

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION**NOTICE 974 OF 2017****VETERINARY AND PARA-VETERINARY PROFESSIONS ACT, 1982****(ACT No. 19 OF 1982)****REGULATIONS RELATING TO VETERINARY AND PARA-VETERINARY PROFESSIONS: AMENDMENT**

The Minister of Agriculture has under section 43 of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act No. 19 of 1982), made the regulations in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE - REGULATIONS**Definition**

1. In this Schedule "the Regulations" means the regulations published by Government Notice No. R. 2085 of 1 October 1982, as amended by the regulations published by Government Notices Nos. R. 1994 of 11 September 1987 (as corrected by Government Notice No. R. 2199 of 2 October 1987), R. 397 of 4 March 1988, R. 1067 of 17 May 1991, R. 11 of 3 January 1992, R. 976 of 27 March 1992, R. 1477 of 23 September 1994, R. 47 of 20 January 1995, R. 701 of 12 May 1995, R. 1401 of 15 September 1995, R. 561 of 1 April 1996, R. 256 of 14 February 1997, R. 257 of 14 February 1997, R. 96 of 16 January 1998, R. 501 of April 1998, R. 751 of 5 June 1998, R. 374 of 26 March 1999, R. 422 of April 1999, R. 618 of 23 June 2000, R. 734 of 17 August 2001, R. 324 of 22 March 2002, R. 1571 of 20 December 2002, R. 562 of 2 May 2003, R. 275 of 5 March 2004, R. 568 of 7 May 2004, R. 679 of 4 June 2004, R. 343 of 15 April 2005, R. 294 of 24 March 2006, R. 160 of 2 March 2007, R. 319 of 20 April 2007, R. 322 of 20 April 2007, R. 772 of 24 August 2007; R. 487 of 30 April 2008; R. 655 of 6 June 2009, R. 693 of 30 July 2010 (as corrected by Government Notice No. R. 692 of 13 August 2010), R. 694 of 20 July 2010 (as corrected by Government Notice No. R. 692 of 13 August 2010), R. 810 of 12 October 2012, R. 683 of 30 August 2013, R. 305 of 25 April 2014, R. 388 of 15 May 2015 and R. 389 of 15 May 2015.

Insertion of regulations 21K, 21L and 21M into the Regulations

2. The Regulations are hereby amended by the insertion after Regulation 21J of the following regulations:

"21 K: Requirements for registration to practise the para-veterinary profession of veterinary physiotherapist

- (1) Any applicant that applies for registration as a veterinary physiotherapist must submit the following documents:
 - (a) A certificate of competence in mathematics and physical science or biology/life sciences issued for school leaving purposes by a competent secondary level schooling authority of South Africa; or
 - (b) The relevant qualification as stipulated by the South African Veterinary Council.

- (2) The degree referred to in regulation 21 which entitles a candidate to register as a veterinary physiotherapist must:
- (a) Comprise of the completion of at least four academic years of study as a registered veterinary physiotherapy student;
 - (b) Be constituted of the exit level outcomes specified in the Table 10A; and
 - (c) Be constituted of the subject courses specified in Table 10B.
- (3) Upon completion of the prescribed degree a registered veterinary physiotherapy student may, if the examining authority is satisfied that the provision of the Act and these regulations have been successfully complied with, be registered as a veterinary physiotherapist.

21 L Curriculum requirements

The curriculum of any tertiary institution that offers a course for study for qualification as a Veterinary Physiotherapist in terms of regulation shall comprise of the exit level outcomes specified in Table 10A and the subject courses specified in Table 10B.

21 M Examination of the para-veterinary profession of veterinary physiotherapist

- (1) The examination for the degree shall be based on the assessment criteria specified in Table 10A and includes examination in the subject courses specified in Table 10B.
- (2) If the examination consists of a practical and a theoretical part, a sub-minimum mark of 40 percent must be obtained in each part.
- (3) A candidate shall pass an examination in a subject if at least 50 percent of the maximum marks obtainable in the examination for that subject, is obtained.

Substitution of Table 4 of the Regulations

2. Table 4 is hereby amended by insertion of:

“TABLE 4”

Addition of Table 10A: Exit level outcomes

EXIT- LEVEL OUTCOMES:

Veterinary physiotherapists at NQF Level 8 are expected to be responsible for their own work, decision making and use of resources and to be fully accountable for the decisions and actions of others where appropriate. They are expected to apply learning strategies in a self - critical manner to effectively address their own and others' professional and ongoing learning needs.

Exit Outcome 1:

Communicate academic and professional veterinary physiotherapist ideas and related information verbally and in writing to a range of audiences with due regard for the purpose of the communication, issues of confidentiality and other ethical considerations.

NQF 5: 7.5 credits

NQF 6: 9 credits

NQF 7: 19 credits

NQF 8: 35 credits

(70.5)

Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. NQF 5: 3 credits	AC1.1 Verbal and non-verbal communications offer insight and solutions	Range: Verbal communications include, but are not limited to,

NQF 6: 3.2 credits NQF 7: 7.5 credits NQF 8: 11.5 credits	to problems in a veterinary physiotherapist context and are appropriate for the audience and purpose of the communication.	giving feedback, reporting to owner, trainer and Animal Health Team, facilitation, presentations and interviews.
1. NQF 5: 3 credits NQF 6: 3.6 credits NQF 7: 5.5 credits NQF 8: 9.5 credits	AC1.2 Written communication offers rigorous interpretation and solutions to problems and issues and is professional, accurate, coherent and correct in terms of style, tone, sensitive use of language and use of scientific register where applicable.	Range: Written communication includes, but is not limited to, recording of evaluation and treatment, report writing, giving written feedback, writing referrals, proposal writing, legal documentation, documenting evidence, writing research reports and journal articles.
1. NQF 5: 1.5 credits NQF 6: 1.2 credits NQF 7: 3 credits NQF 8: 9 credits	AC1.3 Active listening and observation skills demonstrate ability to access, process and synthesise information and to develop creative responses to problems and issues which are recorded accurately, concisely and coherently.	
1. NQF 5: 0 credits NQF 6: 1 credits NQF 7: 3 credits NQF 8: 5 credits	AC1.4 Knowledge of current events, issues and affairs relating to the development of the profession and international and local research is interrogated from multiple sources of knowledge, interpreted, assessed for relevance and applied where appropriate.	
<p>Exit Outcome 2: Demonstrate knowledge and insight into veterinary therapy science concepts and their importance in the evaluation of animal patients and appropriate treatment techniques: Range; Concepts include, but are not limited to, anatomy, conformation and physiology, applied therapy, behavior, discipline, pathology, tack, nutrition, farriery, pharmacology, imaging, welfare status and human animal bond.</p> <p>1. NQF 5: 26.5 credits NQF 6: 12 credits NQF 7: 63 credits NQF 8: 38 credits (139.5)</p>		
Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. NQF 5: 13.5 credits NQF 6: 7.1 credits NQF 7: 20 credits NQF 8: 10 credits	AC2.1 The relationship between anatomy, conformation and veterinary physiotherapist is explained with reference to biomechanics, movement analysis, motor control, exercise and the purpose and effectiveness of different treatment techniques.	
1. NQF 5: 13 credits NQF 6: 3.3 credits NQF 7: 16 credits NQF 8: 9.5 credits	AC2.2 Knowledge of veterinary physiology is used to explain how muscles, bone, neural tissue and organs function and interact as a holistic living system in an animal.	
1. NQF 5: credits NQF 6: 1.6 credits NQF 7: 15 credits NQF 8: 9.5 credits	AC2.3 Pathologies and dysfunction of the neuro-musculoskeletal system and the cardio-respiratory system are explained with reference to the progress of a disease or injury and what treatment is appropriate at different stages.	

1. <i>NQF 5: 5 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 3 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 12 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 9 credits</i>	AC2.4 Factors that could influence the outcome of veterinary physiotherapist are discussed with reference to the holistic treatment approach of animal patients and the complexities and uncertainties of selecting, applying or transferring appropriate procedures to unfamiliar problems.	
Exit Outcome 3: Integrate theory and practice to treat patients with a variety of neuro-musculoskeletal and cardio-respiratory dysfunctions. <i>NQF 5: 7.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 22.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 62.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 65 credits</i> <i>(157.5)</i>		
Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. <i>NQF 5: 3 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 11.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 22.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 23.5 credits</i>	AC3.1 A full veterinary physiotherapist specific evaluation is conducted for a variety of animal patients.	
1. <i>NQF 5: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 7 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 16 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 21.5 credits</i>	AC3.2 A treatment program based on the veterinary physiotherapist evaluation is set up to enhance quality of life, promote health and wellbeing for the particular animal in specific circumstances and to enhance optimal performance or function.	Range: Treatment techniques could include, but are not limited to soft tissue techniques, electrotherapy modalities, manual therapy, rehabilitation exercises, hydrotherapy and other physical modalities used to treat injury or disease, restore and promote optimal health and function and prevent further injuries.
1. <i>NQF 5: 2.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 4 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 24 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 20 credits</i>	AC3.3 The effectiveness of the treatment program is evaluated and appropriate suggestions are made to improve the outcome of the treatment.	
Exit Outcome 4: Analyse, synthesise, evaluate and review complex veterinary physiotherapist-related information in order to conceptualise a problem and produce an evidence based argument or solution to an authentic veterinary physiotherapist situation. 1. <i>NQF 5: 0 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 4 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 25.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 17 credits</i> <i>(46.5)</i>		
Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. <i>NQF 5: 0 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 9.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 6 credits</i>	AC4.1 Knowledge of research designs and methodologies is applied to research in a veterinary physiotherapist context.	Range: Research design and methodology may include, but are not limited to, Participatory and Action Research; Qualitative and Quantitative Research, Case Studies and Intervention-Based Research.
1. <i>NQF 5: 0 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 8 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 7 credits</i>	AC4.2 A veterinary physiotherapist related topic is researched and includes a literature review, pilot study and evidence-based research.	

1. <i>NQF 5: 0 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 8 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 4 credits</i>	AC4.3 A research report is compiled based on actual research.	
Exit Outcome 5: Operate ethically in a multi-disciplinary Animal Health Team. 1. <i>NQF 5: 3 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 3.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 12.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 18 credits</i> (37)		
Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. <i>NQF 5: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 6.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 9 credits</i>	AC5.1 Interaction with the Animal Health Team, owners, trainers and patients is ethical and it reflects the Codes of Conduct for veterinary physiotherapists, the South African Veterinary Council and applicable legislation.	
1. <i>NQF 5: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1.5 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 6 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 9 credits</i>	AC5.2 Decisions relating to the ethical treatment of a patient address ethical issues based on critical reflection with reference to scope of practice, welfare of the animal and the circumstances in which the animal functions.	
Exit Outcome 6: Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of responsibility and accountability within own scope of practice in a veterinary physiotherapist context. <i>NQF 5: 3 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 4 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 6 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 16 credits</i> (29)		
Specified Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Range
1. <i>NQF 5: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 6 credits</i>	AC6.1 The roles and responsibilities of veterinary physiotherapists are explained with reference to scope of practice, avenues for referral and the consequences if the scope of practice, professional code of ethics and applicable legislation are contravened.	
1. <i>NQF 5: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 6 credits</i>	AC6.2 Skills and techniques for personal development and awareness are explored with a view to developing personal capacity to reflect and understand self and others and to fully realise own potential.	Range: Skills and techniques include, but are not limited to, self-awareness, self-management, self-reflective capacity, interpersonal and intrapersonal skills.
1. <i>NQF 5: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 6: 1 credits</i> <i>NQF 7: 2 credits</i> <i>NQF 8: 5credits</i>	AC6.3 Responsibility and accountability are discussed with reference to the management of a veterinary physiotherapist practice and continuing professional development.	

Assessment Criteria for the Critical Cross-Field Outcomes:

The learner is able to demonstrate ability to:

- Use a range of specialised skills to identify, analyse and address complex, complicated and/or abstract problems drawing systematically on the body of knowledge and methods appropriate to veterinary physiotherapist. This is implicit in Exit Level Outcome (ELO) 2, 3 and 4.
- Work effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organisation or community. Veterinary physiotherapists work as part of a multi-disciplinary Animal Health Team. This is implicit in ELO 1, 3, 5 and 6.
- Organise and manage him/herself and his/her activities responsibly and effectively in completing tasks timeously. This is implicit in ELO 4, 6 and 3 where time management and planning are essential.
- Collect, organise and critically evaluate information. This is implicit in ELO 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Communicate effectively using visual, mathematics and language skills in the modes of oral and/or written presentations. This is implicit in ELO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and integrated throughout the qualification in that sound communication skills are essential in working with a multidisciplinary Animal Health Team, owners, trainers and patients.
- Use science and technology effectively and critically in using technology for treatment where appropriate and in using electronic devices for communication and the Internet for research. This is implicit in ELO 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the world as a set of related systems by recognising that problem-solving contexts do not exist in isolation. This is implicit in ELO 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 in evaluating a patient, planning an appropriate treatment, assessing the effectiveness of the treatment and adapting the treatment.

In addition, this qualification contributes to the full personal development of each learner and the social and economic development of the society at large, by making it the underlying intention of any programme of learning to make the individual aware of the importance of:

- Reflecting on and exploring a variety of strategies to learn more effectively. This is implicit in ELO 1, 4, and 6.
- Being culturally sensitive across a range of social contexts in dealing with diverse people, multi-disciplinary Animal Health Team, owners, trainers and co-owners, communities and co-workers. This is implicit in ELO 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Programmes based on this qualification must take the Quality Council for Higher Education (QCHE) requirements into account. For this programme:

Minimum total credits:	480
Minimum credits at Level 7:	120
Minimum credits at Level 8:	96
Maximum credits at Level 5:	96

The balance of the 480 credits may be at Levels 6, 7 and/or 8.

In the delivery of this qualification, four hundred credits based on Exit Level Outcomes 1 to 6 and the practical and clinical components are compulsory.

Exit Level Outcomes 1 to 6	326 credits
Work Integrated Learning	106 credits
Total	432 credits

Electives

Learners should select at least two specialisation areas that together add up to a minimum of 24 credits at Level 7 from the list of possible electives. Additional areas of specialisation that relate directly to veterinary physiotherapist may be included at the discretion of the Higher Education Institution.

Possible electives may include, but are not limited to:

- Small animal surgical rehabilitation

- Equine surgical rehabilitation
- Equine Sport Science – the working and competition animal
- Canine Sport Science – the working and competition animal

Addition of Table 10B: Subjects towards the qualification

<u>First Year</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>NQF</u>
Conformation: Equine and canine or an equivalent subject	6	5
Biology Chemistry Physics or an equivalent subject	12	5
Applied and Clinical Therapy or an equivalent subject Massage, Stretching, Introduction to evaluation, Animal Behaviour, disciplines and basic care	18	5
Therapy Science or an equivalent subject Biomechanics, Movement Analysis, Rehabilitation exercises, Documentation and Communication	24	5
Veterinary Physiology or an equivalent subject	24	5
Veterinary Anatomy or an equivalent subject	36	5
<u>Second Year</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>NQF</u>
Veterinary Nutrition or an equivalent subject	6	6
Veterinary Dentistry or an equivalent subject	6	6
Therapy Science or an equivalent subject Biomechanics, movement analysis, motor control	24	6
Veterinary Pathophysiology, Pathology and Surgery or an equivalent subject	42	6
Applied & Clinical Therapy or an equivalent subject Electrotherapy, Manual Therapy, Myofascial Release, Clinical – Orthopedics, Evaluations, geriatric, neurological, congenital, clinical reasoning	42	6
	120	
<u>Third Year</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>NQF</u>
Veterinary Pharmacology or an equivalent subject	6	7
Veterinary Exercise Physiology or an equivalent subject	6	7
Farrriery or an equivalent subject	6	7
Veterinary Imaging or an equivalent subject	6	7
Research Methodology or an equivalent subject	12	7
Applied & Clinical Therapy or an equivalent subject Manual Therapy, Cardiorespiratory therapy, Hydrotherapy, Practice management, ethics and law, Clinical –sport, soft tissue, surgical	84	7
	120	
<u>Fourth Year</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>NQF</u>
Research Project or an equivalent subject	24	8
Equine Sport Science or an equivalent subject	24	8
Large Animal Surgery or an equivalent subject	24	8
Canine Sport Science or an equivalent subject	24	8
Small Animal Surgery or an equivalent subject	24	8
Applied & Clinical Therapy or an equivalent subject	48	8
	120	