



# Guide for Employers

The VNCA has received overwhelming support from across the veterinary sector in the lead up to the launch of the AVNAT Registration Scheme on 1 April 2019.

## About the AVNAT Registration Scheme

The Australian Veterinary Nurse and Technician (AVNAT) Registration Scheme is the first step towards mandatory national regulation of our profession. It will:

- Raise minimum standards and facilitate consistency in education
- Improve standards of practice
- Make veterinary nurses accountable for professional practice and conduct
- Provide better protection in relation to animal health and welfare
- Align with international standards
- Safeguard the public interest and protect public health.

The Scheme has been developed with rigorous standards benchmarked against other schemes both nationally and internationally, and will provide the VNCA with a mandate to advocate for compulsory registration for all individuals working as veterinary nurses or veterinary technicians. **Please note that the AVNAT Registration Scheme does not replace the regulation already in place in Western Australia which veterinary nurses must continue to comply with.**

## Eligibility

- Qualified veterinary nurses and veterinary technicians who have completed a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing or equivalent and comply with the other entry criteria will be eligible to be a Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN) and/or Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT)
- Individuals studying a recognised qualification and meeting all other entry criteria will be eligible to be listed as a Student Veterinary Nurse (SVN) and/or Student Veterinary Technician (SVT).

## AVNAT Registration Scheme and VNCA membership

VNCA membership provides a sense of belonging to the profession which often promotes personal satisfaction and pride. Our members have access to a wide range of benefits many of which will support individuals who enter the AVNAT Registration Scheme. Membership is \$115+GST for qualified nurses and \$75+GST for students. Clinic discounts apply to VNCA membership fees – 10% for 3-100 members; 15% for 101-500 members; 20% for more than 500 members.

### **VNCA membership provides exclusive benefits to support AVNAT registration**

- ✓ 50% discount on AVNAT Registration Scheme fees
- ✓ Over 100 CPD points of education per year – conference, advanced congress and division education events - at heavily discounted prices
- ✓ 6 CPD points per year via member-only webinars
- ✓ 6 CPD points per year via AVNJ online quizzes
- ✓ MyCPDTracker that automatically updates with your VNCA conference, division and webinar attendance

Importantly, individuals recognised by the AVNAT Registration Scheme will not need to be a member of the VNCA.



## Benefits to employers

Participation in the AVNAT Registration Scheme by your veterinary nurses and veterinary technicians will demonstrate their commitment to enhancing quality in your workplace through standards and learning. Over time your team members will develop both professionally and personally, providing a benefit to your practice and clients.

## Support your team members

You can support your team members by:

- Assisting with the application process
- Paying for their annual AVNAT Registration Scheme fee, from as little as \$70+GST for registration or \$35+GST for listing (VNCA member rates)
- Providing resources to assist with maintenance of registration, including participation in continuing professional development activities.

As the AVNAT Registration Scheme has a regulatory function, applications **MUST** be completed by the individual seeking registration/listing as they are required to indicate compliance and accept terms and conditions.

## Next steps ...

Applications will open on 18 March 2019 - online or via paper Application Form with the first intake from 1 April 2019. The first annual cycle will run from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020; subsequent cycles will be 1 July to 30 June.

Decide how you wish to support your team members and then you can assist them with the process ...

- The most efficient way to register your team members will be to have each of them apply online, selecting the relevant category:
  - 'Full member + AVNAT' or 'Student member + AVNAT' if they require VNCA membership as well; OR
  - 'AVNAT Registration' (qualified) or 'AVNAT listing' (studying) if VNCA membership is not required
- Ensure they all select payment option 'Cheque/EFT'
- Then email [avnat@vnca.asn.au](mailto:avnat@vnca.asn.au), providing a list of all team members you are covering. If any of them are current VNCA members we will need to align their current membership cycle with the AVNAT annual cycle – this is a 'once only' process which is likely to reduce the initial cost. And don't forget if you have more than 3 in your team who you wish to support by covering VNCA membership, you will be eligible for a discount on VNCA membership.
- We will calculate the fee and forward an invoice covering all your team members.

Once payment is received, we can process the applications.

Ensuring your veterinary nurses and veterinary technicians are recognised by the AVNAT Registration Scheme will open the door to a stronger future for your workplace, the profession and the wider veterinary sector.

## Need more information?

[www.vnca.asn.au/avnat](http://www.vnca.asn.au/avnat)

[avnat@vnca.asn.au](mailto:avnat@vnca.asn.au)

or call 03 9586 6022