


Education Reform Recommendations

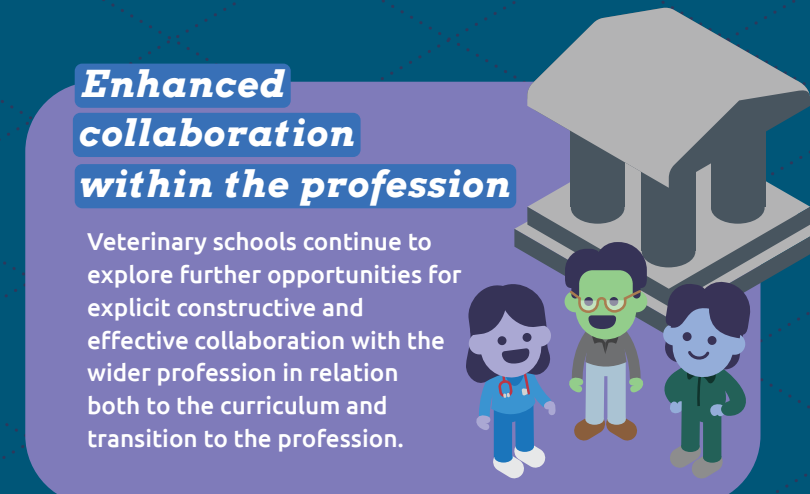
The New Zealand Veterinary Association Te Pae Kīrehe (NZVA) has reviewed findings from the Veterinary Schools of Australia and New Zealand (VSANZ) report, Rethinking Veterinary Education, which follows a recent review of veterinary education in Australasia.

We have identified 11 recommendations that we think are most relevant to our professional members.




Veterinary apprenticeship models

Veterinary professional associations and schools explore veterinary apprenticeship models which may be relevant to Australasia and the cost-sharing options which might facilitate them.



Enhanced collaboration within the profession

Veterinary schools continue to explore further opportunities for explicit constructive and effective collaboration with the wider profession in relation both to the curriculum and transition to the profession.



Increased government funding

The Australian Government should move quickly to increase the funding rate per veterinary EFTSL by at least 30% – and, where relevant, lift the maximum basic grant funding of universities to accommodate this increase in revenue. The NZ Government should similarly adjust its grant funding for veterinary EFTS.



Clinical training loading

Governments consider providing a clinical training loading for a designated number of veterinary students' clinical training in priority areas.



Workforce and wellbeing support

Veterinary professional associations should assist employers in taking charge of the workplace issues that affect recruitment, retention, and wellbeing and in developing the business and management experience of their members to help hone veterinary business models.



Facilitate international student access

Both Australian and NZ Governments should continue to facilitate international veterinary student access via favourable immigration settings, competitive in-study and post-study work rights, and a clear pathway to residency.



Graduate mentoring programs

Australasian veterinary boards, the AVBC, NZVA and AVA work together to harmonise their graduate mentoring programs and consider making them mandatory.



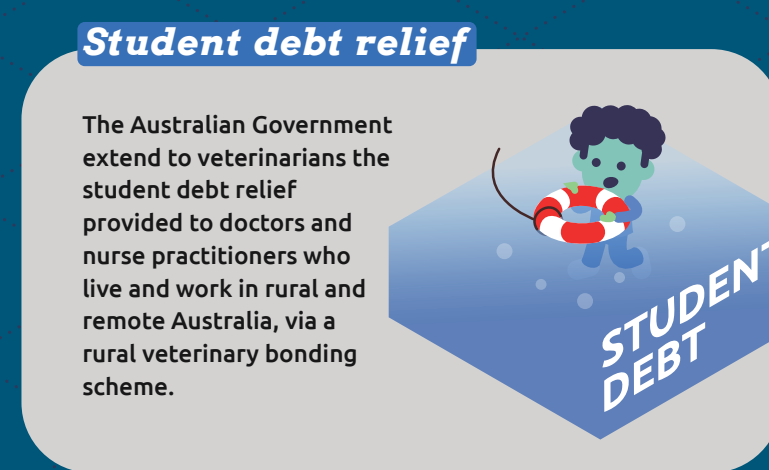
Biosecurity training

Veterinary schools collaborate with Animal Health Australia and with governments in both Australia and New Zealand to explore and develop their role in upskilling veterinarians for biosecurity and emergency disease preparedness.




Collaboration with rural practices

Governments consider contracting a network of rural veterinary practices to provide teaching and government services in the regions in collaboration with veterinary schools - including the teaching of livestock clinical practice and government veterinary services.



Student debt relief

The Australian Government extend to veterinarians the student debt relief provided to doctors and nurse practitioners who live and work in rural and remote Australia, via a rural veterinary bonding scheme.



Continued professional development (CPD)

Veterinary professional associations develop a lead role in continuing professional development for the profession in collaboration with other providers including veterinary schools.