



Accreditation Standards Review

Day One
Competencies
Review:
Phase 2
Consultation Report



1. Introduction

The Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC) began a review of the approved accreditation standards ('the standards') for entry-level programs in early 2022. The standards are used to evaluate veterinary education and training programs that lead to general registration as a veterinarian in Australia and New Zealand. In parallel with that project, a review of AVBC's Day One Competencies (D1Cs) (previously known as AVBC Attributes of Veterinary Graduates) also commenced. A Task Group appointed by AVBC is conducting the review of the D1Cs.

In Phase 1 of the D1Cs review, AVBC invited stakeholders of veterinary services and veterinary education across Australia and New Zealand to comment on the first draft of new competencies that the Task Group created. The results of that consultation have been [published on the AVBC website](#). Feedback received in that consultation informed the second draft of new competencies. That second draft was distributed to the same stakeholder groups for Phase 2 of consultation. The purpose of this document is to report on the outcomes of this second consultation phase.

The project will now enter a final phase, where the Task Group will create a definitive list of Day One Competencies that the AVBC Council will review. Further updates will be provided on the AVBC website.

2. Background

- 2.1. D1Cs describe the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes veterinarians must possess on "Day One" to serve the interests of their patients and society, and to meet accreditation and the profession's requirements.
- 2.2. The AVBC has an essential role in determining the "standard of proficiency" for veterinary graduates practising in Australia and New Zealand. The standard for registration is a key benchmark that affects the approval of veterinary degree programs in Australasia and internationally. AVBC ensures accredited programs meet the standard for registration using the [Accreditation Standards](#). The D1Cs help inform these Accreditation Standards and provide guidance to students, schools, and the profession about what can reasonably be expected of a graduate at the start of their career.

3. Phase Two Consultation Process

- 3.1. The consultation was open for four weeks (31 August 2022 – 28 September 2022).
- 3.2. Respondents were invited to provide feedback via an online survey; emailed responses were also accepted.
- 3.3. Invitations to participate in the survey were sent out by email to a wide range of stakeholders in Australia and New Zealand, including, but not limited to, educational providers, students, professional associations, employers, government departments and accreditation assessors.

Information was also published on the AVBC website.

4. Review of feedback

4.1. Qualitative analysis was conducted on all responses received (via survey and email). Each response was carefully assessed and mapped to one of the following categories:

- General feedback
- Domain-specific feedback
- Competency-specific feedback (competency vs. contextual description)

4.2. Responses were reviewed in relation to arguments supporting and opposing the recommended competencies, or requests for further clarification or context, or suggestions on how the competency should be reworded.

4.3. In setting out the analysis in the report that follows, some quotations from stakeholders have been included where they succinctly illustrate recurrent themes that appeared.

5. Respondents

There were 21 survey responses were received. Seven written (email) submissions were provided from external stakeholders.

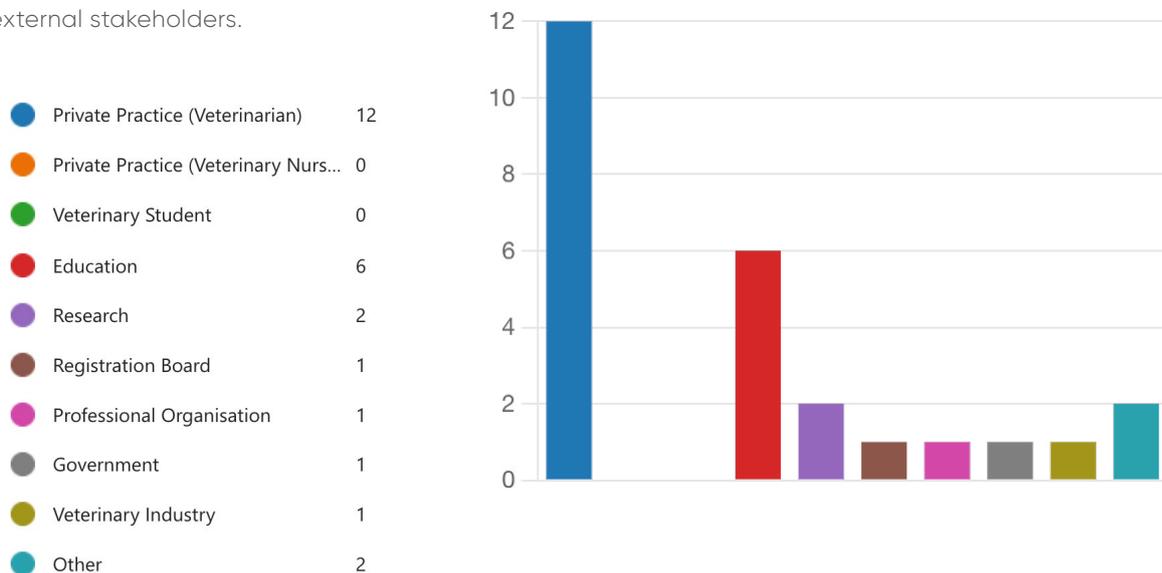


Figure 1: Consultation responses by respondent type

6. Results

6.1. There was overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the second draft. Stakeholders were pleased that the Task Group had taken the feedback from the Phase Consultation into account.

"The considerable number of revisions and additions to the D1C table demonstrate that the Task Group has given substantial thought to the feedback obtained from Phase 1 consultation. This is heartening for the respondents and affirms that time invested by stakeholders was worthwhile."

6.2. 95% of respondents agreed that the new Introduction adequately conveyed the scope and intent of the document.

6.3. The addition of contextual statements was welcomed.

6.4. There were occasional comments recommending minor rewording of individual competencies or contextual statements. The competencies which received the most comments were #12 (5 comments) and #38 (7 comments).

7. Concluding Comments

The extent of engagement with this project has been very pleasing, with respondents drawn from most stakeholder groups. The consultations have generated some interesting discussions around the assessment of competency on Day One and beyond.

The Task Group will critically review **all** feedback from this latest round of Consultation to create the final AVBC Day One Competencies document. This document will be published and distributed once approved by AVBC Council.