

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY, ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

The Associate in Science in Veterinary Technology prepares students for careers within the veterinary and animal healthcare industry as veterinary technicians. Through the integration of hands-on experiential learning and curriculum designed to meet the highest veterinary industry standards, students will be engaged in various aspects of veterinary medicine and technology. Graduates will be prepared to enter the expanding animal healthcare industry as part of a team of individuals dedicated to the care of domestic animals, small and large. The first year of courses within the Veterinary Technology degree program can be applied towards earning a Certificate of Achievement in Veterinary Assistant, allowing students to seek initial, entry-level employment in the field of veterinary technology while completing the Associate degree requirements.

Veterinary Technicians are integral to the animal health care teams that work under the supervision of veterinarians to perform various types of tasks including veterinary laboratory procedures, surgical and anesthesia assisting, digital imaging (including X-ray technology), dental procedures, medical nursing, emergency care, and veterinary office procedures. Potential career options include employment in private veterinary facilities, biomedical research institutions, regulatory agencies, livestock operations, pharmaceutical companies, zoological parks, and the animal nutrition industry.

Prior to being permitted to advance and enroll in second-year courses of the Veterinary Technology AS program, students must complete all prerequisites with a grade of "C" or better and submit a prerequisite verification form to the Veterinary Technology Program Director.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The Veterinary Technology program at Ventura College is committed to providing equal access to the college's academic programs and services to qualified individuals with disabilities through reasonable accommodation. Students who believe they are in need of accommodations should contact the Educational Assistance Center (EAC) / Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSP&S) by phone at (805) 289-6300 or by e-mail at vceac@vcccd.edu or in person at 4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003. The student should provide the EAC with a current comprehensive evaluation of a specific disability from a qualified diagnostician that identifies the type of disability and lists recommended accommodations. All documentation will be reviewed by the designated EAC Faculty member in a timely manner, and appropriate reasonable accommodations will be provided based on the individual student's needs.

Please see the Essential Functions in the AVTE Disabilities Task Force Report. (https://www.venturacollege.edu/sites/venturacollege/files/media/pdf_document/2022/essentialfunctions_accessible_2.pdf)

Veterinary Assistant and Veterinary Technology Program Requirements

The Veterinary Technology Associate of Science Degree Program is two-tier pathway that begins with a Veterinary Assistant Certificate of Achievement. The program prepares students for careers within the veterinary and animal healthcare industry as veterinary technicians and qualifies them to sit for both national and state board exams to become Registered Veterinary Technicians. The first year of courses within the Veterinary Technology degree program can be applied towards earning

a Certificate of Achievement (COA) in Veterinary Assistant, allowing students to seek initial, entry-level employment in the field of veterinary technology while completing the Associate degree program.

Procedures for Applying

Applications will be accepted once a year during the spring semester for admission in the subsequent fall semester. Admission is subject to available openings. The application deadline is available through the veterinary technology counselor or the Career Education Division.

Students interested in applying to the Veterinary Technology program must first submit a general admissions application to Ventura College at www.venturacollege.edu/apply (<https://www.venturacollege.edu/apply-and-enroll/>) prior to submitting the supplemental Veterinary Technology program application. Admission to the first year veterinary assistant certificate program is based on a random lottery process and to be considered for admission, students must meet the education requirements and complete the pre-enrollment checklist.

Meeting the requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program as space is limited in the small student cohort. Applicants must demonstrate evidence of having a high school diploma or G.E.D.

In order to continue into the second year courses of the Veterinary Technology associate degree program, students must pass all veterinary technology program courses and prerequisite courses with a grade of 'C' or better.

It is highly recommended that prospective students attend the Veterinary Technology Information Session or watch the recording of the information session to learn about the program, expectations, and selection procedures.

Admission Process

Qualified applicants will be entered into a random lottery process. Each qualified applicant, when selected must decide either to enter the class, remove her/his name from the eligibility list, or defer admission to the next academic year. A student may only defer admission once. Those applicants who are not selected due to limited openings may retain their names on the waiting list. The waiting list will be cleared when the fall semester begins and students who do not enter the class must reapply for admission for the following year.

Selected students are required to have tetanus toxoid vaccination within the past eight years prior to participating in laboratory courses that involve contact with animals.

All students admitted to the program are expected to maintain the highest personal standards of conduct consistent with the professional standards as perceived by the veterinary technology faculty and professional personnel in the agencies used as extended campus sites.

Any information indicating that such standards are not maintained is subject to review by members of the veterinary technology faculty and may result in a recommendation to the college for dismissal from the program.

All students must attend the orientation meeting scheduled prior to the start of the semester and must be present on the first day of the class.

In order to continue into the Veterinary Technology degree program, all Veterinary Technology coursework must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

Course ID	Title	Units/Hours
Prerequisites (9 units): Must be completed in Year 1		
BIOL V01 & V01L	Principles of Biology and Principles of Biology Laboratory	3+1
CHEM V20 & V20L	Elementary Chemistry and Elementary Chemistry Laboratory	4+1
Required Core Courses (52 units):		
AG V61	Introduction to Animal Science	3
AG V62	Orientation to Veterinary Science	1
AG V63	Domestic Animal Care Experience and Handling	1.5
AG V64	Veterinary Office Procedures	3
AG V65	Animal Health and Disease Control	3
AG V66	Anatomy and Physiology of Animals	4
AG V67	Basic Small Animal Nursing	3
AG V68	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging	2
AG V69	Principles of Large Animal Nursing	3
AG V70	Advanced Small Animal Nursing	3
AG V71	Basic Veterinary Clinical Procedures	1.5
AG V72	Advanced Veterinary Clinical Procedures	3
AG V73	Veterinary Dentistry	3
AG V74	Introduction to Laboratory Animal and Exotic Companion Animal Medicine	3
AG V75	Veterinary Microbiology, Parasitology, and Laboratory Procedures	3
AG V95C or AG V96C	Veterinary Clinical Internship I Veterinary Clinical Internship II	4
MATH V44 or PSY V04	Elementary Statistics Introductory Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
MICR V01	General Microbiology	4
Total Required Major Units		61
Ventura College General Education Pattern		29
Double-Counted Units		(9)
Free Electives Required		0
Total Units Required for the A.S. Degree		81

Year 1		
Fall Semester		Units/Hours
AG V61	Introduction to Animal Science	3.0
AG V62	Orientation to Veterinary Science	1.0
AG V63	Domestic Animal Care Experience and Handling	1.5
CHEM V20	Elementary Chemistry	4.0
CHEM V20L	Elementary Chemistry Laboratory	1.0
MATH V44 or PSY V04	Elementary Statistics or Introductory Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4.0
Units/Hours		14.5
Spring Semester		
AG V64	Veterinary Office Procedures	3.0
AG V65	Animal Health and Disease Control	3.0
AG V66	Anatomy and Physiology of Animals	4.0

(CHEM V20 double-counts for local GE area A2, and either MATH V44 or PSY V04 double-counts for local GE area D2.)

BIOL V01	Principles of Biology	3.0
BIOL V01L	Principles of Biology Laboratory	1.0
(BIOL V01 double-counts for local GE area A1.)		
Units/Hours		14
Year 2		
Fall Semester		
AG V67	Basic Small Animal Nursing	3.0
AG V68	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging	2.0
AG V69	Principles of Large Animal Nursing	3.0
ENGL V01A	English Composition	4.0
MICR V01	General Microbiology	4.0
Units/Hours		16
Spring Semester		
AG V70	Advanced Small Animal Nursing	3.0
AG V71	Basic Veterinary Clinical Procedures	1.5
AG V75	Veterinary Microbiology, Parasitology, and Laboratory Procedures	3.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area C2)		3.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area E2)		1.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area B1, C1, or E1)		3.0
Units/Hours		14.5
Summer Semester		
AG V95C or AG V96C	Veterinary Clinical Internship I or Veterinary Clinical Internship II	4.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area B1, C1, or E1)		3.0
Units/Hours		7
Year 3		
Fall Semester		
AG V72	Advanced Veterinary Clinical Procedures	3.0
AG V73	Veterinary Dentistry	3.0
AG V74	Introduction to Laboratory Animal and Exotic Companion Animal Medicine	3.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area B2)		3.0
(A course satisfying local GE Area B1, C1, or E1)		3.0
Units/Hours		15
Total Units/Hours		81

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Describe and implement the steps necessary to maintain hospital records including medical, drug, surgery, laboratory, and radiology logs.
- Demonstrate effective and professional communication skills in the performance of veterinary office procedures.
- Demonstrate proper restraint techniques on various animal species commonly seen in veterinary medicine.
- Perform basic veterinary laboratory procedures used in veterinary medicine and clinical settings.
- Perform appropriate steps to acquire vital signs in various species seen in veterinary medicine, accurately record the results of a physical exam using appropriate medical terminology and assist the veterinarian in the performance of veterinary procedures and surgery.
- Demonstrate appropriate sanitation and sterility practices necessary in a veterinary hospital.
- Recognize essential components of preventative care plans for domestic species of animals.
- Apply the principles of pharmacology, radiology, and dentistry to the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Perform all of the skills on the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) Task List.

- Apply the knowledge, skills and abilities gained to successfully pass state and/or national board exams for veterinary technology.