



# Navigating locum veterinary work.

As a locum, you essentially operate as a one-person veterinary practice; it's your responsibility to be organised and set up to practice both legally and safely. With this in mind, here are some important tips for locums or vets considering becoming one.

## Ensure that you have the appropriate insurance

If you're employed by a veterinary practice and undertake independent locum work elsewhere for up to a maximum of 5 hours per week, you may find having your own professional indemnity insurance to be sufficient. But make sure to confirm in advance with clinics that their practice insurance will cover you.

However, if you are engaged as an independent locum for more than 5 hours per week, or you run your own practice, you'll also need appropriate insurance to ensure you're covered.

## Understand state-specific registration requirements

Before starting work in a new state or territory, verify that you hold all necessary registrations and licenses, including those related to radiation and microchipping.

## Create a standard contract

Develop a contract that specifies your fees, obligations, responsibilities, and compensation terms.

## Don't rely on verbal agreements

Always request and keep a written record of the clinic's agreement to the terms of your contract.

## Be adaptable

No two clinics operate the same, so remember to keep an open mind and embrace challenges as learning opportunities.

By keeping these tips in mind while considering locum work, you can set yourself up for success. For more risk management tips, visit [guildinsurance.com.au/riskhq](https://guildinsurance.com.au/riskhq)

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