



# Veterinary Surgeons' Board



## GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR REGISTRATION AS AN HONORARY VETERINARY SURGEON

### INTRODUCTION

The Board grants honorary registration to veterinary surgeons who satisfy the age and service criteria. Assessment of standing in the veterinary community is considered on a case by case basis. These guidelines have been compiled to assist veterinary surgeons seeking honorary registration by clarifying what supporting information is required.

### APPLICATION OF THESE GUIDELINES

These Guidelines apply from and including 11 August 2020.

These Guidelines may be superseded by subsequent versions. To ascertain whether this version has been superseded, view the current version on the Board's website at [www.vsbwa.org.au](http://www.vsbwa.org.au)

It is the responsibility of veterinary surgeons who are registered as an Honorary Veterinary Surgeon, to be conversant with the current version of these Guidelines.

### LEGISLATION

Section 20AA of the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960* (Act) states:

"Subject to section 20A [normal requirements for registration of a veterinary surgeon], a person who is entitled to be, or is, registered under this Act as a veterinary surgeon is entitled to be registered as an honorary veterinary surgeon if the Board is satisfied that the person's standing in the profession of veterinary science justifies the person's registration as an honorary veterinary surgeon and -

- (a) the person is a veterinary surgeon of not less than 40 years standing; or
- (b) the person is a veterinary surgeon of long standing and is of or above the age of 65 years."

### CRITERIA

Applicants must demonstrate to the Board that their standing within the profession is such that they are eligible for honorary registration and they must meet the criterion of s20AA(a) or s20AA(b).

A history of employment as a veterinary surgeon for an extended period in academia, private practice, government or other fields without incurring disciplinary proceedings by the Board is not in itself sufficient grounds to be eligible for honorary registration.

Applicants must demonstrate a significant contribution to the veterinary profession and/or the public, preferably in a voluntary or pro bono capacity. Examples of work which would be highly regarded include:

- the Australian Veterinary Association Divisional or National Executives;
- the Veterinary Surgeons' Board;
- animal welfare organisations;
- wildlife rescue services;
- international relief work or animal rescue;
- mentoring or supporting other veterinary surgeons in their careers; or
- providing pro bono continuing education to the veterinary profession.

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Applicants need to be aware that the Board may make enquiries with organisations to verify information contained in applications for Honorary registration.

## **SUMMARY**

Honorary registration will only be granted to those veterinary surgeons who meet the age criteria and are of sufficient standing within the profession. Applicants must provide evidence to the Board of a significant contribution to the profession in the form of service which is over and above that of their employment.

## **DISCLAIMER**

This document (printed, electronic or any other medium) cannot be regarded as legal advice.

Although all care has been taken in preparing these Guidelines they do not replace advice specific to the reader's circumstances. Where necessary, advice must be sought from competent legal practitioners. Neither the authors nor the Veterinary Surgeons' Board of Western Australia accept or undertake any duty of care relating to any part of these Guidelines.