VETERINARY TECHNICIAN - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)

Description
The Veterinary Technician Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree is a two-year program designed to prepare students to take the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) to become a Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT). The veterinary technician program is accredited by the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities as a program for educating veterinary technicians.

The veterinary technician program provides education in subjects such as animal husbandry, nursing, nutrition, animal handling, parasitology, hematology, microbiology, radiology, pharmacology, anesthesiology, dental prophylaxis, surgical assisting, office procedures and includes externships designed to give students practical hands-on experience to build on the skills learned in the classroom.

Learning Outcomes
1. Perform comprehensive veterinary technician medical processes and apply critical thinking skills for optimal patient care.
2. Utilize therapeutic and professional communication skills to achieve patient outcomes in collaboration with veterinary health care team members and clients.
3. Apply principles of professionalism and confidentiality within the veterinary client patient relationship.
4. Implement ethical and legal standards as they apply to veterinary medical practice.
5. Practice current concepts of infection control and occupational safety.
6. Utilize knowledge of facility policies and procedures.

Entrance Requirements

Academic Entrance Requirements
- Required:
  - Students must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalency.
  - The following prerequisite courses must be completed with a "C" grade or higher prior to applying to the veterinary technician program.
    - BI 101 General Biology: Cells & Genes or BI 211 Principles of Biology
    - GS 105 Physical Science: Chemistry or CH 104 Introduction to Chemistry I
    - WR 121 Academic Composition
    - COMM 218 Interpersonal Communication
    - MTH 095 Intermediate Algebra or MTH 111 College Algebra or higher
  - 40 hours of observation in a veterinary clinic

Other Entrance Requirements
- Required:
  - Refer to the current year veterinary technician program admissions handbook (https://www.cocc.edu/programs/vet-tech/admission-requirements.aspx) detailed description of admissions requirements. Students must complete 40 hours of observation in a veterinary clinic, the veterinary technician program application and submit any required documentation as part of their application packet. Admission packets are available on the veterinary technician website (https://www.cocc.edu/programs/vet-tech/default.aspx). Applications are accepted biennially during spring term for admission to the veterinary technician program for the following fall term.
  - Once admitted into the veterinary technician program, students will need to complete the following before the start of fall term:
    - 10 panel urine drug screen
    - Criminal history check
    - Documentation of immunizations
    - Tdap (required)
    - Rabies (recommended)

Additional Program Costs (beyond standard tuition/fees and textbooks)

Material Costs
- Required:
  - Criminal history check, drug screening, immunization verification $110
  - In some cases, immunization cost for Tetanus and Rabies $100-$900
  - Supplies, such as scrubs, lab jacket, coveralls, farm boots, stethoscope, thermometer, bandage scissors, wrist watch, name badge, calculator, laptop or tablet computer $500-$800
  - Transportation costs are variable

Enrollment Fees
- Student lab fee, per term $300

Course Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BI 101</td>
<td>General Biology: Cells &amp; Genes</td>
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<tr>
<td>or BI 211</td>
<td>Principles of Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>GS 105</td>
<td>Physical Science: Chemistry</td>
<td>4-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>or CH 104</td>
<td>Introduction to Chemistry I</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 218</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTH 095</td>
<td>Intermediate Algebra (or MTH 111 or higher)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>Academic Composition</td>
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40 hours of observation in a veterinary clinic

Core Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VT 101</td>
<td>Intro to Veterinary Technician</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT 102</td>
<td>Veterinary Terminology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT 103</td>
<td>Animal Hospital and Office Procedures</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT 108</td>
<td>Small Animal Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT 110</td>
<td>Parasitology and Pathology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT 111</td>
<td>Hematology and Urinalysis</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT 112</td>
<td>Advanced Small Animal Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>
VT 113 Exotic and Lab Animal Medicine 3
VT 114 Pharmaceutical Math 3
VT 116 Pharmacology 4
VT 117 Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology I 6
VT 118 Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology II 5
VT 200 Radiation Safety 2
VT 201 Anesthesiology and Surgery Techniques 4
VT 202 Surgical Nursing and Dentistry 4
VT 203 Large Animal Nursing 4
VT 204 Diagnostic Imaging 3
VT 206 Small Animal Diseases 4
VT 208 Animal Nutrition 2
VT 209 Large Animal Diseases 3
VT 212 Veterinary Microbiology 4
VT 280 Clinical Practicum I 6
VT 281 Clinical Practicum II 4
360 hours on-site at veterinary practices
Total Credits 105-106

Advising Notes
Students are admitted to the veterinary technician program through a selective admission process. Admission to the veterinary technician program is competitive and enrollment is limited. Program courses must be taken in sequence.

Students are strongly recommended to attend a veterinary technician program information session (https://www.cocc.edu/programs/vet-tech/information-sessions.aspx) to learn about COCC's veterinary technician program (https://www.cocc.edu/programs/vet-tech/default.aspx) and admission requirements prior to application submission. Currently, a cohort begins every other Fall term.

This program is intended for students seeking employment as veterinary technicians. These courses are not intended as preparation for a doctor of veterinary medicine degree (see Pre-Medicine, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Veterinary AAOT (https://catalog.cocc.edu/programs/biology/pre-medicine-veterinary-dentistry-aaot/)). Some courses may transfer to other veterinary technician programs. Please contact your transfer institution for more information.

Performance Standards
• Academic Requirements:
  • Students must earn a cumulative 3.0 of higher GPA in prerequisite courses.
  • All courses in the program must be completed with a grade of C or higher.
  • Students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to earn a COCC certificate or degree.

• Additional Requirements
  • Students must enroll full time in all courses listed for each term.
  • In order to progress to the next term, students must pass all previous coursework with a grade of 75% or better.

Sample Plan
First Year
Fall
BI 101 or BI 211 General Biology: Cells & Genes 4
MTH 095 Intermediate Algebra (MTH 111 or higher) 4
COMM 218 Interpersonal Communication 3
Credits 11
Winter
GS 105 or CH 104 Physical Science: Chemistry 4-5
WR 121 Academic Composition 4
40 hours of observation in a veterinary clinic Credits 8-9

Second Year
Fall
VT 101 Intro to Veterinary Technician 3
VT 102 Veterinary Terminology 3
VT 103 Animal Hospital and Office Procedures 2
VT 117 Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology I 6
Credits 14
Winter
VT 108 Small Animal Nursing 4
VT 110 Parasitology and Pathology 4
VT 114 Pharmaceutical Math 3
VT 118 Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology II 5
Credits 16
Spring
VT 111 Hematology and Urinalysis 5
VT 112 Advanced Small Animal Nursing 4
VT 113 Exotic and Lab Animal Medicine 3
VT 116 Pharmacology 4
Credits 16

Third Year
Fall
VT 200 Radiation Safety 2
VT 201 Anesthesiology and Surgery Techniques 4
VT 203 Large Animal Nursing 4
VT 209 Large Animal Diseases 3
VT 212 Veterinary Microbiology 4
Credits 17
Winter
VT 202 Surgical Nursing and Dentistry 4
VT 204 Diagnostic Imaging 3
VT 206 Small Animal Diseases 4
VT 208 Animal Nutrition 2
360 hours on-site at veterinary practices Credits 13
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VT 280</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT 281</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>105-106</strong></td>
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