

# Appendices to AAQ 2024

Vetsuisse-Faculty Universities Bern and Zurich



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# Appendix 1: VET-PROFILES

## Appendix 1: VET-PROFILES

Universität Bern | Universität Zürich

**vetsuisse-fakultät**

# VET-PROFILES

Version: English (Original-Version)

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## 0 Introduction

VET-PROFILES are derived from the **Principal Relevant Objectives** and a **Framework for Integrative Learning and Education in Switzerland (PROFILES)** developed for human medicine. They describe the competence-based learning objectives for students after completing the master study in veterinary medicine.

The document describes the most common fields of competence (roles) in which veterinarians have to act after graduation. It lists general competences and skills, which enable graduates to function in these different roles. In addition to specific veterinary skills, the document lists competences in veterinary science, communication, collaboration (teamwork), health care, professional conduct, and lifelong learning.

The study of veterinary medicine covers a broad spectrum of animal species and disciplines. It intends to prepare students for a wide variety of clinical and non-clinical professions. Post-graduate continuing education or specialization are essential components of the veterinary profession in any given field. At the beginning of their professional career, veterinarians still need supervision for many professional activities. There are, however, specific situations they have to deal with and tasks, which have to be fulfilled with a high degree of autonomy, meaning at least under limited (distant) or direct supervision, in the most common species.

In clinical practice, veterinary graduates are typically employed as assistants. Supervisors consider whether to delegate professional activities to them according to their competences. Graduates are generally expected to be able to solve basic clinical problems without direct supervision by their peers. Thus for clinical situations, veterinary curricular education has to ensure professional "entrustability" for a range of procedures and situations veterinarians are expected to perform directly after graduation. Further qualification in clinical professions is achieved as part of the life-long learning during the profession.

In many clinical and non-clinical professional fields, graduates typically enroll in supervised post-graduate training before being able to work independently. Such training is typically divided into early (e.g. internship or doctoral study) and advanced phases (e.g. residency or post-doc). In disciplines requiring such training the veterinary curriculum ensures that graduates can enter internationally offered training programs.

In Chapter 2, VET-PROFILES define the essential competences to be reached by the graduates as *Entrustable Professional Activity (EPAs)*. On day 1 of their professional activities, graduates are expected to perform the tasks listed here with a certain degree of independence.

The goal is the ability of the graduate to rapidly adapt to most work environments encountered after graduation. EPAs are "entrusted" when a supervisor is confident that the trainee demonstrates the knowledge, skills and attitude required for the task and can be trusted to seek assistance when needed. This "entrustability" is acquired progressively over the curriculum and instructors assess the trainee's performance over time before finally certifying it.

VET-PROFILES list core EPAs that reflect the most common activities expected from the graduates at the start of their professional career.

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These include:

- essential day-1 skills,
- high-risk or error-prone tasks,
- tasks that are exemplary of a number of veterinary roles.

The list of skills required for these core EPA's is not intended to be exhaustive or prescriptive. It describes the minimal and essential competences, the student should acquire during the veterinary curriculum and which should be assessed by their teachers.

VET-PROFILES allows curricular planning, directs students towards their future professional roles and towards essential knowledge and competences they have to acquire. VET-PROFILES does not focus on individual subjects/disciplines taught in the curriculum. Basic natural and veterinary sciences are the foundation of all EPA's.

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Specific aims and learning outcomes for all individual subjects (or teaching modules encompassing several subjects, e.g. organ blocks) are listed in complementary documents at faculty level. Learning outcomes from these documents refer to the individual EPA's and competency-fields defined in VET-PROFILES. This allows teachers to plan, coordinate and regularly adapt their teaching program in the context of the curriculum. For the student, this will underline which basic knowledge is important for which professional activity.



## Vetsuisse-Graduate-Competences

### Chapter 1

#### 1 General fields of competence

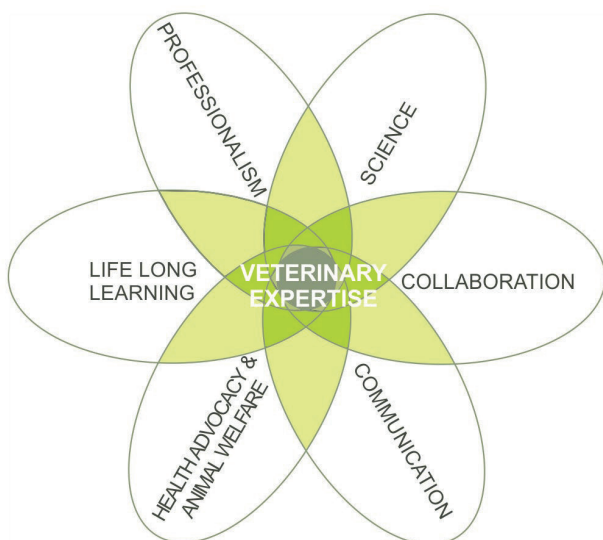
These fields represent those in which a veterinary graduate is typically expected to perform in shortly after graduation. In each of these fields, graduates have to acquire basic competences allowing them to start their profession and to gradually increase these competences as required for their particular employment.

The general fields of competences are:

1. Veterinary Expertise
2. Veterinary Science
3. Communication
4. Collaboration/Teamwork
5. Health Advocacy and Animal Welfare
6. Professional Attitude
7. Life-long Learning

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It is important to notice, that this section does not provide an explicit and comprehensive list of discipline-related knowledge. The fields are partly overlapping in a way that particular skills are needed in more than one of them (e.g. communication). Thus, there is a certain degree of redundancy between the described competences.



**Flower diagram** depicting core competences of a veterinarian. Veterinary expertise takes the central position. The size of the ellipses does not reflect the relative importance of each field of competence.

## 1.1 Veterinary Expertise

Veterinary expertise is the central competence for which the curriculum prepares for. The word expertise encompasses the role of a veterinarian during daily work where she/he is the responsible person for animal health and welfare related issues.

Veterinarians have a broad knowledge of animal health and welfare. They collect information from different sources, perform targeted examinations and initiate further investigations. They interpret results and findings and come to science-based conclusions. They initiate treatments or other measures, check whether results are appropriate and act according to current laws.

### Graduates are able to:

- explain the structures and underlying mechanisms governing the development, function and behavior of animals, from molecular level to the whole organism,
- integrate the knowledge of basic (veterinary) sciences into their reasoning and the selection of relevant procedures and investigations,
- practice evidence based veterinary medicine,
- incorporate and apply the principles of biomedical, clinical, and animal ethics in their daily work,
- respect legislation relevant to their profession.

## 1.2 Veterinary Science

Veterinarians possess broad knowledge and skills, which enable them to support biomedical research or to enter careers in clinical and biomedical research. Here, they utilize their basic understanding of biomedical and animal sciences. They are competent to enter post-graduate research training programs and gradually develop additional scientific competences.

### Graduates are able to:

- apply critical scientific thinking and veterinary knowledge to research approaches involving animals,
- include ethical reasoning in relation to the use of animals in research and act based on the 3R principles (replace, refine, reduce),
- acquire, understand and communicate scientific knowledge,
- enter internationally offered doctoral research programs.

## 1.3 Communication

Veterinarians are expected to establish and maintain relationships with clients, collaborators, and different stakeholders in their field of employment. They have to be able to adapt their communication to a variety of settings. In clinical settings, veterinarians use client-centred communication by exploring the patient's clinical signs and by actively listening to the client's experience with the animals' illness. They are expected to explore the owner's perspective with empathy. Veterinarians also have to engage in effective oral, written, and electronic communication with other professionals related to all aspects of veterinary medicine.

### Graduates are able to:

- maintain therapeutic and welfare management relationships with clients based on mutual understanding, empathy, and trust,
- obtain detailed case specific information from clients,
- achieve understanding and compliance of clients and other involved persons to procedures and prescriptions
- educate clients and explain risks, benefits, alternatives and rationale for the proposed options,
- communicate adequately orally and in written or electronic form with clients, professional colleagues, experts from related fields, health authorities and scientists,
- obtain information from multiple sources, including telemedicine and current digital technologies,
- prepare documentation using terminology appropriate for the intended audience,
- ensure that their documentation fulfills professional and legal requirements.

## 1.4 Collaboration/team work

Veterinarians are expected to work effectively in teams. Here, they should be able to take responsibility for their team and the tasks to be achieved. This requires basic competences for working in teams.

### Graduates are able to:

- respect the different roles, responsibilities, perspectives and resources taken by individual team members,
- use their communication skills to focus team members on a common goal and to encourage collaborative activity,
- work in a busy or stressful situation,
- function as leader or team member based on experience, skills and context,
- recognize the time point when to refer a case to or discuss findings with a collaborator with additional expertise,
- take over responsibilities of team members in case of emergencies.

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## 1.5 Health Advocacy and Animal Welfare

Veterinarians possess knowledge and competences that provide unique perspectives on veterinary and human public health and animal welfare. They have to recognize and actively promote the importance of veterinary public health, preventive veterinary healthcare, surveillance, food safety and animal welfare. They have to be able to do this at the level of an individual animal, animal groups and animal population as well as along the food chain.

### Graduates are able to:

- recognize the central role and functions played by primary veterinary care and preventive medicine in the animal population and its effect on human health and the environment,
- consider the population perspective as a core aspect of veterinary public health,
- apply of the One Health principle,
- recognize situations which affect animal welfare or which violate animal rights and act accordingly,
- work with relevant stakeholders to identify the determinants of animal health and welfare and food safety,
- recognize situations that require immediate action towards restoring animal welfare,
- recognize situations that violate animal rights and act accordingly.

## 1.6 Professionalism

This encompasses professional behavior and attitude expected from a veterinarian. It includes ethical reasoning, reflective practice, self-regulation, professional development, personal wellbeing and a basic understanding of socio-economical aspects in the daily work.

### Graduates are able to:

- demonstrate accountability to their profession, respect their legal and professional obligations and codes,
- respect clients' privacy and confidentiality,
- work according to general regulations of work safety,
- work according to the economic principles of veterinary enterprises (e.g. practice),
- recognize and respond appropriately to conflicts of interest (incl. seeking support from colleagues or peers),
- ask for and respond to feedback on performance,
- recognize their own professional limits, and seek assistance and supervision when appropriate.

## 1.7 Life-long learning

Life-long learning and continuing education is an essential part of the veterinary profession. Veterinarians must develop and maintain critical thinking about the scientific information and progress in the veterinary field. Students participate in the general culture of life-long learning at the Vetsuisse-Faculty. Each student develops her/his way of self-directed learning and receives regular feedback on her/his development.

### **Graduates are able to:**

- understand the necessity of life-long learning and continuous post-graduate education,
- use self-directed learning to develop and expand her/his competences,
- plan their own professional development and continuing education.

## Chapter 2

## 2 Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA)

EPA Nr.	Title
1	Name and describe the body structures and functions of healthy and diseased organisms
2	Take a clinical history
3	Handle and restrain animals
4	Perform a clinical or post mortem examination and assess the health status and well-being of an animal or groups of animals
5	Formulate a problem list and prioritize differential diagnoses
6	Perform common clinical procedures
7	Recommend diagnostic and screening tests, collect and handle samples and use equipment
8	Interpret results of diagnostic and screening tests
9	Identify a patient requiring urgent / emergency care and initiate emergency care
10	Develop a management/therapy plan, safely prescribe and administer medications or accompanying measures in common situations
11	Document veterinary medical findings
12	Communicate effectively with animal owners, veterinary medical professionals and different stakeholders
13	Participate in animal welfare and public health
14	Acquire, apply and communicate scientific knowledge

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## 2.1 Name and describe the body structures and functions of healthy and diseased organisms

The student describes the structures and the functions of the body (from molecules to the entire organism). She/he uses this knowledge to identify and describe deviations from the healthy and physiological situation.

### Required Skills:

- apply the basic knowledge of structures and functions (from molecules to whole organisms) to the context of a veterinary problem
- describe functional and morphologic changes and explain their consequences on the entire organism
- explain the impact of genetics, epigenetics, environment, microorganisms, nutrition, wellbeing, as well as pharmacological interventions on body structures and functions.

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## 2.2 Take a clinical history

The student obtains a complete and accurate history in an organized fashion. She/he seeks secondary sources of information when appropriate. The student is able to adapt communication methods to the individual client, case or situation.

### Required Skills:

- apply client-centered interview skills,
- use clinical reasoning in obtaining information,
- explore complaints and situations in animals at the individual and herd/group level,
- identify issues not mentioned spontaneously by the owner,
- identify and use alternate sources of information to obtain history.

## 2.3 Handle and restrain animals

The student assesses animal behavior before approaching and during handling of animals. She/he is able to use approved handling and restraint techniques for a range of situations such as clinical examination, sample collection, administration of medication or carrying out medical procedures. The student demonstrates the necessary preparations for safe handling and is able to instruct others.

### Required Skills:

- ensure appropriate hygiene and protective procedures before, during and after handling,
- use manual restraint of animals and a range of selected restraining devices in a safe and appropriate manner,
- instruct others in techniques for safe handling and manual restraint of animals,
- identify situations where chemical restraint of an animal is indicated and choose an appropriate method,
- lead, move and lift animals using a range of aids and approved manual handling and lifting techniques,
- take species, environmental factors, patients' physical condition, e.g. when handling neonates, pregnant or sick patients into account,
- explain handling of laboratory and exotic animals.

## 2.4 Perform a clinical or post mortem examination and assess the health status and well-being of an animal or groups of animals

The student is able to perform a general physical or a post-mortem examination of an individual animal. The student assesses the health status and well-being of an individual animal or group of animals and identifies risk factors potentially contributing to an impaired health or well-being of animals. On the herd level, the student is able to expand the examination to the animals' environment and management.

### Required Skills:

- assess the signalment, body condition score, muscle condition score, and general behavior of an animal or of groups of animals,
- perform a physical examination, identify and describe normal and abnormal findings,
- perform an examination of the animals' environment, feeding and management on herd level,
- initiate further examination and required diagnostic procedures based on an informed decision,
- demonstrate the effective use of appropriate techniques and devices required for further examination of animals, the environment and the management,
- assess and analyze health indicators and production data,
- use herd management data ("Kennzahlen") for interpretation of herd problems,
- evaluate animal diets and feeding practices,
- perform a post mortem examination of companion and farm animals
- identify and describe macroscopic changes in organs and tissues and formulate an appropriate macroscopic diagnosis.

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## 2.5 Formulate a problem list and prioritize differential diagnoses

The student is able to synthesize essential information from previous records, history, physical or post-mortem examination, and initial diagnostic evaluations to propose a list of differential diagnoses.

### Required Skills:

- assess the degree of relevance and urgency of clinical complaints, clinical signs and diagnostic findings,
- list the most common differential diagnoses for common problems
- compile and adapt a comprehensive list of differential diagnoses for clinical and post-mortem findings,
- integrate the epidemiological information (probability of diseases) into clinical reasoning,
- recognize and identify potential zoonotic hazards,
- recognize and identify potential intoxication,
- recognize and identify problems relevant to biosafety.

## 2.6 Perform common clinical procedures

The student adequately prepares herself/himself and the animal for common veterinary procedures. She/he applies essential knowledge of anatomy, physiology, indications, contraindications, risks, benefits and alternatives for these procedures. The student takes steps to avoid or handle complications of procedures.

### Required Skills:

- perform common simple grooming procedures and prepare for simple interventions according to species,
- organize and maintain principles of asepsis and maximize patient and environmental safety during the procedure,
- administer medication and fluid therapy by appropriate route (e.g. oral, topical, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous, intraperitoneal, intra-vaginal, rectal),
- carry out routine diagnostic imaging,

- choose appropriate types and methods of anesthesia adapted to the species, type of intervention and animal's condition,
- use of anesthesia equipment, prepare animal for and monitor anesthesia, assist in post-anesthetic recovery and prepare for and prevent post-procedure complications,
- prepare for aseptic surgery
- perform basic wound revision including sutures and simple surgeries,
- apply and manage various forms of bandages and dressings,
- perform euthanasia,
- explain common medical and surgical procedures.

## 2.7 Recommend diagnostic and screening tests, collect and handle samples and use equipment

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The student is able to recommend appropriate first-line, diagnostic evaluation for a patient, a herd or a population of animals. She/he is able to collect and submit appropriate samples from living and dead animals for further testing. She/he correctly handles basic laboratory equipment and performs commonly used standard tests.

### Required Skills:

- give an informed rationale for further diagnostic testing,
- incorporate sensitivity, specificity and prevalence in recommending and interpreting common tests,
- implement a sampling strategy (individual and groups of animals),
- select and use appropriate material and methods,
- choose appropriate sample size/quantity (including minimal amount/size of sample),
- apply appropriate hygiene and safety rules to minimize the risk of contamination, infection and accumulation of pathogens,
- prepare and use diagnostic imaging equipment,
- obtain routine tissue and body fluid samples for diagnostic purposes using appropriate techniques,
- preserve, label, pack and send biological samples,
- perform basic tests routinely performed in veterinary practices on clinical samples like blood, urine, milk, feces (including use of common equipment),
- perform a basic cytological and histologic examination.

## 2.8 Interpret results of diagnostic and screening tests

The student can interpret ancillary test results from laboratories and integrate these findings in her/his clinical reasoning. The student discerns urgent from non-urgent results and responds correctly.

### Required Skills:

- analyze first-line diagnostic imaging results,
- interpret a report of a diagnostic laboratory in the context of the clinical problem,
- analyze animal and production associated recordings,
- use reference values and distinguish common, insignificant abnormalities from clinically relevant findings,
- incorporate differences in values and thresholds regarding species, breed, sex and age in the interpretation of test results,
- explain interference of laboratory assays due to changes in sample quality.



## 2.9 Identify a patient requiring urgent / emergency care and initiate emergency care

The student is able to assess, recognize and prioritize normal and abnormal vital signs in animals. She/he prioritizes patients who need immediate care and initiates interventions and management. The student is able to perform basic first aid and knows when to seek assistance from others. She/he monitors response to initial interventions and adjusts the plan accordingly.

### Required Skills:

- assess the severity of an animal's situation / illness,
- obtain and monitor vital parameters of animals,
- identify common life-threatening and serious conditions,
- apply basic emergency procedures,
- explain possible underlying etiologies of the animal's deteriorating condition,
- initiate an intervention plan for the decompensating patient and seek timely help,
- identify the need for rapid transfer of patient to another facility,
- identify when euthanasia is indicated.

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## 2.10 Develop a management/therapy plan, safely prescribe and administer medications or accompanying measures in common situations

The student is able to establish a management/therapy plan tailored to the differential diagnosis list. The student is able to choose correct medications and can perform basic therapeutic measures. She/he can write a prescription and suggest dietary measures.

### Required Skills:

- establish a management plan at the individual and herd level,
- incorporate animal welfare as well as client needs and capabilities in a diagnostic and treatment plan,
- explain the indications, risks and benefits of recommended treatment,
- explain the indications, unwanted side effects and drug-drug interactions, as well as benefits of pharmacotherapy,
- explain the indications, risks and benefits of complementary medicine,
- use veterinary medicinal products and pharmaceuticals correctly, including the use of veterinary pharmaceuticals in accordance with legislation (Heilmittelgesetz HMG, Tierarzneimittelverordnung TAMV, Betäubungsmittelgesetz BtmG),
- apply current regulations regarding on-label, off-label and use of drugs under the cascade,
- use antimicrobials prudently and consider the risk of antimicrobial resistance,
- treat and prevent pain,
- explain on-farm food safety practices,
- advise on preventive and prophylactic programs according to the species, legislative animal welfare guidelines (TSchG, TSchV), demographics, risk factors and animal health and welfare and the owner's preference,
- recommend appropriate diets and supplements to ensure animal health, animal product quality, consumer health and sustainability,
- recommend and explain appropriate therapeutic and preventive dietary treatment.

## 2.11 Document veterinary medical findings

The student is able to accountably document findings of a veterinary examination, in clinical and non-clinical settings.

### Required Skills:

- document test results, problem lists, differential diagnosis and communication using professional terminology,
- prioritize and synthesize information into a report,
- write a diagnostic report with a basic interpretation and discussion of the findings,
- compile accurate, legible, timely/daily documentation that includes institutionally and legally required elements,
- document the use of antimicrobial drugs and drugs regulated by legislation (BtmG),
- document and report unexpected side effects of pharmaceuticals.

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## 2.12 Communicate effectively with animal owners, veterinary medical professionals and different stakeholders.

The student is able to gather information as well as to inform, guide and educate clients orally as well as in written form. She/he demonstrates respect for owner's preferences and confidentiality. The student is able to communicate effectively with different stakeholders related to all aspects of veterinary medicine, animal welfare and husbandry. She/he is able to select and to forward case-relevant information to (inter- and intraprofessional) specialists.

### Required Skills:

- communicate effectively with clients in oral and written form adapted to the situation,
- advise clients and explain the risks, benefits and rationale for the proposed options,
- communicate difficult issues such as bad news ("breaking bad news"), or disclosing errors or adverse events (diagnostic and treatment failures, errors),
- compile information (oral or written) that is prioritized, relevant, precise and adapted to the situation and recipient,
- compile and negotiate sound arguments to support presented information/findings and diagnoses,
- Handle personal and professional, legal, and ethical standpoints and responsibilities appropriately.

## 2.13 Participate in animal welfare and public health

Veterinarians promote health and wellbeing of animals and humans as part of the One Health concept. The student is able to aid in national veterinary service tasks that relate to the promotion of animal and public health. She/he is able to participate appropriately in an epidemiological inquiry including collection, handling and transportation of appropriate specimens or samples. She/he is able to detect suspicious signs of transboundary animal diseases, zoonotic and food borne diseases and report them to the relevant veterinary authority. The student recommends disease prevention and control programs.

### Required Skills:

- consider animal welfare aspects in recommending management and feeding practices,
- explain the integration between animal health controls and veterinary public health, the role of veterinarians in conjunction with physicians, public health practitioners, and risk analysts to ensure a high level of food safety, animal and public health,
- apply general principles of epidemiology,
- recommend appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic tools to prevent and combat transboundary animal diseases, zoonotic and food borne diseases,

- describe established programs for the prevention and control of common zoonotic, contagious or emerging/re-emerging diseases,
- explain the importance of animal genetics and breeding with respect to animal production and animal welfare,
- identify diseases of animals which require notification by the veterinarian to the national authority,
- recommend on-farm bio-safety and food-safety practices,
- describe the principles of slaughter inspection (ante mortem, post mortem), including animal welfare aspects,
- describe basic principles of animal health economics,
- perform animal welfare assessments,
- applying appropriate measures in cases of animal welfare violations,
- describe relevant legal issues concerning animal welfare, including animal experimentation, transport, housing, euthanasia.

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## 2.14 Acquire, apply and communicate scientific knowledge

The student is able to find and correctly interpret scientific literature in particular relating to veterinary and biomedical topics. She/he is able to analyze data, communicate knowledge, and base decisions on scientific evidence. She/he has a general awareness of and appreciation for how research is essential to advance knowledge. The student is able to critically question new hypotheses or issues that affect her/his field of expertise and to employ new knowledge and tools for her/his professional activities.

### Required Skills:

- explain the necessity to formulate research questions and hypotheses,
- identify and use scientific databases and search engines to acquire relevant information,
- analyze scientific data by applying descriptive and basic statistics,
- critically analyze information/data for scientific evidence,
- apply the principles of scientific integrity,
- present and report data orally and in written form.



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

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UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN**

## **Regulations Governing Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty of the Universities of Bern and Zurich (Study Regulations)**

### **Ingress**

*The Vetsuisse Council,*

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*pursuant to Article 6 (3) (e) of the Agreement on the Vetsuisse Faculty of the Universities of Bern and Zurich of May 20, 2005, and May 27, 2005,*

*has decided as follows:*

### **First section: General provisions**

#### **A. Subject matter and scope**

##### **§ 1 Scope of application**

<sup>1</sup> The Study Regulations govern the bachelor's and master's degree programs offered by the Vetsuisse Faculty at the campus faculties of the universities of Bern (University of Bern) and Zurich (UZH).

<sup>2</sup> Interfaculty degree programs at the respective universities as well as inter-university double and joint degree programs are governed by separate regulations.

<sup>3</sup> The Dean (University of Bern) or the Vice Dean of Teaching (UZH) decides on matters not governed by these Study Regulations, the plan of studies (University of Bern) or the Academic Regulations (UZH).

##### **§ 2 Implementing provisions**

The Vetsuisse Faculty issues the necessary implementing provisions in each case (for the University of Bern: plan of studies, for UZH: Academic Regulations) within the framework of the legal provisions and ensures that there are no contradictions with regard to content.

##### **§ 3 Modules from other faculties**

<sup>1</sup> With regard to the option of selecting and crediting a module from another faculty at the universities of Bern and Zurich, the provisions of the respective faculty of the respective location apply.

<sup>2</sup> In all other areas, the provisions of the faculty offering the module in question apply.

##### **§ 4 Degree programs**

<sup>1</sup> The Vetsuisse Faculty offers the following bachelor's degree program worth 180 ECTS credits:

- Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine.

# Appendix 2: Regulations

## 2.1 Study regulations VSF



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

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<sup>2</sup> The Vetsuisse Faculty offers the following master's degree program worth 150 ECTS credits:

- Master of Veterinary Medicine.

### § 5 Designation of degrees

<sup>1</sup> The Vetsuisse Faculty awards the title (University of Bern) or degree (UZH) for successful completion of a bachelor's degree program with the following designation:

- for the University of Bern: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern
- for UZH: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine UZH.

<sup>2</sup> The Vetsuisse Faculty awards the title (University of Bern) or degree (UZH) for successful completion of a master's degree with the following designation:

- for the University of Bern: Master of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern
- for UZH: Master of Veterinary Medicine UZH.

<sup>3</sup> The Vetsuisse Faculty may specify the academic focus by adding “in” to the title of the degree.

<sup>4</sup> The titles (University of Bern) or degrees (UZH) are abbreviated as follows:

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern | B Vet Med      |
| - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine UZH                 | B Vet Med UZH  |
| - Master of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern   | M Vet Med      |
| - Master of Veterinary Medicine UZH                   | M Vet Med UZH. |

## B. General information regarding studies

### § 6 Standard curricula

<sup>1</sup> The plan of studies or Academic Regulations sets out the requirements for passing for every degree program. A standard curriculum is published in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> The standard curriculum requires full-time students to earn 30 ECTS credits per semester, i.e. 60 ECTS credits per academic year.

<sup>3</sup> The modules and courses are published in a suitable manner.

### § 7 Admission

<sup>1</sup> Admission to the degree programs is governed by the law of September 5, 1996, on the University of Bern (UniG)<sup>1</sup> as well as the ordinance of September 12, 2012, on the University (UniV)<sup>2</sup> and the ordinance on admission to studies at the University of Zurich of

<sup>1</sup> BSG 436.11.

<sup>2</sup> BSG 436.111.1.



August 27, 2018, (VZS)<sup>3</sup> as well as the ordinance on restrictions on admission to medical degree programs at the University of Zurich of April 8, 2020 (VZMS)<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> Studies at both bachelor's and master's levels can only be started in the fall semester.

## **§ 8 Change of place of study**

<sup>1</sup> The rules of the respective campus faculty apply to changes of study location.

<sup>2</sup> Failed equivalent academic requirements of the respective other campus faculty are counted as failed attempts.

## **§ 9 Studies and disability**

<sup>1</sup> In the event of a medically certified disability or chronic illness, the Dean's Office (University of Bern) or the Office of Studies and Disability (UZH) checks whether this has an effect on study-relevant activities and, if it does, proposes measures to compensate for the disadvantages. In cases of doubt, an independent medical examiner may be consulted.

<sup>2</sup> The Dean (University of Bern) or Vice Dean of Teaching (UZH) may, on application by the student, grant measures to compensate for disadvantages on a semester-by-semester basis.

<sup>3</sup> Retroactive measures cannot be granted.

## **§ 10 Language**

<sup>1</sup> The courses are generally held in German but can also be held in English or another language.

<sup>2</sup> As a rule, evaluations are carried out and completed in the language in which the corresponding course is taught. The written evaluations are offered at the University of Bern in both German and French. Oral examinations can be taken in German or French at the University of Bern. The details are set out in the plan of studies or the Academic Regulations.

<sup>3</sup> Specific language skills may be required for individual modules.

## **§ 11 Copyright of student assignments**

<sup>1</sup> In principle, the copyrights to student assignments belong to the students.

<sup>2</sup> By submitting a thesis, students assign their copyright to the University of Bern or UZH insofar as this is necessary for administrative actions such as plagiarism detection or archiving.

<sup>3</sup> Students are obliged to obtain the permission of their supervisor prior to publishing a thesis .

<sup>4</sup> The supervisor may impose conditions on the publication.

<sup>3</sup> LS 415.31.

<sup>4</sup> LS 415.432.



## § 12 Plagiarism control

Student theses may be processed using appropriate software for the purpose of checking for plagiarism. Suitable service providers in Switzerland or abroad may be commissioned for this purpose.

## § 13 University of Bern: Study period and fees

<sup>1</sup> The standard duration of study for full-time students is as follows:

- a. six semesters for the bachelor's degree program,
- b. five semesters for the master's degree program.

<sup>2</sup> A request for an extension of the period of study is necessary if ten semesters in the bachelor's or eight semesters in the master's degree program are exceeded. The application must be submitted before the end of the final semester of this period.

<sup>3</sup> The period of study may be extended for coming semesters if there is good cause in accordance with Article 35 UniV. Approval for an extension of the period of study is granted for a maximum of two semesters. After that, if necessary, a new extension request for a maximum of two semesters must be submitted.

<sup>4</sup> The Dean is responsible for the processing of requests for extensions of periods of study. Rejection decisions are made in the form of an announcement open to appeal. If an extension is approved, an individual schedule may be set.

<sup>5</sup> The tuition fee is governed by Article 39 UniV. A decision on the application of a hardship case pursuant to Article 39 (3) UniV is independent of the decision on the extension of the period of study.

<sup>6</sup> Examination fees are based on Article 43 (3) UniV.

## § 14 UZH: Study period and fees<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In the first twelve semesters of the bachelor's and master's degree programs, tuition fees must be paid in accordance with the Ordinance Governing Tuition and Fees at the University of Zurich dated March 5, 2012. Counting begins with the first semester after registration at UZH.

<sup>2</sup> If the student exceeds the period of study pursuant to Paragraph 1 and if there is no approved extension of the period of study, the tuition fee is doubled as per the Ordinance Governing Tuition and Fees.

<sup>3</sup> At the end of their 11th semester after registration, the student receives, with the transcript of records, the request to immediately contact the Student Advisory Service in order to draw up an individual plan of studies.

<sup>4</sup> In the event of good cause, the student may apply to the Dean of Studies for an extension of the period of study by two semesters, for which the simple tuition fee is payable. The request must be justified and submitted within 30 days of receipt of the transcript of records.

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<sup>5</sup> The entry into force of the standard depends on the entry into force of the Ordinance Governing Tuition and Fees at the University of Zurich.





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<sup>5</sup> The Vice Dean of Teaching generally decides on the application within 30 days. He or she may request further evidence or obtain reports.

<sup>6</sup> If no application is submitted or if it is rejected, the tuition fee is doubled in accordance with the Ordinance Governing Tuition and Fees.

<sup>7</sup> Applications for an extension of the period of study can be submitted more than once.

## **§ 15 Duty to provide information and exercise due diligence**

<sup>1</sup> All study-relevant information will be provided in an appropriate manner and is binding.

<sup>2</sup> Students are obliged to find out independently about all matters of relevance to their studies, in particular the exemptions and deadlines applicable to them.

<sup>3</sup> Students must exercise the necessary care in their veterinary activities during their studies and internships. They are bound by professional secrecy and handle confidential data and information of which they become aware with care. In particular, they must observe the following:

- a. the requirements laid down by the clinics, institutes and course instructors and the practices and standards resulting from the rules of veterinary practice;
- b. the duty of care with regard to the professional and ethical handling of animals and dealing with animal keepers;
- c. the correct handling of treatment documentation, sample material, X-ray, image and video recordings.

## **Second section: Modules and ECTS credits**

### **§ 16 Modules**

<sup>1</sup> A module is a time-limited learning unit consisting of one or more courses that may last a maximum of two semesters.

<sup>2</sup> Completion of a module may be subject to certain requirements.

<sup>3</sup> The number of participants in a module may be limited and/or restricted to a specific target group.

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## § 17 Module information

The modules and all related study-relevant information are included in the electronic course catalog (University of Bern) or the course catalog (UZH).

## § 18 Types of modules

A distinction is made between the following module types:

- a. compulsory modules: Modules which are compulsory for all students of a degree program in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations;
- b. compulsory elective modules: Modules that must be selected from a predefined area in the predefined scope in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations;
- c. elective modules: Modules which, in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations, are freely selectable from a defined area.

## § 19 Module coordinators

The campus faculties appoint module coordinators for all modules per campus who are responsible for the content and organization of the modules, including the evaluations.

## § 20 Registration for and deregistration from or booking and cancellation of modules

The plan of studies or Academic Regulations governs the modalities of registration for and deregistration from or booking and cancellation of modules. This also includes the modalities for registering and deregistering as well as booking and canceling if modules are retaken.

## § 21 ECTS credits

<sup>1</sup> The scope of academic requirements is determined using the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). One ECTS credit corresponds to an expected average student workload of 30 hours.

<sup>2</sup> Each module is allocated a number of ECTS credits (in whole numbers) corresponding to the average workload expected for successful completion of the module.

<sup>3</sup> In order to be awarded ECTS credits, the student must pass an explicit evaluation. ECTS credits cannot be awarded on the basis of mere attendance.

<sup>4</sup> The number of ECTS credits allotted to the module is always awarded in full; they may not be awarded on a pro rata basis.



## **Third section: Evaluations, exclusion or final rejection and suspension**

### **A. Evaluations**

#### **§ 22 Types of evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> In particular, evaluations include:

- oral, written and/or practical examinations;
- written assignments;
- presentations;
- documented active participation in courses;
- documented practical work;
- evidence of academic attainments achieved through self-study;
- documented tutorial activity;
- portfolio presentations;
- verification of clinical abilities and skills in clinical courses;
- academic attainments as part of an e-learning course;
- workplace-based assessment;
- internship reports.

<sup>2</sup> Evaluations may consist of several parts. The plan of studies or Academic Regulations stipulate whether partial evaluations can be compensated.

#### **§ 23 Organization and modalities of the evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> The modalities for the provision of a specific evaluation are defined uniformly for all students. The plan of studies or Academic Regulations may stipulate special regulations for certain categories of students.

<sup>2</sup> Students pass the evaluations in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations; they may not move to the other campus in order to take the evaluations.

<sup>3</sup> An assessor is present for evaluations in the form of an oral examination, subject to § 4. Minutes must be kept.

<sup>4</sup> The presence of an assessor may be waived in the case of structured oral examinations or structured oral/practical examinations with several stations.

#### **§ 24 Prevention, interruption, unexcused absence**

<sup>1</sup> If a compelling, unforeseeable and unavoidable reason arises prior to the commencement of an evaluation, or if a request for leave of absence has been approved, the Dean of Studies of the relevant campus faculty must be notified.

<sup>2</sup> If such a reason arises immediately prior to an evaluation, this must be reported to the Dean of Studies of the relevant faculty in the respective campus. The examination supervisor or examiner must be informed if it occurs during the course of an evaluation.

<sup>3</sup> Subsequent assertion of reasons for inability to attend an evaluation that has already taken place is generally excluded.



## § 25 Procedure in the event of prevention, interruption or unexcused absence

<sup>1</sup> In all cases, a written request for withdrawal, stating reasons, must be submitted to the Dean (University of Bern) or the Dean of Studies (UZH) no later than three working days after the date of the evaluation, together with the corresponding confirmations (e.g. medical certificate).

<sup>2</sup> In the case of evaluations that extend over a longer period of time (in particular written assignments), a request for an extension may be submitted before the submission deadline expires.

<sup>3</sup> The Dean (University of Bern) or the Dean of Studies (UZH) decides whether the application should be approved. If the request is not approved, the evaluation is deemed to have been failed.

<sup>4</sup> In cases of doubt, the Dean (University of Bern) or the Dean of Studies (UZH) may consult an independent medical examiner.

<sup>5</sup> Candidates failing to attend an evaluation without deregistration or submitting an application late shall be deemed to have failed the evaluation.

## § 26 Performance evaluation

<sup>1</sup> Evaluations are either graded or graded as “pass” / “fail”.

<sup>2</sup> The grading of evaluations is based on a scale of 1 to 6, with 6 being the best and 1 the worst. As a rule, grading is carried out in half-grade increments.

<sup>3</sup> The evaluation is considered passed if at least a grade of 4 is achieved.

<sup>4</sup> The following rounding rule applies:

Grade to be rounded in the range			Rounded grade
5.75	to	6	6
5.25	to	< 5.75	5.5
4.75	to	< 5.25	5
4.25	to	< 4.75	4.5
4	to	< 4.25	4
3.25	to	< 4	3.5
2.75	to	< 3.25	3
2.25	to	< 2.75	2.5
1.75	to	< 2.25	2
1.25	to	< 1.75	1.5
1	to	< 1.25	1



## § 27 Retaking of modules in general

<sup>1</sup> Depending on the module, either the entire module or just the evaluation may be retaken. The plan of studies or Academic Regulations determines the modalities of retakes and, in particular, stipulates in which cases the entire module must be retaken.

<sup>2</sup> A module passed or definitively failed cannot be retaken, even as part of a different degree program.

<sup>3</sup> There is no entitlement to an immediate retake.

## § 28 Retaking modules / evaluations

<sup>1</sup> A failed compulsory module or failed evaluation can be retaken twice.

<sup>2</sup> A failed compulsory elective module and a failed elective module or the corresponding evaluation may be retaken twice if the module is offered again. Substitutions are possible within the scope defined in the plan of studies or Academic Regulations.

<sup>3</sup> In the case of elective modules taken at a different faculty, the provisions of the faculty offering the respective module apply (see § 3).

<sup>4</sup> The master's thesis may be retaken once with a new topic.

## § 29 Unfair conduct

<sup>1</sup> Unfair conduct involves the carrying out of fraud or dishonesty. In particular, this includes bringing or using unauthorized aids, unauthorized communication with third parties, submitting plagiarized material or a written examination or thesis that has not been written independently.

<sup>2</sup> In the event of unfair conduct as detailed in § 1, the Dean of the respective campus faculty grades the evaluation as a 1 or declares the evaluation failed and an issued transcript of records to be invalid. Titles or degrees already awarded are revoked by the Senate (University of Bern) or by the Dean (UZH). All documents issued as a result of the unfair conduct will be confiscated.

<sup>3</sup> The Dean of the respective campus faculty decides whether disciplinary proceedings should be requested.

<sup>4</sup> The examination supervisor (University of Bern) or the examiner (UZH) may take suitable measures in advance to prevent unfair conduct.

## § 30 Inspection of examination documents

In order to ensure the confidentiality of examination questions, the disclosure of examination documents may be restricted or refused, the production of copies or transcripts may be prohibited, and the duration of inspection limited.



### § 31 Transcript of records

The attainments achieved are documented as follows:

- a. At the University of Bern: The results of each evaluation are communicated to the students via the electronic examination management system. Students are informed that an announcement open to appeal can be requested from the Dean's Office. In addition, students receive a notification once a year, which includes all grades not yet available.
- b. At UZH: At the end of a semester, the passed and failed modules are documented in a transcript of records. Academic attainments not completed at UZH are marked. The transcript of records is issued in German. An English translation will be provided.

## B. Exclusion or final rejection and suspension

### § 32 Exclusion or final rejection

If a compulsory module is definitively failed or the requirements for passing the course of study can no longer be met, the Dean (University of Bern) or Vice Dean of Teaching and the Chair of the Examination Board (UZH) decide on a final exclusion or rejection from the corresponding degree program.

### § 33 Suspension

An exclusion or permanent dismissal from the degree program pursuant to § 32 causes a ban at all levels of study for the respective program.

## Fourth section: Degree programs

### A. Bachelor's degree program

#### § 34 Degrees

The bachelor's degree program provides students with basic knowledge and the ability to think methodically and scientifically. The training objectives of the entire study program are governed by the Federal Act on University Medical Professions (Medical Professions Act, MedBG) of June 23, 2006, and, where applicable, by other related implementing provisions.

#### § 35 Structure of the bachelor's degree program

<sup>1</sup> A bachelor's degree program comprises 180 ECTS credits. In the case of a full-time course of study, this corresponds to a standard duration of study of six semesters.

<sup>2</sup> The bachelor's degree is divided into an assessment level (60 ECTS credits, two semesters, first academic year) and a subsequent advanced level (120 ECTS credits, four semesters, second and third academic years).

<sup>3</sup> The bachelor's degree program is structured by the academic year. In order to proceed to the next academic year, all evaluations of the previous year must have been passed. § 37 remains reserved.



## § 36 Assessment level

<sup>1</sup> The assessment level comprises 60 ECTS credits (first year of study).

<sup>2</sup> Students who have not yet completed the required assessment level two years after commencement of studies have failed the assessment level and are excluded or definitively rejected in accordance with § 32. This does not affect cases of hardship.

## § 37 Advanced level

<sup>1</sup> Modules from the third academic year may be brought forward if two thirds of the coursework in the second academic year has already been completed. The Dean's Offices provide information on which modules can be brought forward. There is no entitlement to take modules in advance. The respective campus faculty is not obliged to take into account the possibility of completing modules in advance when planning modules.

<sup>2</sup> Access to certain modules and internships may be restricted. Further details can be found in the plan of studies or Academic Regulations.

## B. Master's degree program

### § 38 Degrees

The master's degree program provides students with in-depth technical knowledge and the ability to work independently in scientific and practical work. The training objectives of the entire study program are governed by the Federal Act on University Medical Professions (Medical Professions Act, MedBG) of June 23, 2006, and, where applicable, by other related implementing provisions.

### § 39 Structure of the master's degree program

<sup>1</sup> A master's degree program in Veterinary Medicine comprises 150 ECTS credits. In the case of a full-time course of study, this corresponds to a period of study of five semesters.

<sup>2</sup> The master's degree program is structured by the academic year or semester. To advance from the first year of study to the second, the student must have passed all evaluations scheduled for the first year of study.

### § 40 Master's thesis

<sup>1</sup> During the master's degree program, students must write a master's thesis worth 20 ECTS credits. The master's thesis is considered a compulsory module and is graded.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis must be written in German, French or English (University of Bern) or in German or English (UZH). The plan of studies or Academic Regulations may provide for exceptions.

<sup>3</sup> The repetition of a master's thesis that has failed is governed by § 28.



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<sup>4</sup> The plan of studies or Academic Regulations governs the details, in particular the study arrangements, supervision and assessment of the master's thesis.

## **C. Accreditation and recognition**

### **§ 41 Accreditation and recognition in general**

<sup>1</sup> Accreditation is evidence of academic attainments completed in the transcript of records. It takes place automatically for academic attainments completed at the respective campus faculty.

<sup>2</sup> Recognition is the allocation of recognized academic achievements to the academic attainments to be completed as part of a degree program. It takes place no later than after registration for the degree with admission to the Diploma Supplement (University of Bern) or Academic Record (UZH).

<sup>3</sup> Students are responsible for submitting the documents required for recognition.

<sup>4</sup> A learning agreement must be concluded before any external academic attainments are met, unless there are crediting agreements with other universities.

<sup>5</sup> The plan of studies or Academic Regulations governs further details regarding accreditation and recognition.

### **§ 42 Recognition of academic attainments from outside the university**

<sup>1</sup> The Dean's Office (University of Bern) or the Director of the Study Program (UZH) decides on the recognition of academic attainments not completed at the Vetsuisse Faculty.

<sup>2</sup> Recognition is possible if:

- a. the academic work is equivalent to the academic work to be performed at the Vetsuisse Faculty;
- b. it is not the master's thesis.

### **§ 43 Recognition of degree**

Recognized academic attainments can be credited if:

- a. they can be credited to the bachelor's or master's degree program in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations;
- b. they are equivalent to the academic requirements to be achieved in accordance with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations.





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## D. Degree

### § 44 Registration for the degree

<sup>1</sup> Students must submit their registration for a bachelor's or master's degree to the University's Dean's Office. The Dean's Office examines whether all requirements for the degree have been met.

<sup>2</sup> Registration for the degree can be made at the earliest for the semester at the end of which all the requirements for the degree pursuant to the Study Regulations and the plan of studies or Academic Regulations have been met.

### § 45 Awarding of bachelor's and master's degrees

<sup>1</sup> The bachelor's title or degree is awarded by the Vetsuisse Faculty when 180 ECTS credits have been earned in accordance with the Study Regulations in conjunction with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations. Of these, at least half of the required academic attainments (in ECTS credits) must have been completed at the respective faculty.

<sup>2</sup> The master's title or degree is awarded by the Vetsuisse Faculty if 150 ECTS credits have been earned in accordance with the Study Regulations in conjunction with the plan of studies or Academic Regulations. Of these, at least half of the required academic attainments (in ECTS credits) must have been completed at the respective faculty.

<sup>3</sup> The title or degree is awarded by issuing a signed diploma certificate.

### § 46 Weighted overall grade

The degree is awarded as a weighted overall grade. The graded modules contribute to the weighted overall grade with the weighting of their ECTS credits. The weighted overall grade is calculated using unrounded starting values and is indicated to one decimal place. For this purpose, the second decimal place is rounded to the first, with numbers less than 5 being rounded down.

## E. Final documents

### § 47 University of Bern: Degree documents

<sup>1</sup> Graduates receive the following degree documents: the diploma certificate and the Diploma Supplement with the transcript of records.

<sup>2</sup> The certificate bears the logo of the University of Bern and the signature of the Dean of the University of Bern. The certificate is issued in German or French with an English translation.

<sup>3</sup> The Diploma Supplement is a standardized explanation of the degree. It is issued in German or French with an English translation. The Diploma Supplement also contains the transcript of records in German or French with an English translation.



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## § 48 UZH: Degree documents

- <sup>1</sup> Graduates receive the following degree documents: the diploma certificate, the Diploma Supplement and the Academic Record.
- <sup>2</sup> The degree certificate bears the seal of the university and the faculty as well as the signature of the Rector of UZH and the Dean of the faculty. It shows the weighted overall grade. The degree certificate is issued in German. An English translation will be provided.
- <sup>3</sup> The Diploma Supplement is a standardized explanation of the degree. It is issued in German and English.
- <sup>4</sup> The Academic Record lists all academic attainments that count towards the degree, as well as recognized academic attainments not counted towards the degree, together with the respective grading; it also lists the grade and title of the master's thesis. Academic attainments not completed at UZH are marked accordingly. The Academic Record is issued in German. An English translation will be provided.

## Fifth section: Legal protection

### § 49 University of Bern: Legal protection

- <sup>1</sup> The Act of September 5, 1996, on the University (UniG) and the Act of May 23, 1989, on Administrative Law (VRPG) apply to the procedure.
- <sup>2</sup> Appeals against open grade announcements made by faculty bodies can be lodged with the Dean's Office within 30 days. Complaints against appeals decisions by the Dean may be lodged with the Appeal Committee within 30 days.
- <sup>3</sup> Appeals against other announcements made by faculty bodies may be lodged with the Appeal Committee within 30 days.
- <sup>4</sup> In the case of appeals against examination results, complaints of unreasonableness are inadmissible.

### § 50 UZH: Legal protection

- <sup>1</sup> Transcripts of records in accordance with § 31 are subject to an appeal to the Vice Dean of Teaching in respect of the new grades awarded in the final semester. All other announcements are also subject to an appeal to the Vice Dean of Teaching. The objection must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Dean of Studies within 30 days of receipt of the transcript of records or announcement, stating the reasons for the appeal. The decision on the objection is subject to the appeal.
- <sup>2</sup> The Appeal Committee of the Zurich Universities is responsible for the appeal.



## Sixth section: Transitional and final provisions

### § 51 Transitional provisions

<sup>1</sup> Students who commence their studies at the Vetsuisse Faculty after August 1, 2021, (fall semester 2021) shall study in accordance with these Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> Students who started their studies before the fall semester 2021 may continue their studies at their respective level of study with the recognition of the ECTS credits acquired up to that point in accordance with these Study Regulations, but in accordance with the old curriculum and the old passing procedures. Students at the bachelor's level then transfer to the master's level in accordance with the new curriculum. Paragraph 3 remains reserved.

<sup>3</sup> Students pursuant to para. 2 who have to repeat an academic year after the fall semester 2021 shall continue their studies in accordance with these Study Regulations and the new curriculum, provided that the relevant academic year is already offered in the new curriculum.

<sup>4</sup> Students who have not yet completed their first academic year at the beginning of the fall semester 2021 and are required to repeat the academic year shall continue their studies with the recognition of the ECTS credits acquired so far in accordance with these Study Regulations and the new curriculum. Any failed attempts from the old curriculum will be canceled for these students. The failed attempts of the individual exam (EP) 1.1 (Physics, Chemistry) are excluded from the cancellation; these remain unchanged.

<sup>5</sup> Students who completed their first year of master's studies at the beginning of the fall semester 2021 and finish their studies by the end of the spring semester 2022 complete their studies in accordance with the old curriculum (120 ECTS credits). All other master students complete their studies in accordance with the new curriculum (cf § 3).

<sup>6</sup> In individual cases, the Vetsuisse Faculty may determine the further course of studies and the modalities in general terms for the benefit of the students or stipulate them in individual study agreements with the students.

### § 52 Revocation of exemptions

The regulations governing studies and evaluations in bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty (Study Regulations) of March 10, 2010, are revoked.



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### § 53 Entry into force

These Study Regulations enter into force on 1 August 2021.

Bern/Zurich, December 11, 2020

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Prof. Dr. Christian Leumann  
President of the Vetsuisse Council  
Rector of the University of Bern

Prof. Dr. Michael Schaepman  
Vice-President of the Vetsuisse Council  
Rector of the University of Zurich

*This document is a translation and is intended for information purposes only. It is not legally binding. Consequently, in the event of any dispute over the interpretation of an Article, the text of the original German version always prevails.*

## 2.2 Study plan Bern



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### Plan of studies for the bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty

of November 26, 2020 (as amended August 1, 2022)

*The Vetsuisse Faculty,*

pursuant to § 2 of the regulations governing studies in bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty (Study Regulations) of December 11, 2020,

*hereby adopts the following plan of studies:*

#### **I. General**

##### AREA OF APPLICATION

**Art. 1** This plan of studies applies to all students studying at the Vetsuisse Faculty (faculty in Bern).

##### ECTS CREDITS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

**Art. 2** The number of ECTS credits and the learning outcomes for the individual courses are defined in the electronic course catalog and/or in the appendix.

##### EVALUATIONS

**Art. 3** <sup>1</sup> The course instructors announce the objectives, content, type, timing and prerequisites for participation in evaluations prior to the start of the course.

<sup>2</sup> An evaluation may cover several modules.

<sup>3</sup> Students pass the evaluations in accordance with the plan of studies; they may not move to the other campus to have their evaluation done there.

<sup>4</sup> The master's thesis and the special area may be completed in the other campus faculty.

##### CONDITIONS

**Art. 4** <sup>1</sup> Prerequisites for registration for a module or course can be defined, such as, in particular, previous modules, courses or knowledge acquired.

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# REGISTERING FOR AND DEREG- ISTERING FROM MODULES AND EVALUATIONS

<sup>2</sup> The number of participants in a module or course may be limited or participation may be reserved for a specific target group. In particular, a restriction or combination of restrictions may apply

*a* for didactic reasons or

*b* when only limited capacity is available.

<sup>3</sup> Criteria for participation in affected modules or courses and for the procedure for allocating module places are announced in an appropriate manner.

**Art. 5** <sup>1</sup> Students are automatically registered for modules and courses and thus also for evaluations. Deregistering from a module or course without specifying a reason is possible up to the dates published in the plan of studies.

<sup>2</sup> Students who fail their evaluations are automatically registered for their next possible retake date.

<sup>3</sup> Deregistering from an evaluation or retake without specifying a reason is possible up to the deadlines published in the plan of studies. After that, it is only possible to deregister for good cause.

<sup>4</sup> It is not possible to take part on the resit date and have it counted as the first evaluation unless there are good reasons for deregistering.

<sup>5</sup> Students who fail to attend an evaluation without providing a reason or canceling, receive a grade of 1. Reasons for absence or cancellation include pregnancy complications, illness, accident or the death of a close relative.

<sup>6</sup> A medical certificate must be submitted to the Dean's Office within three days; a medical examiner may be consulted.

<sup>7</sup> If necessary, the persons in charge of the evaluations will take provisional measures and inform the Dean's Office, which will decide whether the absence or cancellation is permissible. A negative decision is made in the form of an announcement by the Dean's Office.

## GRADING

**Art. 6** <sup>1</sup> Grading is governed by Section 26 of the Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> Ungraded evaluations are assessed in accordance with § 26 of the Study Regulations.

<sup>3</sup> The electronic course catalog or appendices govern the grading of evaluations.

## RETAKING EVALUATIONS AND COMPENSATION

**Art. 7** <sup>1</sup> Failed evaluations may be retaken twice. Further regulations are set out in Section 28 of the Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> All evaluations must be passed. Partial evaluations can be compensated. *[Version dated 07.08.2021]*

<sup>3</sup> Students who have to repeat a year of study are not entitled to revisit internships they have already completed.

## LANGUAGE

**Art. 8** <sup>1</sup> Students who have not obtained the previous education or academic qualification required for admission to studies (Art. 29 para. 3 and 4 UniG) in German or French and are not German or French native speakers may submit a written request to the Dean's Office and request an extension of the examination time. The examination time may be extended by a maximum of half an hour.

<sup>2</sup> The student's previous education or academic qualification must be certified as proof, along with a written declaration stating that the student is not a native speaker of German or French. After examining the documents, the Dean's Office decides whether to approve the application.

<sup>3</sup> The examination time cannot be extended if a degree has been awarded in German or French.

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ACCREDITATION AND  
RECOGNITION IN GENERAL

**Art. 9** <sup>1</sup> Only ECTS credits earned within the past six years can be credited to the respective degree. The reference date for this is the day of registration for the degree and the last day of the semester in which the relevant ECTS credit was earned.

<sup>2</sup> In justified cases, the Dean may extend the crediting period upon request.

<sup>3</sup> Modules whose ECTS credits lapse because the recognition period has been exceeded are deemed to have been definitively failed and cannot be repeated.

COMPULSORY ELECTIVE MOD-  
ULES

**Art. 10** <sup>1</sup> Compulsory elective modules are modules that must be selected from a specified area to the specified extent.

<sup>2</sup> Once a compulsory elective module has been selected, it cannot be replaced by another module.

## ELECTIVE MODULES

**Art. 11** <sup>1</sup> In the elective area, courses from all faculties of the University of Bern that are offered as elective courses across the University can be credited.

<sup>2</sup> Courses at UZH that are not offered by the Vetsuisse Faculty may be approved by the Dean's Office.

## CLINICAL EMERGENCY SERVICE

**Art. 12** <sup>1</sup> Students perform clinical emergency services within the "Practical Skills" module. They support the staff in the clinics and take an active part in evening and emergency shifts.

<sup>2</sup> Students may work shifts at night, on weekends, on public holidays and during semester breaks.

<sup>3</sup> An information sheet is available with further details.

## II. Studies

### 1. Bachelor's degree program

#### ASSESSMENT LEVEL

**Art. 13** The assessment level consists of the following achievements:

- a* Compulsory modules: *[Version dated 07.08.2021]*
  - Basic subjects of Natural Sciences
  - Principles of morphology I
  - Principles of morphology II
  - Functional principles of veterinary medicine I
  - Animal protection and welfare, animal ethology and husbandry
  - Training of practical skills I
  - Introduction to scientific work
- b* Compulsory elective modules:
  - Modules as listed in the appendix
- c* Elective modules

#### PASS STANDARD ASSESSMENT LEVEL

**Art. 14** The assessment level is passed if, at the latest two years after commencement of studies:

- a* all assignments pursuant to Article 13 have been completed and
- b* all evaluations have been awarded at least a grade of 4.0 or "passed".

#### ADVANCED LEVEL

**Art. 15** <sup>1</sup> Students who pass the assessment level are admitted to the advanced level.

<sup>2</sup> Modules from the third academic year may be taken early if two thirds of the coursework in the second academic year have already been completed. The Dean's Office determines which modules can be taken in advance. There is no automatic entitlement to take modules in advance. The faculty is not obliged to take into account the possibility of completing modules in advance when planning modules.

#### ATTAINMENTS AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL

**Art. 16** The advanced level consists of the following attainments:

- a* Compulsory modules: *[Version dated 07.08.2021]*
  - Bacteriology
  - Herd health and population medicine I
  - Herd health and population medicine II
  - Epidemiology and biostatistics
  - Functional principles of veterinary medicine II



- Immunology and general infection biology
- Food safety
- Organ-system-centered block: locomotor system
- Organ-system-centered block: blood, immune organs, laboratory medicine,
- Organ-system-centered block: endocrinology, metabolism
- Organ-system-centered block: reproduction, mammary gland
- Organ-system-centered block: kidney, salt and water balance
- Organ-system-centered block: skin
- Organ-system-centered block: nervous system, sense organs
- Organ-system-centered block: respiratory tract and circulatory system
- Organ-system-centered block: digestive tract
- Parasitology
- Practical skills II
- Practical skills III
- Virology
- b* Compulsory elective modules:
  - Modules as listed in the appendix
- c* Electives

#### PASS STANDARD

**Art. 17** <sup>1</sup> The bachelor's degree is passed if:

- a* all assignments pursuant to Articles 13 and 16 have been completed,
- b* all evaluations have been awarded at least a grade of 4.0 or "passed", and
- c* the ECTS credits are deemed applicable in terms of the crediting period in accordance with Article 9.

#### OVERALL GRADE

**Art. 18** <sup>1</sup> The overall grade for the degree program is determined by § 46 of the Study Regulations.

### **2. Master's degree program**

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Art. 19** <sup>1</sup> In addition to the general admission requirements for studying at the University of Bern, requirements for admission to the master's degree program are also met.

<sup>2</sup> The number of places available in the master's degree program is limited. Students who have successfully completed their bachelor's degree program at the University of Bern in the preceding semester are entitled to a place in the master's degree

program. Further details are set out in the Classification Regulations.

<sup>3</sup> The following academic qualifications entitle students to admission to the master's degree program:

- a* Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern or
- b* Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine UZH or
- c* degrees from foreign veterinary medicine faculties that have been recognized as equivalent by the faculty in general or by the Dean in individual cases.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

**Art. 20** <sup>1</sup> The degree program consists of the core study phase plus a special area:

1. Core studies
  - a* Compulsory modules:
    - Modules as listed in the appendix
    - Master's thesis
  - b* Compulsory elective modules:
    - Modules as listed in the appendix
    - External internships
  - c* Electives
2. Special area in accordance with Article 21
  - a* Compulsory elective modules:
    - Modules as listed in the appendix
    - Special area rotation

<sup>2</sup> The details are set out in the appendices.

## SPECIAL AREAS

**Art. 21** <sup>1</sup> The following special areas are available:

- a* Small animals
- b* Horses
- c* Farm animals
- d* Pathobiology
- e* Veterinary Public Health
- f* Biomedical research

<sup>2</sup> Once a special area has been selected, it cannot be replaced by another one.

<sup>3</sup> Evaluations in other courses or compulsory elective modules may be made a condition for the completion of a special area.

<sup>4</sup> The Dean's Office determines how the registration and allocation to the special areas take place.

AIM OF THE CORE ROTATIONS AND SPECIAL AREA ROTATIONS	<b>Art. 21a</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> The core and special area rotations are intended to introduce all students to the clinical activities in prescribed academic fields of veterinary medicine. Details are set out in the appendix.
DURATION, REQUIREMENTS, VACATION	<p><b>Art. 21b</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> <sup>1</sup> The core and special area rotations are spread over 17 calendar months in the third, fourth and fifth semester of the master's degree program.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> During the rotation period within the 17 calendar months, 16 weeks are reserved for individual work on the master's thesis and 12 weeks for external internships.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> The remaining time counts as vacation time.</p>
STANDARD WORKING HOURS	<p><b>Art. 21c</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> <sup>1</sup> The standard working time during rotations shall be 50 hours per week.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Students may participate in night shifts and weekend shifts with the option of time off in lieu.</p>
PLANNING ROTATIONS	<b>Art. 21d</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> All students are allocated rotation places in a given sequence. During the planning period in the second semester of the master's degree program, students have the opportunity to exchange rotations with each other. In doing so, the requirements of the plan of studies must be observed.
COMPENSATION	<p><b>Art. 21e</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> <sup>1</sup> There is no entitlement to a salary for rotations.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Students are not subject to the Ordinance on the Employment Relationship of Interns (Intern Ordinance, PAV) of the Canton of Bern.</p>
EVALUATIONS	<b>Art. 21f</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> Students are assessed continuously during the rotations. Specific evaluations are carried out for this purpose.
ABSENCES	<p><b>Art. 21g</b> <i>[Inserted on 07.07.22]</i> <sup>1</sup> Absences in core rotations and clinical rotation tracks are only permissible for good cause that cannot be postponed, in particular illness or accident.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Appropriate evidence (in particular a doctor's certificate) must be submitted for each absence.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> In the event of justified absences of up to ten percent of the required rotation duration, the employee may waive making up for the rotation.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Justified absences of up to 50% of the required rotation duration may be made up retrospectively.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> If verified absences exceed 50% of the required rotation duration, the respective rotation must be repeated. The plan of studies determines the retake.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Absences during external internships are governed by a leaflet on the plan of studies.</p>

## MASTER'S THESIS

**Art. 22** <sup>1</sup> The master's thesis is governed by Section 40 of the Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis is a distinct academic paper written independently by the student during their master's degree program. Further details are set out in the "Information sheet for students and supervisors on completing the master's thesis at the Vetsuisse Faculty in Bern and Zurich".

<sup>3</sup> Each master's thesis must be accompanied by a learning agreement between the student and their supervisors, setting out the topic and title of the master's thesis as well as details about the timing of the thesis (e.g. submission of a first draft of the thesis, definitive submission deadline, etc.). The submission deadlines set by the faculty remain reserved. The learning agreement must be concluded by the end of the first semester and submitted to the Dean's Office.

<sup>4</sup> The master's thesis is supervised by full and associate professors, assistant professors, associate professors, lecturers, assistant lecturers with tenure-track contracts, veterinary medicine consultants and postdoctoral researchers. The master's thesis committee (paragraph 7) monitors the quality of the master's theses and acts as an arbitration board in the event of problems.

<sup>5</sup> In the learning agreement, a co-supervisor is appointed in accordance with paragraph 4 who is also involved in the assessment of the final version of the master's thesis.

<sup>6</sup> The master's thesis committee consists of three members: one representative from each of the three departments of the campus faculty. It is self-constituting. The master's thesis committee is elected by the campus faculty.

INDEPENDENCE  
DECLARATION

**Art. 23** The master's thesis must include the following dated and signed declaration at the end of the thesis:

*"I hereby declare that I have written this thesis independently and that I have not used any sources other than those indicated. I have marked all passages taken verbatim or in essence from sources as such. I am aware that otherwise, pursuant to Article 36 (1) (r) of the Law of September 5, 1996 on the University, the Senate is entitled to revoke the title conferred on the basis of this thesis."*

APPRAISAL AND  
GRADING

**Art. 24** <sup>1</sup> The master's thesis must be submitted to the supervisor and co-supervisor within the deadline specified in the learning agreement. If the student fails to meet the deadline, the thesis is awarded a grade of 1.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis is assessed by the supervisor and co-supervisor with a grade in accordance with § 26 (2) of the Study Regulations. They agree on a grade.

<sup>3</sup> The master's thesis is credited only if the grade is satisfactory.

<sup>4</sup> If the grade for the master's thesis is insufficient, the master's thesis may be retaken once. To do this, a new master's thesis must be written on a new topic with different supervisors.

#### PASS STANDARD

**Art. 25** <sup>1</sup> The master's degree program is passed if:

- a all assignments pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 have been completed,
- b all evaluations have been awarded at least a grade of 4.0 or "passed",
- c the master's thesis has been awarded a grade of at least 4.0, and
- d the ECTS credits are deemed applicable in terms of the crediting period in accordance with Article 9.

#### OVERALL GRADE

**Art. 26** The overall grade for the degree program is determined by § 46 of the Study Regulations.

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### III. Legal protection

**Art. 27** The provisions of the Study Regulations apply.

### IV. Final provisions

#### MODIFICATIONS TO THE PLAN OF STUDIES

**Art. 28** Modifications to the plan of studies are subject to approval by the Vetsuisse Faculty.

#### ENTRY INTO FORCE

**Art. 29** This plan of studies enters into force on August 1, 2021.

Place,

On behalf of the Vetsuisse Faculty  
The Dean:

### Modifications

#### Entry into force

Amendment of July 8, 2021, entered into force on August 1, 2021

Amendment of July 7, 2022, entered into force on August 1, 2022

*This document is a translation and is intended for information purposes only. It is not legally binding. Consequently, in the event of any dispute over the interpretation of an Article, the text of the original German version always prevails.*

Appendices

Overview of the Bachelor degree program and evaluations (semesters 1-2)

Year	Evaluation	Module	ECTS	Subject	Type of evaluation	Semester	Grading	Type of module
1st year	1.1	Basic subjects of Natural Sciences	12	Chemistry, physics and radiation physics/general radiology	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
	1.2	Principles of morphology I	6	Anatomy locomotor system	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
	1.3	Principles of morphology II	11	Anatomy General histology and cytology Embryology Comparative morphology	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	1.4	Functional principles of veterinary medicine I	16	General pathology Biochemistry Classic genetics Molecular genetics Physiology Cell and molecular biology	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	1.5	Animal protection and welfare, animal ethology and husbandry	6	Animal protection Animal ethology Animal ethics Basics of herd health and population medicine	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	1.6	Training of practical skills I	5	Introduction to general surgery Introduction to hospital hygiene and safety aspects Introduction to teamwork, communication Handling of different animal species Demonstration of clinical cases	Portfolio	Fall/spring	Pass / fail	C
	1.7	Introduction to scientific work	1	Literature research Evidence based medicine	Portfolio	Spring	Pass / fail	C
	1.8	Compulsory elective modules	2	Digitalization Sustainability	Depending on the course	Spring	Pass / fail	CE
	1.9	Elective modules	1	Separate list of VSF elective courses or university-wide elective courses at the University of Bern	According to offering unit			E
	Total		60					

Key:

- Elective area mode: is regulated within the module
- C = Compulsory module
- CE = Compulsory elective module
- E = Elective module

Overview of the Bachelor degree program and evaluations (semesters 3-4)

Year	Evaluation	Module	ECTS	Subject	Type of evaluation	Semester	Grading	Type of module
2nd year	2.1	Organ-system-centered block: locomotor system	8	Clinical and organ-block-related subjects	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
	2.2	Organ-system-centered blocks: Blood, immune organs and laboratory medicine	5	Clinical and organ-block-related subjects	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
		Respiratory tract and circulatory system	11					
		Skin	4					
	2.3	Functional principles of veterinary medicine II	9	General pharmacology, toxicology General animal nutrition	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
				Biochemistry				
				Physiology Animal husbandry				
	2.4	Immunology and general infection biology	7	General infectiology General pathology Immunology	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	2.5	Bacteriology	5	General and specialized bacteriology	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	2.6	Training of practical skills II	7	General surgery Clinic days, practice days, paraclinic days Communication basis 1 Propaedeutics for various animal species Night and emergency services Skills Lab	Portfolio	Fall/spring	Pass / fail	C
	2.7	Herd health and population medicine I	1	Population-relevant animal species (bees, fish, pigs, ruminants, wild animals)	Oral/written individual examination	Spring	Pass / fail	C
Total		57						
<b>Key:</b> Elective area mode: is regulated within the module C = Compulsory module E = Elective module								

Overview of the Bachelor degree program and evaluations (semesters 5-6)

Year	Evaluation	Module	ECTS	Subject	Type of evaluation	Semester	Grading	Type of module
3rd year	3.1	Organ-system-centered block: Digestive tract Endocrinology, metabolism	10.5 3.5	Clinical and organ-block-related subjects	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
	3.2	Organ-system-centered block: salt, water balance Reproduction, mammary gland Nervous system, sense organs	6 8 7	Clinical and organ-block-related subjects	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	3.3	Virology*	5	Virology	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	3.4	Epidemiology and biostatistics*	3	Epidemiology Biostatistics	Oral examination	Fall	Pass / fail	C
	3.5	Food safety*	3	Food safety	Oral examination	Spring	Grade	C
	3.6	Training of practical skills III	9	Anatomy Professional knowledge Clinic days, paraclinic days Communication basis 2 Night and emergency services Propaedeutics for various animal species Skills Lab	OSPE***	Spring	Pass / fail	C
	3.7	Herd health and population medicine II	1	Population-relevant animal species (bees, fish, pigs, ruminants, wild animals)	Oral/written individual examination	Spring	Pass / fail	C
	3.8	Parasitology**	5	Parasitology	Oral examination	Fall	Grade	C
	3.9	Elective modules*	2	Separate list of VSF elective courses or university-wide elective courses at the University of Bern	According to offering unit			E
	Total		63					

Key:

- \* Modules that may already be started in the 2nd year
- \*\*Lecture begins with equivalent to 2 ETCS in 4th semester
- \*\*\*OSPE – Objective structured pre-clinical exam
- C = Compulsory module
- E = Elective module



Overview of the Master degree program and evaluations (Master semesters 1-2)

Year	Evaluation	Module	ECTS	Subject	Type of evaluation	Semester	Grading	Type of module
4th year	4.1	Specific topics in clinical sciences	9	Anesthesia Drug prescription Pets Clinical oncology Clinical pharmacology and toxicology Complementary medicine Specialized animal nutrition	Written individual examination	Fall	Grade	C
	4.2	Presenting problems (key symptoms)*	18	Acute abdomen Diarhea, vomiting Cough, dyspnea Lameness, ataxia Poor performance, seizures Polyuria, polydipsia, anuria Pruritus, alopecia Shock Clinical infectiology, immunology & immunoprophylaxis	Written individual examination	Spring	Grade	C
	4.3	Elective track	12	Biomedical research track Small animal medicine track Farm animal medicine track Pathobiology track Equine medicine track Veterinary Public Health track	Portfolio	Spring	Pass / fail	CE
	4.4	Veterinary Public Health, epizootic diseases, animal welfare	5	Animal disease control Animal welfare law	Oral examination	Fall	Grade	C
	4.5	Herd health and population medicine II	4	Population-relevant animal species (poultry, pigs, ruminants and other animal species)	Oral/written individual examination	Fall	Pass / fail	C
	4.6	Training of practical skills IV	7	Bacteriology internship Clinical days, practical days Communication 3 Night and emergency services Parasitology internship Pathology internship	Portfolio	Fall/spring	Pass / fail	C
	4.7	Compulsory elective modules	4	Separate list of VSF elective courses	Depending on the course		Pass / fail	CE
	4.8	Elective modules	1	Separate list of VSF elective courses or university-wide elective courses at the University of Bern	According to offering unit			E
	Total		60					
	<b>Key:</b> C = Compulsory module CE = Compulsory elective module E = Elective module * Non-exhaustive list							

Overview of the Master degree program and evaluations (Master semesters 3-5)

Year	Evaluation	Module	ECTS	Subject	Type of evaluation	Grading	Type of module
5th - 5.5th year	5.1	Core rotation* 1	9	Small animals, horses, farm animals, pathology	Oral examination	Pass / fail	C
	5.2	Core rotation* 2	9		Oral examination		C
	5.3	Core rotation* 3	9		Oral examination		C
	5.4	Supraspecies rotation	7	Anesthesiology, dermatology, neurology, radiology	Portfolio	Pass / fail	C
	5.5	Clinical rotation track**	20	Small animals, horses, farm animals, pathology, VPH, biomedical research	Oral examination	Pass / fail	CE
	5.6	External internships	15	Master's thesis Laboratory animals Data collection, analysis, scientific work	Portfolio	Pass / fail	CE
	5.7	Master's thesis	20		Written/oral presentation	Grade	C
	5.8	Professional knowledge	1	Business management, economics, legislation	Portfolio	Pass / fail	C
	Total		90				

Key:

\* Core rotation includes the subjects that are not selected as clinical rotation track

\*\* Rotation tracks VPH and biomedical research include the core pathology rotation

C = Compulsory module

CE = Compulsory elective module

## 2.3 Studienordnung Zurich



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

**Vetsuisse Faculty**

### **Academic Regulations for the bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich**

#### **1. General provisions**

##### **§ 1 Subject matter**

<sup>1</sup> These Academic Regulations govern the bachelor's and master's degree programs as mono study programs of the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich (UZH).

<sup>2</sup> The Academic Regulations are made up of a general section and the appendices. The general section governs aspects that pertain to all study programs whereas the appendices govern aspects that are specific to certain study programs.

<sup>3</sup> Further information regarding the study programs may be published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

#### **2. Studies**

##### **1. Section: General information regarding studies**

##### **§ 2 Study programs**

<sup>1</sup> The bachelor's degree program consists of a mono study program.

<sup>2</sup> The master's degree program consists of a mono study program.

<sup>3</sup> The structure of the study programs as well as the prerequisites for participating in the study programs are set forth in the appendices to these Academic Regulations. These define the standard curricula for the study programs, the corresponding modules and what they are worth in ECTS credits.

<sup>4</sup> Each program begins in the fall semester.

##### **§ 3 Admission requirements for the master's program**

Please see the appendix of these Academic Regulations for information regarding the admission requirements for the consecutive master's program.

##### **§ 4 Requirements and conditions**

<sup>1</sup> Requirements or conditions may be imposed for admission to the master's program offered by the Vetsuisse Faculty. Based on the professional requirements profile, any missing knowledge is identified and the requirements or conditions issued.

<sup>2</sup> The module type and, if applicable, modalities and deadlines of the modules to be completed as requirements or conditions for admission will be stipulated together with the admission.

<sup>3</sup> If a module stipulated as being a requirement or condition for admission is definitively failed or if the deadline set at the time of admission is not met, a final rejection will be issued.

<sup>4</sup> The final rejection will trigger a ban in accordance with section 3:

- a. for the bachelor's program for which the definitively failed module constitutes a mandatory module;
- b. for the corresponding master's program for which the module was stipulated as a condition or requirement.

## **§ 5 Process for disabled students**

<sup>1</sup> In order to initiate the semester-by-semester process for measures aimed at compensating for disadvantages, the students must submit a request to the Disability Office. A medical certificate must be presented at such time that verifies the existence of a chronic illness or disability. The students are urged to contact the Disability Office at an early point in time.

<sup>2</sup> The Disability Office will determine whether the chronic illness or disability documented by the medical certificate is relevant to the studies and propose compensatory measures.

<sup>3</sup> The student must submit the request for semester-by-semester compensatory measures to the Office of the Dean of Studies of the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich. The findings of the Disability Office must be enclosed with the request. Requests regarding measures related to course attendance must be submitted as early as possible. Requests regarding measures related to evaluations must usually be submitted at least four weeks prior to the date on which the requested measure is to be applied. In the case of dates related to evaluations or partial evaluations that are announced at very short notice, the deadline is shortened accordingly.

<sup>4</sup> The Dean of Studies decides whether any compensatory measures will be granted and, if so, how they will be structured. In case of doubt, they will consult the Disability Office before making a decision.

## **§ 6 Publication with requirements**

<sup>1</sup> Work done by students may be published in consultation with the module supervisor.

<sup>2</sup> In consultation with the supervisor, it is possible to publish the master's thesis either in part or in full even prior to the submission deadline for the master's thesis.

<sup>3</sup> Publication may be made subject to requirements. Specifically, one requirement could be the elimination of any information suggesting that the work was prepared at UZH.

## **§ 7 Plagiarism check**

<sup>1</sup> The lecturers supervising the work are responsible for using software to check students' work for plagiarism.

<sup>2</sup> A plagiarism check must be performed on master's theses stored on ZORA.

## § 8 Academic misconduct – procedure

<sup>1</sup> If academic misconduct is suspected, the student in question will be given an opportunity to make a statement during a legal hearing.

<sup>2</sup> If the suspicion of academic misconduct is confirmed, the next steps shall be governed by the *Academic Misconduct* regulation in accordance with the regulations regarding studies in bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty (Study Regulations).

## § 9 Calculating the period of study <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> When calculating the period of study, the only semesters counted are those semesters for which the student is registered at UZH. Counting stops at the time of each deregistration. Counting resumes in the event of re-registration.

<sup>2</sup> If an individual plan of studies is drawn up in accordance with § 13 of the Study Regulations, this is used to structure the studies going forward. If a request is made to extend the period of study, the plan of studies has no influence over any decision made in this regard.

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## § 10 Request to extend the period of study<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Requests for a two-semester extension to the period of study must be submitted to the Dean of Studies via the digital infrastructure of the UZH within 30 days of the receipt of the final transcript of records.

<sup>2</sup> The request must contain a justification. The student must explain the good cause that prevented him or her from completing the bachelor's or master's degree program within twelve semesters.

<sup>3</sup> In particular, good cause could include approved vacation-related absences within the meaning of the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich.

<sup>4</sup> For every further request for an extension of the period of study, the student must provide evidence of good cause that also prevented him or her from completing the degree within the extended period.

## 2. Section: Modules

### § 11 Module supervisor

<sup>1</sup> Module supervisors are appointed by the faculty.

<sup>2</sup> Module supervisors plan and coordinate the respective module and are also responsible for the module's evaluation. They can also be assisted by lecturers.

<sup>3</sup> They plan the respective module in consultation with the director of the study program. The director defines its content and formal conditions.

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<sup>1</sup> This paragraph will only become legally valid upon the entry into force of the corresponding paragraphs of the Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> Ditto.

## § 12 Module prerequisites

<sup>1</sup> Module prerequisites can be defined for booking a module including, in particular, previously passed modules or knowledge acquired; such prerequisites must be met prior to booking the module.

<sup>2</sup> The number of participants in a module may be limited or participation may be reserved for a specific target group. In particular, a restriction or a combination of restrictions may apply

- a. for didactic reasons or
- b. for capacity-related

reasons.

<sup>3</sup> Criteria governing participation in modules with participation restrictions and on the procedure used for allocating module places are announced in an appropriate manner.

## § 13 Registering for and deregistering from modules

<sup>1</sup> Modules are booked via the electronic infrastructure intended for that purpose. Details will be published in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> Special registration processes may apply for the following in particular:

- a. registration for / deregistration from a master's thesis
- b. registration for / deregistration from examinations
- c. rotations
- d. internships

<sup>3</sup> Module deregistration must take place before the deadline. Students must deregister via the electronic infrastructure intended for that purpose. The deregistration deadline will be published in a suitable manner.

<sup>4</sup> The deregistration from a module after the module cancellation deadline will trigger an error message

*[Version from July 7, 2022]*

## § 14 Repeating modules / evaluations

<sup>1</sup> The faculty will announce in a suitable manner whether the entire module or only the module's evaluation must be repeated.

<sup>2</sup> If either of these must be repeated, it must be re-booked.

## § 15 Clinical Emergency Service *[Version from July 7, 2022]*

<sup>1</sup> The students provide clinical emergency services in accordance with the study program. They support the staff in the clinics and take an active part in evening and emergency shifts.

<sup>2</sup> The "Night shifts and weekend shifts" module in the first year of the master's program must be completed in full. Students who drop the module with a valid excuse must make up for any hours they missed in order to receive the ECTS credits.

<sup>3</sup> In the first year of their master's program, students may be scheduled to work until 11 p.m., on weekends, on holidays and during semester breaks.

<sup>4</sup> In particular, the "Night shifts and weekend shifts" module is considered to have been failed if

- the student fails to work the shift;
- the student terminates the shift early without a valid excuse;
- the student fails to follow rules of hygiene when working the shift;
- the student fails to achieve the learning objectives.

The failed module must be repeated in full.

<sup>5</sup> The Clinical Emergency Services during the rotations must be completed in accordance with the program. Students may be scheduled to work at night, on weekends, on holidays and during semester breaks.

<sup>5</sup> The Clinical Emergency Services during the rotations will be included in the grading of the clinical modules in which they are integrated.

## **§ 16 Master's thesis mandatory module**

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<sup>1</sup> The master's thesis is a distinct academic paper written independently by the student during their master's degree program.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis is worth 20 ECTS credits, which corresponds to around 600 hours of work.

<sup>3</sup> The faculty publishes information about the master's thesis in a suitable manner, especially in a leaflet.

## **§ 17 Supervision of the master's thesis**

<sup>1</sup> Supervision may be done by professors, assistant professors, lecturers, assistant lecturers with tenure-track contracts, senior physicians of veterinary medicine, postdocs as well as senior teaching research assistants of the Vetsuisse faculty of the universities of Bern and Zurich.

<sup>2</sup> The supervisor may bring in additional supervisors who hold a PhD and have experience as independent researchers.

<sup>3</sup> In principle, a master's thesis may be supervised by an external party in consultation with the respective departmental representative. Both the external as well as the internal supervisor must be listed as the supervisors.

## **§ 18 Co-supervisor for a master's thesis**

<sup>1</sup> A co-supervisor can be appointed to assess and grade the master's thesis.

<sup>2</sup> The role of co-supervisor can be taken over by individuals from the group of people specified in § 17(1).

<sup>3</sup> If the supervisor (main supervisor in accordance with § 17) does not have a post-doctoral lecturing qualification (habilitation) or the equivalent thereof, this qualification must be held by the co-supervisor.

## § 19 Master's thesis committee

- <sup>1</sup> The faculty employs a master's thesis committee.
- <sup>2</sup> The master's thesis committee has four members: two representatives from the institute of veterinary science, one member of the faculty's clinical institute and one student representative. *[Version from July 7, 2022]*
- <sup>3</sup> The master's thesis committee shall constitute itself.
- <sup>4</sup> The master's thesis committee monitors the quality of master's theses and adopts quality assurance measures.
- <sup>5</sup> The master's thesis committee serves as a conciliation board if problems arise between students and supervisors.

## § 20 Master's thesis agreement

The student and supervisor sign an agreement (learning agreement) before work on the master's thesis commences. This agreement defines many aspects of the master's thesis, including the following in particular:

- a. topic, title, objectives and contents
- b. timeframe (e.g. submission of a first draft of the work, final submission date, subject to fixed submission dates set by the faculty)
- c. appointment of a co-supervisor

## § 21 Assessment and grading of the master's thesis

The master's thesis is assessed and graded by the supervisor and co-supervisor. The master's thesis grade is the average of both grades.

## § 22 Repeating the master's thesis

- <sup>1</sup> If the master's thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", a new master's thesis about a new topic may be written under another supervisor; this may only be done once.
- <sup>2</sup> If the new master's thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", the master's thesis shall be deemed to have been definitively failed and the student will be dismissed permanently from the degree program.

## 3. Section: Evaluations

### § 23 General information regarding evaluations

- <sup>1</sup> To pass a module, the student must successfully pass the corresponding evaluation.
- <sup>2</sup> In the case of evaluations consisting of multiple parts, compensation options can be planned for the failed portions of the partial evaluations.



## § 24 Conducting evaluations

<sup>1</sup> The type, format and scope of the evaluations is published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> The respective module supervisor and the director of the study program are responsible for conducting evaluations.

<sup>3</sup> Deviations with respect to the time, format and scope of evaluations can be defined for exchange students.

## § 25 Absence, interruptions – evaluations

If, during an evaluation, a student is prevented from sitting the evaluation or if the examination has already begun but must be interrupted, it must be repeated at the next possible date or, in the case of partial examinations, continued at the next possible date.

## § 26 Language used in evaluations

<sup>1</sup> As a rule, evaluations are carried out and completed in the language in which the corresponding course is taught.

<sup>2</sup> Exceptions for oral examinations are subject to the prior approval of the Dean of Studies and the examiner. Students must submit requests to this effect to the Dean of Studies at least four weeks prior to the examination.

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## § 27 Evaluation type: Portfolio

<sup>1</sup> A portfolio is comprised of several similar or different assignments for which the grades can be weighted differently. The individual results of these assignments will be pooled and included in the calculation of the overall results in accordance with their individual weights. The transcript of records will only show the overall results.

<sup>2</sup> Failure to pass one single assignment will not result in the student being excluded from the module or performing further assignments in the portfolio.

## § 28 Exclusion from studies

A student may be excluded from their course of study after the end of the semester in which they definitively failed their evaluation. Final rejection and a ban will enter into effect at the end of the objection period applicable for the academic work indicated in the most recent transcript of records.

## 4. Section: Accreditation and recognition

### § 29 Recognition of academic work performed outside the university

<sup>1</sup> Students must submit any requests to have academic work performed outside the university recognized to the Dean of Studies. The deadline is published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> Recognition is possible if

a. the academic work is equivalent to the academic work to be performed at the Vetsuisse Faculty;

b. the academic work is not older than six years. An exception can be made from the requirements in b) for academic work that culminated in a different degree; recognition is possible in this case.

<sup>3</sup> Only modules worth more than 2 ECTS credits will be recognized during the assessment year. *[Version from July 7, 2022]*

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### § 30 Recognition of academic work performed during a student exchange program

<sup>1</sup> A recognition agreement is to be arranged with the director of the study program prior to performing any academic work outside the university.

<sup>2</sup> The recognition agreement must be documented in writing and signed by the director of the study program.

### § 31 Temporary recognition of ECTS credits

<sup>1</sup> Only ECTS credits earned within the past six years can be credited to the respective degree. Reference dates for the six-year recognition deadline are the day of registration for the degree and the last day of the semester in which the relevant ECTS credit was earned. If processes are pending pursuant to §§ 9 or 10, these shall not have any impact on the calculation specified in sentence 2.

<sup>2</sup> If requested by the student in justified cases, the director of the study program may extend the expiration period for recognizing ECTS credits.

<sup>3</sup> Modules whose ECTS credits lapse because the recognition period has been exceeded are deemed to have been definitively failed and cannot be repeated.

## 5. Section: Graduation

### § 32 Registration for the degree

The degree can be requested once the requisite number of ECTS credits has been earned. Students register for the degree via the electronic infrastructure of the University of Zurich.

The Vetsuisse Faculty sets one PhD conferral date per study program per semester. Students who submit their degrees at a later date will receive their degree in the semester that follows.  
[Version from July 7, 2022]

Issued by the Vetsuisse Faculty Assembly on November 25, 2020.

Changes approved by the Vetsuisse Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022

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Appendix to the Academic Regulations: Bachelor's degree  
Appendix to the Academic Regulations: Master's degree

*This document is a translation and is intended for information purposes only. It is not legally binding. Consequently, in the event of any dispute over the interpretation of an Article, the text of the original German version always prevails.*

## Appendix to the Academic Regulations

### Veterinary Medicine

Level of study: Bachelor

Program format: Mono study program, 180

degree: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine UZH

### General information

The bachelor's degree program is a three-year course of studies worth 180 ECTS credits. The degree program has a year-based structure. 60 ECTS credits must be earned per year of study. To be admitted to the next-higher year of study, the student must have passed all evaluations scheduled for the previous year to ensure that they have the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to advance to the next level of the modular degree program.

### Admission requirements

Admission is governed by the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich dated August 27, 2018 (OAS) and the Ordinance on Restrictions on Admission to the University of Zurich's Medical Degree Programs dated April 8, 2020 (VZMS).

### Combination bans

The bachelor's study program "Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine" cannot be combined with other mono study programs of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Zurich.

### Plan of studies

#### Program structure – requirements to pass – academic work

In order to pass the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine mono study program, the student must earn 180 ECTS credits from the study program. The modules to be completed are defined in the study program and must be completed in a specific order. During the second year of study (postgraduate level), predefined modules (VZ) from the third year of study can be completed early.

<b>Curriculum for the 1st Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Introduction to Veterinary Activities, External Clinic Days	2 ECTS credits	C
Introduction to Cells and Tissue	13 ECTS credits	C
Practicals, Trainings and Courses	2 ECTS credits	C
Foundations of Structure and Function	20 ECTS credits	C
Physics, Chemistry for Veterinarians	10 ECTS credits	C
Animal Protection, Ethology, Animal Husbandry, Genetics, Animal Breeding	10 ECTS credits	C
Elective modules	3 ECTS credits	E

<b>Curriculum for the 2nd Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Bacteriology, Parasitology	5 ECTS credits	C
Biochemistry	4 ECTS credits	C
Feed Science, Animal Nutrition	4 ECTS credits	C
General Pathology	3 ECTS credits	C
Bacteriology, Immunology	5 ECTS credits	C
Vetsuisse Clinic Days, Communication	2 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Locomotor System	9 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Blood, Immune Organs, Laboratory Medicine	5 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Skin	3 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Heart, Circulation, Respiration	12 ECTS credits	C
Pharmacology and Toxicology	2 ECTS credits	C
Propaedeutics, Surgery, Infection Prevention and Control	4 ECTS credits	C

<b>Curriculum for the 3rd Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Anatomy and Propaedeutics, Practical	6 ECTS credits	C
Epidemiology, Biostatistics	3 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Food safety	3 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Organ system module Endocrinology, Metabolism	3 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Reproductive Organs, Mammary Gland	8 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Kidney, Salt- / Water Balance	7 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Digestion	11 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module CNS, Sensory Organs	7 ECTS credits	C
Parasitology, Virology	10 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Everyday Practice, Communication, Vetsuisse Clinic Days	4 ECTS credits	C, VZ

### Entry into effect and validity

This appendix to the Academic Regulations enter into effect on August 1, 2022. It applies to all students starting the program specified above on August 1, 2022, or later.

Issued by the Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022.

### Key

C: Compulsory module

CE: Compulsory elective module

E: Elective module

VZ: Modules that can be completed early in accordance with § 37 of the Study Regulations

## Appendix to the Academic Regulations

### Veterinary Medicine

Level of study: Master

Program format: Mono study program, 150

degree: Master of Veterinary Medicine UZH

### General information

The master's degree program is a five-semester degree program worth 150 ECTS credits.

The degree program has a year-based or semester-based structure. 60 ECTS credits must be earned per year of study. To advance from the first year of study to the practical semesters, the student must have passed all evaluations scheduled for the first year of study.

### Admission requirements

Admission is governed by the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich dated August 27, 2018 (OAS) and the Ordinance on Restrictions on Admission to the University of Zurich's Medical Degree Programs dated April 8, 2020 (VZMS).

A Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree worth 180 ECTS credits is a prerequisite for admission.

### Combination bans

The study program "Master of Veterinary Medicine" cannot be combined with other mono study programs of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Zurich.

### Plan of studies

#### Program structure – requirements to pass – academic work

In order to pass the Master of Veterinary Medicine mono study program, the student must earn 150 ECTS credits from the study program. The modules to be completed are defined in the study program and must be completed in a specific order.

In the first year of the master's study program, students select one of six majors (compulsory optional module). The modules to be completed during the practical semester are determined based on the major selected.

<b>Curriculum for the 1st Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Obstetrics and Neonatology	2 ECTS credits	C
Poultry, Bees, Wild Fish, Zoo Animals, Domestic Animals	5 ECTS credits	C
Applied Infection Biology	2 ECTS credits	C
Clinical Topics, Clinical Practice, Dissection Course	6 ECTS credits	C
Communication	1 ECTS credit	C
Main symptoms	18 ECTS credits	C
Night Shifts, Weekend Shifts	2 ECTS credits	C
Prophylactic Measures and Livestock Medicine	4 ECTS credits	C
Focus on Biomedical Research	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Small Animals	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Farm Animals (+ agricultural internship)	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Pathobiology	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Horses	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on VPH	12 ECTS credits	CE
Special Animal Feed	3 ECTS credits	C
Animal Protection Topics, Epizootic Disease Control and Law Studies	5 ECTS credits	C
<b>Curriculum for practical semesters 3-5</b>		

External internships	15 ECTS credits	C
Master's Thesis, Practice Management	20 ECTS credits	C
Rotations in the core curriculum: small animals, farm animals, horses, clinical services, pathology	35 ECTS credits	C
Rotations in the focus curriculum: biomed. research, small animals, farm animals, pathobiology, horses, VPH	20 ECTS credits	CE

### Entry into effect and validity

This appendix to the Academic Regulations enter into effect on August 1, 2022. Issued by the Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022.

### Key

C: Compulsory module  
CE: Compulsory elective module  
E: Elective module

## Appendix 3: List of EAEVE indicators



Name of the VEE:		Vetsuisse Faculty University of Bern				
Date of the form filling:		31.01.24				
Calculated Indicators from raw data			VEE values	Median values <sup>1</sup>	Minimal values <sup>2</sup>	Balance <sup>3</sup>
I1	n° of FTE teaching staff involved in veterinary training / n° of undergraduate students		0.486	0.15	0.13	0.360
I2	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		1.672	0.84	0.63	1.042
I3	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		3.285	0.88	0.54	2.745
I4	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training		933.000	953.50	700.59	232.410
I5	n° of hours of Core Clinical Training (CCT)		1324.000	941.58	704.80	619.200
I6	n° of hours of VPH (including FSQ) training		143.000	293.50	191.80	-48.800
I7	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in VPH (including FSQ)		160.000	75.00	31.80	128.200
I8	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		199.014	67.37	44.01	155.004
I9	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		73.047	18.75	9.74	63.307
I10	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		42.757	5.96	2.15	40.607
I11	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually		0.142	3.11	1.16	-1.018
I12	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds / n° of students graduating annually		21.493	1.29	0.54	20.953
I13	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units / n° of students graduating annually		0.054	0.11	0.04	0.009
I14	n° of companion animal necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		4.527	2.11	1.40	3.127
I15	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		9.365	1.36	0.90	8.465
I16	n° of equine necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		1.682	0.18	0.10	1.582
I17	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies / n° of students graduating annually		12.797	2.65	0.88	11.917
I18	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually		1.139	0.27	0.06	1.079
I19	n° of PhD graduating annually / n° of students graduating annually		1.108	0.15	0.07	1.038
1	Median values defined by data from VEEs with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
2	Recommended minimal values calculated as the 20th percentile of data from VEEs with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
3	A negative balance indicates that the Indicator is below the recommended minimal value					
*	Indicators used only for statistical purpose					



## ESEVT Indicators

Name of the VEE:		Vetsuisse Faculty University of Zurich				
Date of the form filling:		31.01.24				
Calculated Indicators from raw data						
		VEE values	Median values <sup>1</sup>	Minimal values <sup>2</sup>	Balance <sup>3</sup>	
I1	n° of FTE teaching staff involved in veterinary training / n° of undergraduate students	0.815	0.15	0.13	0.689	
I2	n° of FTE veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	3.261	0.84	0.63	2.631	
I3	n° of FTE support staff involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	2.684	0.88	0.54	2.144	
I4	n° of hours of practical (non-clinical) training	817.000	953.50	700.59	116.410	
I5	n° of hours of Core Clinical Training (CCT)	1371.000	941.58	704.80	666.200	
I6	n° of hours of VPH (including FSQ) training	143.000	293.50	191.80	-48.800	
I7	n° of hours of extra-mural practical training in VPH (including FSQ)	160.000	75.00	31.80	128.200	
I8	n° of companion animal patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	393.821	67.37	44.01	349.811	
I9	n° of individual ruminants and pig patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	149.902	18.75	9.74	140.162	
I10	n° of equine patients seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	66.324	5.96	2.15	64.174	
I11	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic seen intra-murally and extra-murally / n° of students graduating annually	44.555	3.11	1.16	43.395	
I12	n° of visits to ruminant and pig herds / n° of students graduating annually	1.578	1.29	0.54	1.038	
I13	n° of visits of poultry and farmed rabbit units / n° of students graduating annually	0.040	0.11	0.04	-0.004	
I14	n° of companion animal necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	5.509	2.11	1.40	4.109	
I15	n° of ruminant and pig necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	13.451	1.36	0.90	12.551	
I16	n° of equine necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	2.318	0.18	0.10	2.218	
I17	n° of rabbit, rodent, bird and exotic pet necropsies / n° of students graduating annually	6.405	2.65	0.88	5.525	
I18	n° of FTE specialised veterinarians involved in veterinary training / n° of students graduating annually	1.488	0.27	0.06	1.428	
I19	n° of PhD graduating annually / n° of students graduating annually	1.058	0.15	0.07	0.988	
1	Median values defined by data from VEEs with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
2	Recommended minimal values calculated as the 20th percentile of data from VEEs with Accreditation/Approval status in May 2019					
3	A negative balance indicates that the Indicator is below the recommended minimal value					
*	Indicators used only for statistical purpose					

## Appendix 4: Stations Skills lab

Skills Lab: actual stations					
Bern					
Year	Modul	Discipline	Station	Location	Status
1	Practical skills 1				
		General surgery	General Surgery Instrumentation	Länggasse 122	in use
			Hospital hygiene and safety	Länggasse 122	in use
		Basic science	Microscopy	Länggasse 122	in use
		Handling and restrain	Putting on a rope halter in cattle	Länggasse 122	in use
2	Practical skills 2				
		General surgery	Surgical sutures	Länggasse 122	in use
			Preparation of the surgical team	Länggasse 122	in use
			Instrumentation	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
		Basic clinical skills	Placement of a peripheravenous catheter	Länggasse 122	in use
			Infusion set and three-way stopcock	Länggasse 122	in use
			Infosomat anschliessen und einrichten	Länggasse 122	under construction
			Injection in pigs	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Multiple injections	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Sanitary lock	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Zootechnical measures in pigs	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Calculation of medication/treatment plan	Länggasse 122	in use
			Nasal swab in pigs	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Steril milk sample, CMT	Länggasse 122	in use
			BZ-Messung	Länggasse 122	under construction
		Interprofessional communication	Handover	Länggasse 122	in use
			Creating a treatment plan and drug prescription	Länggasse 122	in use
			Introducun in the clinical information system Polypoint	Länggasse 122	in use
2	Blood/ immune organs				
		Laboratory medicine	Hematocrit, total protein and blood smear	Länggasse 122	in use
			Venipuncture in horses and small animals	Länggasse 122	in use
		Musculoskeletal system	Application of a high wound dressing in horses	Länggasse 122	in use
		Cardiovascular	ECG analysis and interpretations small animal	Länggasse 122	in use
3	Urinary system				
		Internal Medicine	Urinary bladder puncture in small animal	Länggasse 122	in use
			Catheterization of a female dog	Länggasse 122	in use
		Digestive system	Placement of a nasogastric tube in a horse	Länggasse 122	in use
		Fertility	Touching farm animals	Länggasse 122	in use
			Cow model palpation	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Sperm handling	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Insemination of a cow	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Pregnancy examination	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Dystocia	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
			Birth in pigs	Bremgartenstr. 107	in use
4	Practical skills 4				
		Parasitology	Parasitological diagnostic methods	Länggasse 122	in use
		Anesthesiology	Preparation and control of the anesthesia machine	Länggasse 122	in use
			Preparation material and medication	Länggasse 122	in use
			Induction of anesthesia dog	Länggasse 122	in use
			Intubation of a cat	Länggasse 122	in use

Zurich					
Year	Modul	Animal	Station	Location	Status
1	Foundation of Anatomy	equine	applied anatomy - equine orthopaedic examination	TAS 01.00	in use
2	Blood, Laboratory Medicine, Immune System	comprehensive	laboratory diagnostics - preanalytics	TAS 01.00	in use
		comprehensive	laboratory diagnostics - haematology	TAS 01.00	in use
		equine	injection techniques and blood withdrawal - equine	TAS 01.00	in use
		zoo animal	blood withdrawal - rabbit ear	TAS 01.00	in use
		small animal	blood withdrawal - small animal	TAS 01.00	in use
		small animal	intravenous cannulation - small animal	TAS 01.00	in use
	Locomotor System	small animal	bandages - small animal	TAS 01.00	under construction
		equine	bandages - equine	TAS 01.00	in use
	Pharmacology and Toxicology	comprehensive	medicaments	TAS 01.00	in use
	Propaedeutics	equine	halter placement	TAS 01.00	in use
		swine	injection techniques and blood withdrawal - porcine	TAS 01.00	under construction
	Surgery, general	equine/small animal	surgical suture techniques - small animal	TAS 01.00	under construction
		zoo animal	surgical suture techniques - zoo animal	TAS 01.00	in use
		equine/small animal	scrubbing in / patient preparation	TAS 01.00	in use
		equine/small animal	surgical instruments	TAS 01.00	under construction
2 & 3	Parasitology	comprehensive	laboratory diagnostics - parasitology	TAS 01.00	in use
3	Gastrointestinal System	equine	equine peritoneal centesis	TAS 01.00	in use
		equine	nasogastric intubation - equine	TAS 01.00	in use
		equine	rectalisation - equine	TAS 01.00	in use
	Kidneys, Fluid and Electrolyte Balance	equine	urinary catheterisation - mare	TAS 01.00	in use
		small animal	urinary catheterisation - bitch	TAS 01.00	under construction
	Reproduction, Mammary Gland	farm animal	gynecology - cattle	Alter Strickhof	in use
		farm animal	gynecology - mare	Alter Strickhof	in use
4	Anesthesiology	comprehensive	anaesthesia machine	TAS 01.00	in use
		comprehensive	anaesthesia monitoring and simulation	TAS 01.00	under construction
		small animal	Intubation of dog and cat	TAS 01.00	in use
	Obstetrics, Neonatology	farm animal	obstetrics - cattle	Alter Strickhof	in use

## Appendix 5: Glossary

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Abbreviations	
AAQ	Swiss Agency of Accreditation and Quality Assurance
ABVS	American Board of Veterinary Specialties
API	Animal Protection Index
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CTS	Core Teaching System (University of Bern)
DCR-VPH	Department of Clinical Research and Veterinary Public Health
DCVS	Department of Clinical Veterinary Science
DIP	Department of Infectious Diseases and Pathobiology
DOPS	Direct Observation on Procedural Skills
EAEVE	European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education
EBVS	European Board of Veterinary Specialisation
ECTS	European Credit Transfer System
EPA	Entrustable Professional Activity
EPASS	E-Portfolio
EPT	External Practical Training
ESEVT	European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training
ESG	Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area
FIWI	Institute for Fish and Wildlife Health
FOAG	Federal Office for Agriculture
FOEN	Federal Office for the Environment
FOPH	Federal Office of Public Health
FSO	Federal Statistical Office
FSVO	Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (German: BLV)
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
FTVT	Additional training for the dispensing of medicinal products by veterinarians (training offered by the FSVO, organised by the VSF)
FVH	Foederatio Veterinariorum Helveticorum (national specialisation for veterinarians)
GST	Swiss Society of Veterinarians (Gesellschaft Schweizer Tierärzte)
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Air filters
ILIAS	Local Learning Platform (University Bern)
IML	Institute for Medical Education (University of Bern)
IPA	Institute of Parasitology (Bern)
IPVZ	Institute for Veterinary Pathology (Zurich)
ISME	Swiss Institute of Equine Medicine (Bern)
ITPA	Institute of Animal Pathology (Bern)
IVB	Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology (Bern)
IVI	Institute of Virology and Immunology (Bern)
KANG	Committee for Young Academics and Equality (Bern)
LOOOP	Learning Opportunities, Objectives and Outcomes Platform (Zurich)
MEBEKO	Medical Professions Commission
MedBG	Medical Profession Act (MedPA, Medizinalberufegesetz, MedBG)
mini-CEX	clinical exams
OLAT	Online Learning and Training (University of Zurich)
OSCE	Objective Structured Clinical Examination
OSPE	Objective Structured Pre-clinical Examination

PDCA	Plan-Do-Check-Act
QA	Quality Assurance
QM	Quality Management
QMSL	Quality Management Education and Teaching (University of Zurich)
SAC	Swiss Accreditation Council
SER	Self Evaluation Report
SERI	State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
UniBE	University of Bern
UZH	University of Zurich
VEE	Veterinary Education Establishment
VET-PROFILES	Veterinary-Principal Relevant Objectives and a Framework for Integrative Learning and Education in Switzerland
VPH	Veterinary Public Health
VSF	Vetuisse Faculty
VTH	Veterinary Teaching Hospital
VVZ	Course Catalogue Zurich
WBA	Workplace-based assessment

## Appendix 6: List of Links

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What	Link	Language	Last visite
MedPA /MedBG	SR 811.11 - Bundesgesetz vom 23. Juni 2006 über ...   Fedlex (admin.ch)	DE / FR / IT	3/15/2024
VET-PROFILES	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/VET-PROFILES_englisch_final.pdf">https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/VET-PROFILES_englisch_final.pdf</a>	EN	3/8/2024
Vetsuisse Faculty	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.ch/en/">https://www.vetsuisse.ch/en/</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Vetsuisse Faculty uni BE	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/index_eng.html">https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Vetsuisse Faculty UZH	<a href="https://www.vet.uzh.ch/en.html">https://www.vet.uzh.ch/en.html</a>	DE	3/8/2024
Organizational Chart uni BE	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/organizational_chart/index_eng.html">https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/organizational_chart/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Swiss Society of Veterinarians (GST) - homepage	<a href="https://www.gstsvs.ch/de/">https://www.gstsvs.ch/de/</a>	DE / FR	3/8/2024
SERI	<a href="https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home.html">https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home.html</a>	DE / EN / FR / IT	3/15/2024
VSF study regulations	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2020-12-11_Studienreglement_Vetsuisse_def_en.pdf">https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2020-12-11_Studienreglement_Vetsuisse_def_en.pdf</a>	EN	3/8/2024
Studienplan BE	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2022-07-07_SP-Vetmed_zusammengesetzte-Version_def_en_inkl_Anhaenge.pdf">https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2022-07-07_SP-Vetmed_zusammengesetzte-Version_def_en_inkl_Anhaenge.pdf</a>	EN	3/8/2024
Studienordnung ZH	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2022-07-07_Studienordnung_Vetmed-ZH_en.pdf">https://www.vetsuisse.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2022-07-07_Studienordnung_Vetmed-ZH_en.pdf</a>	EN	3/25/2024
Institutional Accreditation Bern	University: Institutional Accreditation - University of Bern (unibe.ch)	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Institutional Accreditation Zurich	Accreditation 2022   Accreditation 2022   UZH	DE	3/8/2024
The Guild	International partnerships: The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities - University of Bern Internationals (unibe.ch)	EN	3/8/2024
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office /FSVO	<a href="https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home.html">https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home.html</a>	DE / EN / FR / IT	3/8/2024
Federal Statistical Office	<a href="https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home.html">https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home.html</a>	DE / EN / FR / IT	3/8/2024
Prüfungsverordnung MedBG	SR 811.113.3 - Verordnung vom 26. November 2008 ...   Fedlex (admin.ch)	DE / FR / IT	3/15/2024
Prüfungsformenverordnung	SR 811.113.32 - Verordnung des EDI vom 1. Juni 2...   Fedlex (admin.ch)	DE / FR / IT	3/15/2024
Website Vetsuisse Documents	Documents - Vetsuisse Faculty Bern and Zurich	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Interkantonaies Konkordat	06_398-3.pdf (vetsuisse.ch)	DE	3/8/2024
IQUL	<a href="https://www.q-exam.net/en/">https://www.q-exam.net/en/</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
datacollections database of the canton of Bern	<a href="https://www.dsa.be.ch/de/start/dienstleistungen/register-datensammlungen.html">https://www.dsa.be.ch/de/start/dienstleistungen/register-datensammlungen.html</a>	DE / FR	3/8/2024
FOPH	<a href="https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/de/home/zahlen-und-statistiken/statistiken-berufe-im-gesundheitswesen/statistiken-medizinalberufe1.html">https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/de/home/zahlen-und-statistiken/statistiken-berufe-im-gesundheitswesen/statistiken-medizinalberufe1.html</a>	DE / FR / IT	3/8/2024
IML	IML   IML - Institute for Medical Education (unibe.ch)	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
BSG uni BE / Verordnung über die Universität (UniV)	<a href="https://www.belex.sites.be.ch/app/de/texts_of_law/436.111.1/versions/670">https://www.belex.sites.be.ch/app/de/texts_of_law/436.111.1/versions/670</a>	DE / FR	3/8/2024
Academic Programs UZH	<a href="https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/programs.html">https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/programs.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
Executive Board and Central Administration Bern	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/executive_board_and_central_administration/vice_rectorate_teaching/zulassung_immatrikulation_und_beratung/index_eng.html">https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/executive_board_and_central_administration/vice_rectorate_teaching/zulassung_immatrikulation_und_beratung/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Application and Admission UZH	<a href="https://www.uzh.ch/en/studies/application.html">https://www.uzh.ch/en/studies/application.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
Vetsuisse Faculty Bern Studies	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/studies/index_eng.html">https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/studies/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Studying Veterinary Medicine UZH	<a href="https://www.vet.uzh.ch/en/studium/vetmed.html">https://www.vet.uzh.ch/en/studium/vetmed.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
Prospective students uni BE	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/landing_pages/prospective_students/index_eng.html">https://www.unibe.ch/landing_pages/prospective_students/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Academic Programs UZH	<a href="https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/programs.html">https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/programs.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024



UZH Course Catalogue	<a href="https://studentservices.uzh.ch/uzh/anonym/vvz/index.html?sap-language=EN&amp;sap-ui-language=EN#/SC/2023/003/50000006">https://studentservices.uzh.ch/uzh/anonym/vvz/index.html?sap-language=EN&amp;sap-ui-language=EN#/SC/2023/003/50000006</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
swissuniversities - studyprogrammes / Course offerings	<a href="https://www.studyprogrammes.ch/en?query=Veterinary&amp;institute=&amp;institute_kind=&amp;degree_level=&amp;areas_of_study=&amp;study_languages=&amp;study_languages_exclusivity=false&amp;order_by=studyprogramme_versions.name&amp;order_by_direction=DESC&amp;page=1&amp;cantons=&amp;language_regions=">https://www.studyprogrammes.ch/en?query=Veterinary&amp;institute=&amp;institute_kind=&amp;degree_level=&amp;areas_of_study=&amp;study_languages=&amp;study_languages_exclusivity=false&amp;order_by=studyprogramme_versions.name&amp;order_by_direction=DESC&amp;page=1&amp;cantons=&amp;language_regions=</a>	DE / EN / FR / IT	3/8/2024
Admission requirements uni BE	Studium: Human-, Zahn- oder Veterinärmedizin - Universität Bern (unibe.ch)	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
Admission requirements UZH	Application and Admission   University of Zurich   UZH	DE / EN	3/8/2024
Counselling Centre uni BE	Study guide University of Bern (unibe.ch)	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
ZH Student Advisory Services	Student Advisory Services   UZH	DE / EN	3/9/2024
ESEVT SOP 2019	ESEVT_SOP_2019_As_amended_in_September_2021.pdf (eaeve.org)	EN	3/8/2024
Vethopes	Dienstleistungen: VetHopes - Kleintierklinik (unibe.ch)	DE	3/8/2024
Center for Continuing Education of the University of Bern	<a href="https://www.zuw.unibe.ch/index_ges.html">https://www.zuw.unibe.ch/index_ges.html</a>	DE	3/8/2024
Continuing Education in University Teaching and Learning UZH	<a href="https://www.weiterbildung.uzh.ch/en/hochschuldidaktik.html">https://www.weiterbildung.uzh.ch/en/hochschuldidaktik.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
VetMENT	<a href="https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/about_us/promotion_of_early_career_researchers_and_gender_equality/promotion_of_early_career_researchers/vetment/index_eng.html">https://www.vetsuisse.unibe.ch/about_us/promotion_of_early_career_researchers_and_gender_equality/promotion_of_early_career_researchers/vetment/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN	3/25/2024
COMET Career Programme	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/university/portrait/self_image/equal_opportunities/topics/promotion_of_early_career_female_researchers/comet/index_eng.html">https://www.unibe.ch/university/portrait/self_image/equal_opportunities/topics/promotion_of_early_career_female_researchers/comet/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
120%-Care Grant	<a href="https://www.vereinbarkeit.unibe.ch/flex_working_time_models/120_care_grant/index_eng.html">https://www.vereinbarkeit.unibe.ch/flex_working_time_models/120_care_grant/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
VetCareer	<a href="https://www.vet.uzh.ch/de/studium/nachwuchsfoerderung.html">https://www.vet.uzh.ch/de/studium/nachwuchsfoerderung.html</a>	DE	3/8/2024
Gender Equality and Diversity ZH	<a href="https://www.gleichstellung.uzh.ch/en/agl_beratung/UZH_beratung.html">https://www.gleichstellung.uzh.ch/en/agl_beratung/UZH_beratung.html</a>	DE / EN	3/8/2024
Fachschaff Bern	<a href="http://www.fachschaffvetmedbern.ch/">http://www.fachschaffvetmedbern.ch/</a>	DE / EN / FR / IT	3/8/2024
Fachverein Zurich	<a href="https://www.fvvetmed.com/">https://www.fvvetmed.com/</a>	DE	3/8/2024
Quality assurance at the University Bern	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/university/portrait/self_image/quality/index_eng.html">https://www.unibe.ch/university/portrait/self_image/quality/index_eng.html</a>	DE / EN / FR	3/8/2024
QA Bern: Participate. Develop. Communicate	<a href="https://www.unibe.ch/unibe/portal/content/e809/e810/e812/e708931/e715528/e952030/P75938_UniBern_Imagebroschure_EN_WEB_ges.pdf">https://www.unibe.ch/unibe/portal/content/e809/e810/e812/e708931/e715528/e952030/P75938_UniBern_Imagebroschure_EN_WEB_ges.pdf</a>	EN	3/8/2024
Quality assurance at the University Zurich / Quality Development	<a href="https://www.uzh.ch/en/explore/basics/quality-development.html#:~:text=Quality%20Strategy%20of%20the%20University,of%20central%20and%20decentral%20measures.">https://www.uzh.ch/en/explore/basics/quality-development.html#:~:text=Quality%20Strategy%20of%20the%20University,of%20central%20and%20decentral%20measures.</a>	DE / EN	3/25/2024
Quality Strategy of the University Zurich	Quality Strategy of the University of Zurich 2020–2026   University of Zurich   UZH	DE / EN	3/25/2024
ESG	<a href="https://www.enqa.eu/esg-standards-and-guidelines-for-quality-assurance-in-the-european-higher-education-area/">https://www.enqa.eu/esg-standards-and-guidelines-for-quality-assurance-in-the-european-higher-education-area/</a>	EN	3/25/2024





