### **Employment opportunities**

Veterinary nurses are mostly employed by veterinarians in private practices. Others work for welfare organisations such as RSPCA NSW, teaching institutions, veterinary research organisations, wildlife parks and zoos. Some gain employment in marketing and merchandising with veterinary pharmaceutical organisations. A small number work in veterinary practice management, or specialise in specific areas of veterinary nursing, including critical and emergency care, dentistry and surgical support.

# Day-to-day tasks Support veterinary procedures Perform diagnostics tests Animal care and monitoring Clean and sterilise equipment and enclosures Administrative tasks Administering medication under veterinary

Providing information on animal care

supervision

"Every day is very different, but it's such a rewarding job. The animals all have their own personalities and working out the clues to help them recover is very satisfying." - Vet Nurse



## **Qualifications needed**



Certificates Cert. IV in Veterinary Nursing Cert. II in Animal Care 12 months work experience, usually full time or part time at a veterinary clinic

Accreditation with the Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia (VNCA)

Competition for jobs in the animal industry is very strong. Why not give yourself a step up by volunteering at RSPCA NSW?

Visit rspcansw.org.au/get-involved/become-a-volunteer to find out more. Or check out our current jobs on offer https://www.rspcansw.org.au/who-we-are/careers-at-rspca-nsw/



# A day in the life of an RSPCA NSW Veterinary Nurse



First things first, you check the isolation ward, making the critically ill cats and dogs your priority.



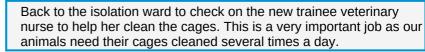
You speak to a veterinarian to assist with medication coordination and treatment plans for sick animals.



Next up, pocket pets! Today we have three rabbits and a duck with her ducklings and it's our job to make sure they keep eating, which can include syringe feeding.



Time to head over to the lab, so we can draw blood from a staffy who is getting surgery today. This is to ensure his organs are functioning properly and the anaesthetics will be safe.



## Afternoon

Back to work and off to the clinic's reception desk to ring back clients with questions about their pets recovery and book in future surgeries.



ETERINARY NURSE

Next you touch base with the veterinarians and pass on updated information on medications, nutrition plans and mental enrichment ideas.



This afternoon, you are helping out and assisting a veterinarian during a desexing operation.



One last final goodbye to the animals in the ward and checking on their food bedding and preparing their medications for the night nurses to administer in the evening.

