

	Level 3 Diploma	FdSc	BSc
What is it?	Student Veterinary Nurses (SVNs) are typically employed by a practice and study at a local college whilst they work in practice. College days are either once a week or as part of a 'block release' over a longer period of time. You are essentially in practice from day one and quickly become an important member of the team. Note: There are also similar apprenticeship routes at some colleges	This is a Foundation degree course done at university. You still get to go out into practice for either a year or 'block placements' will be scattered around your timetable of 3 years. (So please check with the university on how they manage this). Note: This allows you to train in multiple vet practices	This is a Bachelor of Science degree course done at university and students usually learn alongside FdSc students. They may have additional modules/assignments to do throughout the first 3 years.
How do I start training?	Typically you should already be employed in practice before you can enrol on a veterinary nursing diploma or apprenticeship course. Most practices will employ someone as a Veterinary Care Assistant (VCA) before they take them on as an SVN. Some practices may encourage VCAs to do training to become a qualified VCA first. Note: There's usually a waiting list for VCAs to start their student nurse training	You will have to apply to university via UCAS	You will have to apply to university via UCAS
How long will it take to qualify?	approx. 2 - 2.5 years	3 years	3 years and then students focus on a research project and further academic modules for their 4th year
What do the levels mean?	These are the education levels. For reference, GCSEs are level 2, A levels and diplomas are level 3, and Certificates of higher education are level 4	level 5	level 6