

Credit Rating Policy of the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed) & Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)

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1.0	Implementation of the new curriculum and addition of the BVSc programme.	Adam Hall, Assistant Registrar for Programme Management	LTAC June 2025	June 2025	June 2026

Contents		Page
1	Introduction and Purpose	3
2	Scope	3
3	Credit Accumulation	3
4	Transfers	4
5	Intermediate Awards	4

1. Introduction and Purpose

Credit is a means of quantifying and recognising learning and is awarded in recognition of achievement of learning outcomes at a specified level.

This policy confirms the credit the RVC will accept for purposes of accumulation and award or transfer in relation to the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed) & Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) programmes.

2. Scope

The following information applies to students enrolled on the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed) & Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) programmes, graduating in 2026 onwards

3. Credit Accumulation

The RVC assigns credits at the level of the year for the BVetMed, and BVSc programme (year 3 onwards), which are strand-based programmes of study where key concepts are presented repeatedly throughout the course, at deepening levels of complexity and in different contexts. We recognise credit at the appropriate level with our intermediate awards after defined periods of study and assessment, e.g. Cert HE, Dip HE, BSc. There are very few optional and elective elements within the programme, and because all students take the same study path (except the BVetMed Graduate Accelerated route), there is no need to decide the credits per unit of study.

UK medical and veterinary degrees at final award level are recognised at Masters level by the OfS justified by the clinical year and, in the case of the RVC, by the Research Project. Therefore, we credit-rate our Intra Mural Rotations (IMR) period, which embraces the project blocks, at Masters level.

After Year 4, Term 1, students must have successfully completed the continuous period of clinical teaching and assessment, as outlined in Finals Part 1 of the BVetMed/BVSc Year 5 Assessment and Award Regulations, to be awarded the credit at level 7.

Successful completion of Finals Part 1 is a pre-requisite to taking the written exam (Finals Part 2).

An outline of how credit is awarded and accumulated throughout the programme is displayed in the following table.

Year of Study	Credit System	
	UK Credits	ECTS Credits
Year 1 (FHEQ 4)	120	60
Year 2 (FHEQ 5)	120	60
Year 3 (FHEQ 6)	120	60

Year 4, Term 1 (FHEQ 6)	40	20
Sub-total	400	200
IMR Cycle begins – Switching to Masters level (180 UK credits per year)		
Finals Part 1 (FHEQ 7) Completion of Intramural Rotations (IMR) including, Core & Track Rotations, Extra Mural Studies (EMS) and the Clinical Portfolio. Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (Clinical DOPS) Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) Finals Part 2 - Clinical and Professional Reasoning Written Exam (FHEQ 7)	240	120
Finals Part 3 - Research Project (FHEQ 7)	60	30
Sub-total	300	150
Total	700	350

Please refer to the [RVC's Assessment and Award Regulations](#) for more details on the examination and assessment at each level for the BVetMed and BVSc programmes.

For more information about the RVCs regulations relating to credit accumulation, including the agreed norms for translation to the European Credit Tariff (ECTS), please refer to the [Credit, Credit Accumulation and Modules](#) policy.

4. Transfers

We do not allow transfer onto the BVetMed or BVSc programme, except to the BSc Animal Health Disease, providing the necessary requirements have been met as outlined within the [Student Transfer Between Undergraduate Taught Courses within the RVC](#). Please refer to [Aberystwyth's Academic Quality Handbook](#) for more details on transfers for students enrolled on the BVSc programme.

5. Intermediate Awards

Credit is awarded for each year to allow for intermediate awards.

Year 1 Cert HE – 120 credits

Year 2 Dip HE – 240 credits

Please refer to the [Aberystwyth's Academic Quality Handbook](#) for more details on intermediate awards after Years 1 and 2 of the BVSc programme.

Gateway is recorded as 120 credits at level 4 and will gain a Cert HE in Biological Sciences if a student leaves after successful completion of the Gateway Year. [More details are available here.](#)

BSc Animal Health & Disease requires completion of 320 credits as a minimum (Y1-120 + Y2-120 + Y3-90) to gain the ordinary BSc degree, or 360 with the completion of the additional Hypothesis-Driven Project for a further 30 Credits at level 6 (to meet the minimum credit norms). For students enrolled onto the BVSc, credits accumulated from completion of study in Years 1 and 2 at the partner institution will be added to the credits accumulated from completion of study in Year 3 and the Research Project.

Graduate Accelerated programme (GAB) is recorded as 120 credits at level 5. Students gain no intermediate qualification for successful completion of the GAB year, their entry to the course being predicated on the prior completion of a first degree. These students will have been provided with an accelerated method of completion for their award it would, therefore, be inappropriate to provide an intermediate award based on limited elements of the entire BVM requirements. As a result, these students would not be eligible for any intermediate awards.