



# Veterinary Surgeons' Board



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

### INTRODUCTION

Historically the Board has granted honorary registration to veterinary surgeons who had satisfied the age and service criteria. Assessment of standing in the veterinary community has been considered on a case by case basis. Due to the increasing number of applications it has been necessary to develop standard eligibility criteria for veterinary surgeons seeking honorary registration.

### 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 AVA 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
- providing pro bono continuing education to the veterinary profession.

### 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.

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