Welfare

Additional Q&As

Are you able to do the degree learning online?

No.

What extra two subjects would you recommend to study as well as maths and science?

English, any that include study skills.

Do you need both clinical and husbandry experience?

Ideally, yes.

I am currently studying the BTEC Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care, would this be beneficial to the career I want to pursue?

Yes, I did answer this one online.



Working in a Veterinary Hospital – be informed and reach your full potential

Abbey House Vets

Additional Q&As

What should I be doing before the age of 18 to work as a PCA?

Work hard at your GCSEs/A levels to achieve the grades you need for future careers and then sources some work experience in a variety of areas, which will bring vital life experience! Try the following: farms, RCSPA, kennels, wildlife centres, veterinary practices.

I'm interested in joining Abbey House vets after college, I live quite far from Leeds - is housing available for students?

Unfortunately, we do not offer housing for students.

What do you recommend doing from that age of 16/17 to get yourself ahead in PCA/ animal nursing? (apart from volunteering experience)

If you want to be competitive then look for some accredited free courses (Ofqual logo!) from pet charities and colleges on animal welfare or management! Read up-to-date CPD on vet times or vet nurse journal or BVNA! Most importantly, attend open days, just like this one!



Getting Into Competitive Veterinary Medicine Courses

Royal Veterinary College

Additional Q&As

What options are available for a candidate with a master's degree in animal science and work experience but intends to take a short course in vet for career development?

In order to become a qualified veterinarian, one would need to graduate from a veterinary medicine degree programme. If a student has studied graduated from an appropriate animal science masters they may be eligible to apply for our 4 year Accelerated Veterinary Medicine programme. In terms of short courses; the RVC is the largest educational provider of CPD programmes which run for qualified vets and veterinary nurses for more information please visit: <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/cpd>. Unfortunately, we don't run any short courses for Masters graduates focusing on the veterinary profession.



Veterinary Nursing – My Career Path and the Opportunities that Presented Themselves

PDSA

Additional Q&As

Could you work with a certain species of animal?

There are opportunities to specialise as a veterinary nurse in certain species, for example as a veterinary nurse you could train and gain a qualification as an equine veterinary nurse, working specifically with horses. Usually if you train to work in an exotics practice, you will work with multiple species, this is that same in general practice or mixed practice.

However, there are opportunities which may arise where you can work with a specific species, but these roles may be rare and would be extremely specialised, your veterinary nursing training would not be species specific and you'd need to be prepared to work with different species, you'd be able to specialise once qualified.



A Career at Jerry Green Dog Rescue

Jerry Green Dog Rescue

I volunteer, but do I need qualifications in animal welfare to get a paid role?

Relevant animal welfare/training/behaviour qualifications would support your application for paid roles with the dogs, however, we also consider relevant experience so if you have volunteered with dogs this would be beneficial.



Dog Grooming for a Living

CAW Grooming School

Is there any accommodation nearby?

There is no accommodation.



Work-based Animal and Horse Care: Learning on the job

The College of Animal Welfare

Your website details an online version of the course that can be done internationally. If this was completed outside the UK, would this work in the same way as the main aim qualification?

We have a distance learning school which does cater for international students.



Careers With Cats

Cats Protection

Do you offer on the job training as a cat care assistant or do you need prior qualifications?

Cats Protection offers an excellent range of in-house training for both volunteers and employees to develop within their roles. Cat care qualifications are not an essential entry requirement of the CCA role.

What we are looking for in a cat care assistant:

- A full manual driving license is essential
- An excellent communicator with strong organisational skills
- A strong, flexible team player
- Lots of energy teamed with a positive upbeat attitude
- Experience working with or handling cats is desirable

Do you need qualifications or prior experience to volunteer with Cats Protection?

You don't need any specific qualifications or previous experience to volunteer with Cats Protection, just a passion for cats and a willingness to undertake training and follow Cats Protection policies and procedures. As a volunteer with Cats Protection you'll receive lots of training and support to undertake your role right from the start.

What would you be doing if you were to volunteer with Cats Protection?

We offer a range of volunteer roles ranging from hands on cat care, socialising, to admin roles, fostering cats and volunteering in our Charity shops. There are numerous ways in which you can support us. Please visit <https://www.cats.org.uk/support-us/get-involved-volunteering> to find out more about some of the roles available and see what some of our volunteers had to say.

Will volunteering in the charity shops help me be accepted for volunteering roles elsewhere?

At Cats Protection we welcome volunteers with open arms, no matter how much time you can give, there's a place for you with us! We help around 200,000 cats and kittens a year. The majority of these success stories are thanks to the dedication of over 10,000 volunteers across the UK. Please visit <https://www.cats.org.uk/support-us/get-involved-volunteering> to find out about our current volunteer vacancies across the charity.



Overseas Volunteering with Animals

Oyster Worldwide

Additional Q&As

Do you require any prior qualifications/experience and an age restriction on the "hands on animal care" gap travel?

The volunteer animal projects require no experience at all. All you need is enthusiasm to work hard and to follow instructions. It can require long days, mucky jobs and coping in humid temperatures at times. If you are looking for a veterinary internship we do require the level of 1st and 2nd year students – there is however another project called 'Veterinary Experience' which offers just that-but with no prior skills or requirements! We offer projects to anyone 18 and over, right up to people in their 70s and 80s who have taken part! Some of the more physical projects require you to be fitter than average. We have a section on our website whereby we take those aged 17 to travel alone with parental consent. We also offer trips for families with young children.

Can Oyster help people with health conditions?

I am not sure I quite understand this question but it is important to know that from a physical perspective, a lot of our projects are in remote locations where the terrain can be quite rough and work quite demanding. We accept 99% of those who declare medical issues (both mental and physical) as long as they are able to provide a medical letter from a doctor supporting the fact they will be fit for the project. Using our own expert knowledge and past experience, we will recommend projects that may be more suited or unsuited to particular individuals and highlight any challenges that could potentially affect them. Depending on the medical condition we will also be honest as to whether we think an Oyster trip in general will be able to offer a well-rounded experience, we want to manage expectations and make sure a trip is the right fit for you.

