

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.

Prerequisite coursework in college-level biology, chemistry, English, and statistics is required for application to the Veterinary Technology program (these courses are listed in Program Requirements). Prior to being admitted to the first year of the [Veterinary Technology](#) program, students must complete the required prerequisite [courses and submit a prerequisite](#) verification form to the Veterinary Technology Program [Director along with an application for the Veterinary Technology program.](#)

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.

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

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.

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 | | |
| The following prerequisite college-level courses must be completed prior to application to the Veterinary Assistant/Technology program. | | |
| Prerequisite Courses | | |
| BIOL V01 & V01L | Principles of Biology and Principles of Biology Laboratory (VC GE Area A1) | 3+1 |
| CHEM V20 & V20L | Elementary Chemistry and Elementary Chemistry Laboratory (VC GE Area A2) | 5 |
| | or CHEM V101 | Elementary Chemistry |
| ENGL V01A | English Composition (VC GE Area D1) | 4 |
| MATH V44 | Elementary Statistics (VC GE Area D2) | 4 |
| | or PSY V04 | Introductory Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences |
| Total Prerequisite Units | | 17 |
| VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY | | |
| Required Core Courses | | |
| AG V01 | Agriculture and Society: Agriculture as the Foundation for Modern Civilization (VC GE Area C2) | 3 |
| 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 |
| MICR V01 | General Microbiology | 4 |

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|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Required Core Units | 51 |
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Ventura College General Education Pattern

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|--|-----------|
| Prerequisite Units | 17 |
| Required Core Units | 51 |
| VC General Education Units | 29 |
| Double-Counted Units | (16) |
| Elective Units | 0 |
| Total Units for the A.S. Degree | 81 |

Year 1

| Fall Semester | | Units/Hours |
|--------------------|--|-------------|
| AG V01 | Agriculture and Society: Agriculture as the Foundation for Modern Civilization (VC GE Area C2: Humanities) | 3 |
| 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 V66 | Anatomy and Physiology of Animals | 4 |
| Units/Hours | | 12.5 |

Spring Semester

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| AG V64 | Veterinary Office Procedures | 3 |
| AG V65 | Animal Health and Disease Control | 3 |
| AG V67 | Basic Small Animal Nursing | 3 |
| AG V68 | Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging | 2 |
| Course from: VC GE Area B1: American History/Institutions | | 3 |
| Units/Hours | | 14 |

Summer Semester

| | | |
|--|----------------------|----------|
| MICR V01 | General Microbiology | 4 |
| Course from: VC GE Area C1: Fine/Performing Arts | | 3 |
| Course from: VC GE Area E2: Physical Education/Kinesiology | | 1 |
| Units/Hours | | 8 |

Year 2

Fall Semester

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------|
| AG V12 | Agriculture Economics (VC GE Area B2: Social/Behavioral Sciences) | 3 |
| AG V69 | Principles of Large Animal Nursing | 3 |
| AG V70 | Advanced Small Animal Nursing | 3 |
| AG V71 | Basic Veterinary Clinical Procedures | 1.5 |
| AG V75 | Veterinary Microbiology, Parasitology, and Laboratory Procedures | 3 |
| Units/Hours | | 13.5 |

Spring Semester

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| AG V72 | Advanced Veterinary Clinical Procedures | 3 |
| AG V73 | Veterinary Dentistry | 3 |
| AG V74 | Introduction to Laboratory Animal and Exotic Companion Animal Medicine | 3 |
| Course from: VC GE Area E1: Health Education | | 3 |
| Units/Hours | | 12 |

Summer Semester

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| AG V95C/V96C | Veterinary Clinical Internship I | 4 |
| Units/Hours | | 4 |
| Total Units/Hours | | 64 |

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.