

Submission
No 57

**INQUIRY INTO VETERINARY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 6 July 2023

Partially
Confidential

The wage for vet nurses is an insult. You require certification, volunteer and unpaid experience in most cases and hours upon hours of work placement in order to achieve certification. You can go and work as a check out person for a wage that is leaps ahead of the vet nurse wage. \$28.57 (the current award from memory for FT) for a position that requires endless hours of multi tasking, completing jobs and requiring skills and knowledge transferable across all departments within a clinic is appalling. Vet nurses are the cogs and bones behind the majority of what occurs daily in a clinic. Reception, to hospitalisation care, to isolation treatment and infection control, to surgery assist, pathology handlers, and much much more. The cost of living and inflation is through the roof, and the vet nurse wage is barely enough to get by even in a relationship or position where there is an additional income. This needs to be reviewed urgently otherwise people will continue to leave the industry, and it will devolve into further chaos and burn out than it already is.