



VETERINARY COUNCIL
OF NEW ZEALAND
Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri o Aotearoa

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Dear Applicant

Thank you for your enquiry about specialist registration in New Zealand.

The Veterinary Council of New Zealand (VCNZ) considers and makes decisions on applications for specialist registration, following an assessment of the applicant's qualifications, training and experience conducted by a joint Australasian Committee – The Advisory Committee on the Registration of Veterinary Specialists (ACRVS).

There are therefore two steps to the specialist registration application process:

- Direct application to the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) for assessment of your qualifications, training and experience by ACRVS.
- Direct application to VCNZ for consideration of your specialist registration application following receipt of the ACRVS assessment.

Important note: Australian registered specialists will already have undergone the ACRVS assessment process. They should therefore apply directly to VCNZ for specialist registration under the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition provisions using the form at:

http://www.vetcouncil.org.nz/documentation/Registration%20Forms/TTMRA_Appn_Specialist_form.pdf

ACRVS Assessment

A copy of the current *Specialist Registration Information Booklet* for New Zealand applicants can be downloaded from the AVBC website link at <http://www.avbc.asn.au/special.htm>. Copies are also available on request from the VCNZ office.

The assessment fee is AUD\$1100.00. This fee to accompany application by bank cheque payable to AVBC Inc or credit card authorization.

NOTE: Credit card payments incur bank charges therefore an extra AUD\$15.00 is required.

A tax invoice/receipt will be forwarded to you.

The assessment is conducted by ACRVS a Standards Committee of the AVBC on behalf of VCNZ.

To ensure no undue delays please provide all documents requested in the *Specialist Booklet* before forwarding to AVBC. The required documents are:

- Completed application form for assessment
- Full Curriculum Vitae

- Certified copies of post graduate qualifications
- Evidence of current registration / practising statuses (Please arrange for VCNZ to provide a letter of good standing directly to AVBC)
- Assessment fee
- Other supporting documents

If there should be any time delay between your enquiry about specialist registration and lodging your assessment application with AVBC, you **must** confirm with the AVBC office that you have the current fee and booklet including application form at the time you lodge your application.

It is a requirement that training programmes be approved by ACRVS. If your qualification is from a training programme which does not appear in Annexe A of the *Specialist Registration Information Booklet* then assessment of your training programme will need to be established. Also note that **ALL Alternate** training programmes must be individually assessed. These assessments / evaluations may take some time.

VCNZ Consideration

On completion of its assessment, the ACRVS will notify you and VCNZ of its recommendation on your eligibility for specialist registration.

If you wish to proceed with your specialist registration application, you must at this point, complete the VCNZ specialist registration application and forward it with the current fee to VCNZ for consideration. Application forms are available from VCNZ offices or at www.vetcouncil.org.nz. The current fee is NZ\$314.

Note that the final registration decision is made by VCNZ.

In circumstances where ACRVS has not recommended specialist registration you have the option of appealing this assessment, by completing and forwarding the specialist registration application form for VCNZ's consideration. You should include reasons why you disagree with the ACRVS assessment. Alternatively you may decide to accept the ACRVS recommendation and not proceed any further.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require further information or clarification of the above.

Yours sincerely

Janet Eden
REGISTRAR