

FdSc Veterinary Nursing degree programme

Information sheet

2023-24

Duration of the Degree

The FdSc Veterinary Nursing degree programme takes three years. It also includes a minimum of 1,800 hours of placements. These placements are compulsory and may involve additional travel costs. Please see further information under “Fees and Costs”.

Methods of Teaching

Teaching is delivered by means of lectures, seminars, group work, practical sessions, directed and non-directed learning as well as by placements. The amount of time to be spent in different types of learning can be accessed from the study pages of the RVC website at www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate. In the first three years you will be within the same cohort as the BSc students. Upon successful completion of the FdSc you will have an opportunity to join the fourth year of the BSc course, subject to you fulfilling set academic requirements.

Course Content

The detailed content of the FdSc Veterinary Nursing degree programme can be accessed at <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/foundation-veterinary-nursing>. The conditions for award of the qualification are laid down by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the RVC abides by this as the basis for the content of the degree. A copy of the RCVS Veterinary Nurse Registration Rules can be accessed at <https://www.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/veterinary-nurse-registration-rules-2017/>

Students undertaking the FdSc Veterinary Nursing degree programme are taught at the RVC’s clinical campus near Potters Bar in Hertfordshire. However, it may be necessary to visit the Camden campus or RVC farm on occasion and students will normally be expected to make their own travel arrangements and incur any costs.

Teaching Staff at RVC

All teaching staff at RVC are fully qualified to teach at Higher Education level. You will find biographical details on all members of staff on the RVC website. Staff will teach by means of lectures, seminars and practical sessions and also work with students in tutorial groups.

Course Directors: Hilary Orpet and Sarah Batt-Williams

Fees and Costs

The fee for UK students studying undergraduate degrees at RVC in 2023-24 is £9,250 *per annum*.

The fee for EU and other international students studying undergraduate veterinary nursing degrees at the RVC in 2023-24 is £16,330 *per annum* (please see below for policy on subsequent years).

The fee for each specific degree programme can be found in the *Key Information* provided on the subject page of each programme on the RVC website:

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/foundation-veterinary-nursing>

Further information about fees can be found here: <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding>.

Tuition fees in future years

It is RVC policy to set and review tuition fees on an annual basis. The fees indicated above are for the first year of tuition only and may be subject to increase in future years (see below). Should it be necessary to increase these costs, you will be consulted and notice given as to when such increases may occur and by how much.

We publish a tuition fee policy annually on our website that sets out how fees are set and collected, and describes what students and sponsors need to do. This can be found on our website <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/Media/Default/1%20Fees%20and%20Funding/tuition-fee-policy.pdf>

Explanation of Fees

The RVC adheres to the UK Government's legislation regarding fees for UK students which sets the maximum fee for these categories. Subject to the approval of legislation in parliament in future years, institutions including the RVC may be permitted to raise fees for UK students at an inflationary rate linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI). We therefore, advise all UK students considering study at the RVC to plan their finances based on such year-on-year inflationary increases.

The fees for EU and international students are also listed at the above links. These are substantially higher than UK fees as the RVC receives no government subsidy or support for such students and therefore has to charge “full cost fees”. In deciding the annual level of increase for EU and international students, the College will take into account a range of factors, including rises in the costs of delivery of its teaching programmes and changes in government funding. The increase will not exceed 5% each year or the Retail Price Index (RPI) if higher. We will publish the fee in September of the preceding academic year.

Additional costs

The fees do not cover accommodation costs which, for veterinary nursing students who in 2022-23 opted to live on campus in College Close, cost £143.75 per week (2023-24 cost tbc). College Close accommodation does not have a fixed term contract.

Placements are a compulsory part of the degree and students will be required to fund their own transportation (and accommodation where applicable) to placement providers.

As well as accommodation costs and travel to placements, you should also allow approximately £100 for a nursing uniform, £75 for simple equipment such as fob watches etc, and £202 for enrolling with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) and approximately £100 to enter the RCVS register at the end of the course.

(<https://www.rcvs.org.uk/how-we-work/fees/>).

EU students and Brexit

For EU students accepting a place on a programme for entry in the academic year 2023/24 your fees will now be at the same level as other international students, as listed above.

EU students are permitted to enter the UK, after the UK has left the EU. However, they will need to apply for immigration permission either through the EU Settlement Scheme or the Student Visa route.

The links below provide more information:

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/EU-EEA--Swiss-Students/Brexit---EU-Settlement-Scheme>

<https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

Procedures, Policies and Processes

The RVC has a range of policies and statutory requirements with which it must comply. These documents are available on the College’s website from which the full documents can

be accessed. This link is at www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures. Information on Complaints Procedures is also available.

If you wish to complain about a matter relating to a course of study, you should first contact the RVC Registry who will advise you. Every effort will be made to deal with the issue promptly, fairly and transparently.

You may also take complaints and concerns to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA), details of which can be found at www.oiahe.org.uk.

Student Protection Plan

In line with the good practice mandated by the Office for Students (OfS), the RVC has produced a Student Protection Plan. The plan sets out how we ensure continuation of studies for our students and the measures we have put in place to mitigate any risks we think could occur. This can be found on our website <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures#panel-further-student-policies-and-procedures>

This document is available on the RVC website.