

Ollscoil
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Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Nursing (AU271)

Congratulations on being offered a place on the three-year BSc in Veterinary Nursing (Level 7) at ATU Donegal. This programme provides the opportunity to learn and develop new skills to seek employment in the area of animal health.

This is a full-time programme with classes taking place Monday-Friday from 09.30 17.30. Attendance at all lectures, practicals, site visits and placements (if applicable) is recorded and monitored. If a student has attendance less than 75%, they will be invited to attend a meeting with the Head of Department.

As part of your programme of study you will take both theory and practical classes. Practical classes are an essential part of your programme as they put into practice much of the theory you have been taught in class. As a Department, we place considerable emphasis on this aspect of our programmes of study as employers require graduates to have up-to-date practical skills.

Students are required to wear protective clothing when working in the Science labs. Lab coats are available from the Campus SU shop. In addition to scheduled classes students are also required to undertake independent learning. Suitable clothing must also be worn when on farm visits and academic staff will advise you of these requirements during Induction.

The programme involves placements of 6 weeks duration in each semester. These work placements are critical as they put into practice all that the student has learned in the classroom. The Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI) are responsible for regulating the Veterinary Profession in Ireland. You can register with the VCI as a Veterinary Nurse on successful completion of the programme. The VCI have oversight of placements and students will be expected to take a variety of placements to ensure that they get sufficient exposure to the working of a veterinary practice. Students are also expected to engage in placements outside the Donegal/North West region which will be sourced in conjunction with our Veterinary Nursing team. Students are responsible for sourcing and paying for both accommodation and travel to these placements.

Students are expected to wear official uniforms on placement. During Induction, our Veterinary Nursing team will provide information about uniforms. This uniform should last the duration of your course of study at ATU Donegal. Please see Additional Costs on the next page for further information.

You are also required to undertake **mandatory training** prior to engaging in skills sessions and work placement. Training will be arranged on your behalf by ATU Donegal, and attendance is mandatory. Mandatory training has been organised for the first two Fridays in September 2023, please keep your schedule free for this. Please see Additional Costs on the next page for further information.

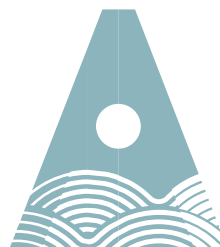
Students also need to ensure that they are up to date with their Diphtheria/Tetanus vaccination prior to undertaking work experience. This vaccination is not currently available at the ATU Donegal Campus Health Centre and you should contact your own GP for further information about this vaccine.

Once again congratulations on securing your place on our Veterinary Nursing programme. On-Campus Induction for Department of Life and Physical Sciences Veterinary Nursing Students takes place on **Thursday 14th September**. You will receive information about your Class Group and Timetable at Induction.

I look forward to meeting you then.

Dr Kim McFadden

Head of Department of Life and Physical Sciences



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Quick Guide Information for Veterinary Nursing Students

Professional Body Registration

On successful completion of this course graduates will have the option of applying to register with the following professional bodies:

- Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI) (ROI)
- Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) (UK)
- Acovene (EU)

Placement Information

- 6 weeks per Semester of every year of the programme – further information will be provided at Year 1 Induction
- Mandatory Training – further information will be provided at Year 1 Induction
- Diphtheria/ Tetanus Vaccinations must be up to date
- Uniform/Tunics – to be worn on placement
- Year 1 Placement – Donegal/ North West
- Year 2 Placement – **outside** Donegal/North West region
- RCVS temporary enrolment documents must be submitted to the RCVS **6 weeks** in advance of student undertaking placement in Northern Ireland

Additional Costs*

Purpose	Cost	
Course Costs	€200 – student contribution to the following course activities: Manual Handling/ Uniforms/ Educational Trips	Paid through ATU Student Account
Laboratory Coat	€40	SU Campus Shop

*Please note additional costs are not covered by the SUSI grant and students are required to arrange payment through their ATU Student Account.

Department of Life & Physical Sciences Contacts

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Programme Team

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