



**TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

WELCOME PACKET



The Veterinary Technology Program at Tri-County Technical College is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) since 1979. Upon completion of our curriculum, you will receive an Associate Degree in Applied Science. We offer a full-time two-year (day) program which begins in the Fall Semester of each year and all Veterinary Technology coursework takes place on the TCTC Pendleton Campus.

You will receive excellent instruction and extensive, practical, hands-on experience in a clinical setting to develop competencies in large and small animal nursing, diagnostic laboratory techniques, radiology, anesthesiology, surgical technology, and hospital management. All students are required to participate in the daily care and training of animals housed in the Animal Housing & Learning Facility.

The Veterinary Technology Department requires all Fall Semester clinical entry students receive Tetanus and Pre-Exposure Rabies Vaccination. If potential student has already received Tetanus and/or Post-Exposure Rabies Vaccination, student must provide documentation of immunization within first two weeks of Fall Semester.

Our program mandates student affiliations with NAVTA (National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America) and SCAVT (South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians), requiring membership during the clinical portion. Additionally, participation in community service events is mandatory for all Veterinary Technology students, with some projects contributing to scholarships for enrolled students. Notifications for scholarship applications are sent during Fall Semester, aiding with College costs for the following Spring Semester until graduation.

Health profession majors require numerous hours in both lecture and lab settings. Our program houses live animals during each semester which add to student time demands. Be prepared to invest time outside of lecture and lab settings with program requirements for animal care and community service events, including limited rotational weekend obligations.

Graduation from our AVMA accredited program qualifies you to take the next step in becoming a Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT) by taking the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE). Once you have passed the VTNE, you will then take the State Laws and Regulations Exam in the state in which you wish to practice. Our alumni are employed across a broad range of careers that includes veterinary hospital management, academia, zoos, aquariums, wildlife conservation and management, animal research, diagnostic labs, and pharmaceutical companies.

Our program also maintains partnerships with several four-year universities if you wish to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Veterinary Technology or Veterinary School. Students are encouraged to discuss future goals with Veterinary Technology Academic Advisor.

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After completing the College Admission and Orientation process, students who are interested in Veterinary Technology Program should:

1. **Meet with a Veterinary Technology Advisor.** Call for an appointment by contacting the Health Education Division Office (864) 646-1400 or schedule an appointment using MyTCTC Starfish link.

All the following prerequisite and Veterinary Technology courses must be completed with a final grade of "C" or higher. MyTCTC Degree Works is the official grading platform. Please refer to the College Catalog for additional progression requirements. In addition to minimum placement scores, the following are **prerequisite requirements prior to Fall Semester clinical entry:**

- ✓ RDG 100 (if required per placement test scoring)
- ✓ ENG 100 or Higher
- ✓ MAT 102 or Higher
- ✓ BIO 101
- ✓ Minimum GPA of 2.0

2. Complete VET 113 with a final grade of "C" or higher.
3. Once all the **prerequisite requirements listed above** are met, you will meet at a designated time with the Department Head and/or Program Director to attain signature on his/her Notice of Completion Form. Upon NOC Form submission and nonrefundable payment of \$100.00, the student will then be placed on the Veterinary Technology Complete List for Fall Semester clinical entry. **Clinical entry begins each Fall Semester.** Upon completion of above steps, you will attend a Mandatory Freshman Orientation Day (date will be given with notice through MyTCTC email).
4. All Fall Semester clinical entry students are **required** to receive Pre-Exposure Rabies Vaccination. If a student has already received a Post-Exposure Rabies Vaccination, student must provide documentation of recent titer check. For any student not in compliance with this AVMA/CVTEA requirement, student will be required to drop all VT coursework for Fall Semester clinical entry until requirement is satisfied. Students are also **required** to receive Tetanus Vaccination. **All vaccination requirements must be completed within the first 2 weeks of Fall Semester.**

As part of the Health Education Division, it is mandatory that all Health Education students go through a criminal background check and drug screen. The criminal background check can be completed online through SR&I www.srandi.com The cost is \$38.00 (subject to change), paid directly to SR&I and must be **completed prior to the first day** of class in Fall Semester. In addition, a urine drug screen will be conducted on the Pendleton campus **after** classes begin with limited notice. See "Student Drug Screen Policy and Procedure" for details located on www.tctc.edu Students are required to carry professional liability insurance, which is obtained through the College.

The above information does not supersede the TCTC College Catalog. The Academic Calendar is located on www.tctc.edu for quick reference for advising, registration and tuition deadlines. It is the responsibility of the student to manage this information and adhere to important deadlines. General Education courses such as ENG 101, MAT 120, BIO 225, PSY 201, SPC 205 and HUM must be completed prior to **or** within the designated semester as outlined in the curriculum. Students are encouraged to discuss curriculum outline with a Veterinary Technology Academic Advisor **before** adjusting schedule, such as course withdraws.

**VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY
DAY CURRICULUM OUTLINE
(Two Year)**

	<u>Lec</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>Credit</u>
<u>FALL, SPRING or SUMMER SEMESTER</u>			
BIO 101 Biological Science I	3	3	4
VET 113 Introduction to Veterinary Technology	3	0	<u>3</u>
			7
<u>FALL SEMESTER – FIRST YEAR</u>			
ENG 101 English Composition I	3	0	3
MAT 120 Probability and Statistics	3	0	3
VET 101 Animal Breeds & Husbandry	2	3	3
VET 104 Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology	2	3	3
VET 116 Radiology & Parasitology	1	6	3
VET 150 Clinical Techniques I	2	3	<u>3</u>
			18
<u>SPRING SEMESTER</u>			
BIO 225 Microbiology	3	3	4
VET 140 Veterinary Pharmacology	2	0	2
VET 142 Veterinary Anesthesia	2	3	3
VET 152 Clinical Pathology	2	6	4
VET 160 Clinical Techniques II	2	3	<u>3</u>
			16
<u>SUMMER TERM</u>			
VET 170 Veterinary Technician Externship	0	24	6
<u>FALL SEMESTER – SECOND YEAR</u>			
PSY 201 General Psychology	3	0	3
SPC 205 Public Speaking	3	0	3
VET 201 Diseases and Zoonosis	4	0	4
VET 250 Clinical Techniques III	1	6	3
VET 270 Advanced Medical Care	3	0	<u>3</u>
			16
<u>SPRING SEMESTER</u>			
HUM xxx Humanities Requirement	3	0	3
VET 215 Laboratory Animal Medicine	1	3	2
VET 260 Clinical Techniques IV	1	6	3
VET 290 Senior Integrated Learning	4	0	<u>4</u>
			12

TOTAL: 75 CREDITS

- * A student may repeat a maximum of two major courses.
- * Students must successfully complete all AVMA Essential Skills to receive course credit. A final course grade and final animal care grade of 75 or above is required to pass the course and progress in the major.
- * Humanities course may be selected from the list approved in Degree Works for the Veterinary Technology Program.
- * Any alterations or substitutions to the curriculum plan must be approved by the Department Head.
- * MAT 110 may be substituted for MAT 120 (MAT 110 Approval by Department Head Only).

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HEALTH EDUCATION DIVISION TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Required of all Health Education Division Students for Admission and Progression in a Health Sciences Program

Applicants and students should be able to perform these essential functions or with reasonable accommodations, such as the help of compensatory techniques and/or assistive devices and be able to demonstrate ability to become proficient in these essential functions.

Essential Function	Technical Standard	Some Examples Of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)	YES	NO
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking and problem solving ability sufficient for appropriate clinical judgment.	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, use problem solving methods to assess, plan, carry out, and evaluate nursing or allied health care. Make appropriate judgment decisions in an emergency or where a situation is not clearly governed by specific guidelines.		
Interpersonal Skills	Sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	Establish and maintain effective working relationship with patients, peers, the public and clinical and college personnel.		
Communication Ability	Sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form. Read, write and speak with sufficient skill to communicate. Computer literacy desirable.	Communicate, in fluent English, both verbally and in writing with the patient, family, college, and hospital personnel, to transmit and receive information. Hear verbal responses from the patient, and hospital personnel while performing appropriate procedures.		
Physical/ Psychological Ability	Remain continuously on task for several hours while standing, sitting, walking, lifting, bending and/or transporting patients/clients.	Very mobile and able to tolerate long periods of standing, sitting, and heavy work load. Lift and/or move patients and equipment. Withstand the stress and demands of an active position. Refrain from nourishment or restroom breaks for periods up to 6 hours.		
Skin Condition	Skin must be in good condition. Lesions on the face, hands, or forearms, will prevent student from attending clinical (examples include but are not limited to: psoriasis, eczema, etc.)	Perform hand washing and/or surgical scrub and wear appropriate gloves. (A written excuse from a physician is mandatory for students who are latex sensitive.)		
Adequate Height	Ability to reach and operate overhead equipment.	Reach, manipulate, and operate all equipment.		
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from area to area and maneuver in small spaces; full range of motion; manual and finger dexterity; and hand-eye coordination.	May be exposed to kicking, biting or scratching injuries. May be exposed to equipment-related hazards. Withstand long hours of standing, walking, stooping, bending, and sitting.		
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective care of clients and operate equipment. Ability to reach and operate overhead equipment.	Demonstrate manual dexterity and good eye-hand coordination in daily work. Be able to lift independently up to 50 pounds. May be required to lift greater weights on demand. Reach above head at least 18 inches.		
Hearing Ability	Auditory ability sufficient to access non-direct essential information.	Must be able to hear and understand verbal instructions. Must be able to hear soft whispers of clients, equipment alarms, equipment malfunctioning sounds and emergency signals within normal hearing range. Must be able to tolerate loud, sustained, high pitched noises. If corrective hearing devices are required, must be worn while on duty.		
Visual Ability	Normal or corrected visual ability sufficient for observing, assessment and/or treatment of patient/client; ability to discriminate between subtle changes in density (black to gray) of a color in low light/ability to discern color variations.	Read procedure manuals, standard operating procedures, patient identification bracelets, and other pertinent materials for patient care and professional practice. Vision must be able to be corrected to no less than 20/40. If corrective lens devices are required, must be worn while on duty.		
Tactile Ability	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination, functions related to a care giver: perception relating to touch, textures, temperatures, weight, pressure, and one's own body position.		

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Olfactory Ability	Olfactory senses (smell) sufficient for maintaining environmental safety, and patient/client's needs.	Must be able to distinguish odors. Must be able to distinguish smells which are contributory to assessing and/or maintaining the patient's health status or environmental safety (fire). Has a significant tolerance to foul smells which may be part of the routine job.		
Professional Presentation	Ability to present professional appearance and attitude; implement measures to maintain own physical and mental health and emotional stability.	Demonstrate emotional stability and psychological health in the day-to-day interaction with clients, peers, and healthcare personnel related to work environment. Work under stressful conditions and irregular hours. Show concern for others.		
Exceptions	NONE			

Have you ever been dismissed from any clinical facility? Yes No

I understand that in addition to this form a criminal background check, a drug screen and health/immunization form are required for clinical/lab placement.

Student Name (Please Print)

Program Enrolled

Student Signature

Date

Advisor Signature

Date

**VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
(Estimated Expenses)**

Tuition & Books - Amount varies per semester. Visit www.tctc.edu for current cost.

Program Uniforms – Men and Women (ordered through the Veterinary Technology Department)

Scrub top/V-neck with one or two pockets: average cost \$18.00 to \$20.00 each

Scrub pants: various styles: average cost \$20.00 each

Lab Jacket with snap front & long sleeves: average cost \$25.00 each

One (1) Set: Surgical scrubs (solid color): average cost \$35.00 - \$40.00 each

Other Required Equipment

Average Cost

Watch	\$10.00 & up
Black Sharpie	\$2.00
Small Calculator	\$5.00
Black Rubber Boots (knee high; no laces or steel toe)	\$20.00 & up
*Stethoscope	\$25.00 & up
*Bandage Scissor	\$10.00
*Hemostat	\$10.00
*Digital Thermometer	\$12.00

*** These items may also be purchased through the Veterinary Technology Department.**

Other Expenses

Pre-Exposure Rabies Vaccination	\$750.00-1,200.00
Tetanus Vaccination (Within 10 Years)	\$45.00-75.00
Criminal Background Check	\$38.00
SCNAVTA/SCAVT Mandatory Dues	\$10.00-17.00/year
Veterinary Technology Graduation Pin (cost varies depending on choice of precious metal in pin)	\$38.00-240.00
South Carolina Licensing Exam	\$75.00-100.00
Veterinary Technician National Exam	\$320.00-340.00

*The above information is subject to change.

**VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY
ANIMAL CARE GROUP OVERVIEW**
(Required by all Veterinary Technology Students)

These job duties are performed by **all Veterinary Technology students** in groups on a **rotational basis**.

Morning - (Meet in Halbert Hall Treatment Room at 7:00 am) *On day of assigned Animal Care Group rotation, arrival on TCTC Pendleton Campus no later than 6:45 am.

1. All treatments administered and charted
2. Rounds with attending Veterinarian/instructor after medications administered
3. Small and furry rooms – feed/water animals and place in day habitats
4. Other job duties as instructed by Veterinarian and/or Instructor

Mid-day - (12:00 - 1:00 pm) *Time may vary

1. Administer and chart treatments as needed
2. Check all animals and discard any feces
3. Make sure all animals have water
4. Clean assigned rooms
5. Other job duties as instructed by Veterinarian and/or Instructor

Afternoon - (After 4:00 pm) *Time may vary

1. All treatments administered and charted
2. Small and furry rooms – feed/water animals, clean, and return to night habitats
3. Other job duties as instructed by Veterinarian and/or Instructor
4. Check with Veterinarian and/or Instructor before leaving at the end of the day

Review small and furry instruction manual for other job duties.

Students will be required to stay in the building on assigned animal care day unless attending class or released by Veterinarian and/or Instructor.

Each student is placed in an Animal Care Group. The dates that each group meets will be posted at the beginning of each semester in the Halbert Hall Treatment Room and Student Lounge.

*The above information/schedule is subject to change.