

# Covid-19 and Veterinary Nursing

## Update on OSCE assessments

On 27 March, the RCVS released a [statement](#) to advise Awarding Organisations that the Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) required for SVNs to complete their training must be deferred.

Based on this statement, City & Guilds confirms that, as with the March OSCEs, the June OSCEs will now be cancelled in line with guidance from the RCVS.

In their statement, the RCVS advises that the "VN Council did look for alternatives means of delivering the assessment but, having considered a number of options, none was possible under the current circumstances and the health and welfare of the students and examiners are paramount".

We were also made aware of a petition set up by some learners asking City & Guilds to award a 'Pass' to those who have not been able to complete their March OSCEs.

We are required to follow the advice of the RCVS as the regulatory body for this profession. City & Guilds acknowledges the decision of the RCVS whilst recognising that a significant number of candidates have been directly impacted by this decision. Therefore, last week we submitted a letter to the RCVS asking them to reconsider their decision with an alternative proposal for those learners who were due to complete the OSCEs in March. The RCVS have acknowledged our letter and confirmed that their VN Education Committee (VNEC) and VN Council (VNC) will review our proposal. We hope to hear back from the RCVS in late April.

If there is no change to the current decision, it is hoped that the next OSCEs will take place in September. We will confirm the process and how learners will be prioritised at later date.

## Continuing learning and internal assessment

Centres should of course, where reasonable, continue to support learners through online teaching provided this remains robust. City & Guilds has developed a range of learner support tools to help during these challenging times.

We accept that centres will need to be pragmatic about centre devised assessments during this time and that centres will be able to administer these to their learners as 'seen' assessments without the typical supervised conditions. This does **not** apply to externally set on-demand examinations.

You can find all the information you need on our dedicated Covid-19 resource hub available [here](#).

## On demand (e-volve) exams for 7457-03/13

At this time the RCVS has not approved any alternative delivery or invigilation procedures for our on demand exams. Centres therefore **cannot** continue with e-volve on demand exams at employer premises or in the home.

## Dated Entry Exams for 7457-33/43

As the new qualification began in September, we don't anticipate any learners being near completion and therefore estimation won't be appropriate at this time. The June exams will be cancelled, and we are hoping to continue to offer the September exams.

## Nursing Progress Log (NPL)

Please refer to the RCVS guidance on the NPL available [here](#).

## Qualifications closing

We appreciate these are difficult times our decision to allow all the following 7457 Veterinary Nursing qualifications remains unchanged. We are in discussions with both awarding organisation below regarding OSCEs and EPA, we will update you in due course separately.

Qualification Number	Qualification Title	Accreditation Number	Registration End Date	Certificate End Date
7457-03	<i>Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Small Animals)</i>	600/6052/9	31.08.2020	31.08.2023
7457-13	<i>Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (Equine)</i>	600/6052/9	31.08.2020	31.08.2023
7457-33	<i>Level 3 Diploma for Small Animal Veterinary Nursing</i>	603/5101/9	31.08.2020	31.08.2023
7457-43	<i>Level 3 Diploma for Equine Veterinary Nursing</i>	603/5102/0	31.08.2020	31.08.2023

If you wish to continue offering the Veterinary Nursing qualifications after this time, there are two other Awarding Organisations accredited by the RCVS to offer Veterinary Nursing qualifications:

Central Qualifications (CQ)	VetSkill
<a href="http://www.cqual.org/cq-en/cqdipvnsa.php">http://www.cqual.org/cq-en/cqdipvnsa.php</a> E: <a href="mailto:enquiries@cqual.org">enquiries@cqual.org</a> T: 01359 245316	<a href="https://www.vetskill.com/subjects/veterinary-nursing/">https://www.vetskill.com/subjects/veterinary-nursing/</a> E: <a href="mailto:info@vetskill.com">info@vetskill.com</a> T: 01480 278580

## Queries and questions...

If you'd like to speak to us please contact the following:

### High Priority Qualifications team

E: [highpriorityqualifications@cityandguilds.com](mailto:highpriorityqualifications@cityandguilds.com)

T: 0300 303 5352 (option 2 then option 4)