

**INHERENT REQUIREMENT STATEMENT: UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE  
BSC (VETERINARY BIOSCIENCE) & DOCTOR OF VETERINARY SCIENCE PROGRAMS**

**1. OBSERVATION**

**Observational skills (vision, hearing, smell and touch) are required as part of this program**

**Observational skills that are required include:**

**At a distance**

- Observing the broader environment e.g. observing multiple patients, monitors, animal housing and different components of the experience
- Precise and rapid reaction to sensory stimuli e.g. identifying hazards and safety issues and reacting within a limited timeframe.

**Close at hand**

- Gathering and interpreting data within a limited time frame e.g. patient notes, imaging and laboratory results, hand-written and computer documents, printed material, test results and medication charts, clinical and pathological specimens
- Recognising and interpreting sensory stimuli relating to vision, hearing, smell and touch

**2. COMMUNICATION**

**Communication skills are required as part of this program.**

**The communication skills that are required include:**

**Speech**

Capacity/Ability to:

- speak to elicit information
- instruct and describe as necessary
- be understood by others

**Hearing**

Capacity/Ability to:

- hear in order to gather and organise information provided
- differentiate sounds, background noise, alarms and speech
- participate in group discussions and client communication

**Observation**

Capacity/Ability to:

- perceive non-verbal communication
- interpret distress, a change in mood, activity or posture in people
- perceive normal and abnormal behaviour of animals
- interpret distress, a change in demeanour, activity or posture in animals

**Writing**

Capacity/Ability to:

- document ideas and information accurately
- construct legible hand writing

## **Reading**

Capacity/Ability to:

- read and understand information in a variety of formats, including hand written, printed text, on-line information, graphs and diagrams

## **3. MOTOR**

**Motor skills are required as part of this program.**

**The fine motor skills that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- manipulate instruments
- use hand eye coordination to complete tasks as necessary
- gather and interpret information through touch
- perform and/or assist at diagnostic and therapeutic procedures

**The gross motor skills and mobility that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- maintain a standing position while using both upper limbs for another task
- undertake physical or manual tasks e.g. moving or positioning equipment, handling and restraint of laboratory animals, companion animals (cats, dogs and other pets), horse and livestock species, percussion or palpation, manipulation and mobilization of animal body parts
- manoeuvre around equipment and animals, in confined spaces, and over defined distances
- assist with animal transfers and movement

## **4. INTELLECTUAL-CONCEPTUAL, INTEGRATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES**

**Intellectual-conceptual, integrative and numerical abilities are required as part of this program.**

(e.g. recalling information without reference, mathematical and drug calculations)

**Timeliness (e.g. completing a task in a safe/appropriate time frame) is a factor in relation to intellectual-conceptual, integrative and numerical skills required as part of this program.**

(e.g. problem solving, reasoning and synthesis of information occur within a clinical context in which decisions and actions are required within defined timeframes)

**The types of reasoning that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability for:

- scientific reasoning
- evidence based decision-making
- consistent judgments
- clinical reasoning and logical thought
- ethical reasoning and practice

**The types of problem-solving that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- prioritize veterinary medical problems
- break problems down into their component parts
- prioritise tasks and workload appropriately
- undertake and interpret measurements and calculations

**The ability to synthesise information that is required includes:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- apply learned information in decision-making
- utilise conceptual frameworks to guide practice
- identify and apply important and relevant information
- assess and diagnose (assess and interpret information to define a problem and develop diagnostic, treatment and client education plans)

## **5. BEHAVIOURAL, SOCIAL AND ETHICAL**

**Behavioural and social skills, as well as ethical conduct are required as part of this program**

**The behavioural skills that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- function effectively in stressful situations e.g euthanasia; client communications
- deal with uncertainties in a constructive manner
- demonstrate consistent cognitive function
- demonstrate sufficient self awareness to manage fluctuations in health and emotional status
- reasonably adapt to change
- maintain logical and realistic thinking patterns

**The social skills that are required include:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- perceive, recognise and respond appropriately to emotion
- perceive and respect relationship barriers
- demonstrate personal insight in regards to safe and professional practice
- interact constructively with patients and colleagues from a variety of cultural backgrounds
- communicate sensitively with others, and with cultural awareness

**The ethical conduct required includes:**

Capacity/Ability to:

- adhere to the University policies on academic conduct
- adhere to the Animal Welfare Act 1985 and Animal Welfare Regulations 2000 of South Australia
- adhere to the Veterinary Practice Act 2003 Veterinary Practice Regulations 2005 of South Australia
- adhere to other State and Federal Acts and Regulations of relevance to the practice of veterinary medicine
- avoid conduct endangering the health, safety or welfare of animals
- avoid conduct which would bring into disrepute the veterinary profession, the School, or the University
- examples of unethical behaviour include:
  - o falsifying medical records or certificates
  - o wilfully withholding medical treatments ordered by the veterinary clinician in charge of a patient
  - o betraying a client confidence or patient confidentiality
  - o animal cruelty, whether by acts of commission or omission
  - o misuse of pharmaceuticals
  - o cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty

## **6. VACCINATIONS**

**The requirement to be vaccinated against Q Fever is a part of this program**

Capacity/Ability to:

- Adhere to SAVS Vaccination Guidelines (which includes the requirement for all Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Bioscience) and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine students to be vaccinated against Q Fever - unless initial skin test indicates pre-existing immunity).
- Understand information on Vaccinations and Zoonotic Diseases and complete assessment