



Veterinary Technician

Veterinary technicians are dedicated healthcare professionals who nurture the health and well-being of animals through specialized knowledge of animal behavior and care, surgical assisting, laboratory testing and nursing procedures.

Working in the field of veterinary medicine is rewarding for people who love animals. Veterinary technicians provide advanced nursing and care for hospitalized animals and work closely with veterinarians in the areas of surgery, lab procedures and radiography. Veterinary technicians must work independently and be able to respond quickly in emergencies. They may work in clinics, hospitals, laboratories, ranches, zoos or other professional veterinary settings.



Trusted. Respected. Preferred.

Veterinary Technician Course Outline

	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
Career Prep & Veterinary Assisting Professional Sequences I, II, III & Extern	295	185	240	29.0
Veterinary Assistant Totals	295	185	240	29.0

Professional Sequence I					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CCM 111	Communications	45			3.0
MTH 129	Math Applications	45			3.0
SCI 120	Foundations in Biology and Chemistry	60			4.0
VTT 176	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	25			1.5
Professional Sequence I Total		175			11.5

Professional Sequence II					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
VTT 222	Food and Fiber Animal	45	10		3.0
VTT 224	Diagnostic Imaging for Veterinary Technicians	15	15		1.5
VTT 226	Small Animal Nursing for Veterinary Technicians	15	60		3.0
Professional Sequence II Total		75	85		7.5

Professional Sequence III					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
VTT 232	Laboratory Animal Science	20	15		1.5
VTT 234	Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians	30	35		3.0
VTT 236	Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians	30	30		3.0
Professional Sequence III Total		80	80		7.5

Professional Sequence IV					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
VTT 242	Dentistry Techniques	15	15		1.5
VTT 244	Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians	45			3.0
VTT 246	Surgical Nursing for Veterinary Technicians	30	40		3.0
VTT 248	Clinic Surgery and Lab		15		0.5
Professional Sequence IV Total		90	70		8.0

Professional Sequence V					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
VTT 252	Exotic Animal Medicine and Nursing	15	15		1.5
VTT 254	Equine Medicine and Nursing	45	15		3.5
VTT 256	Emergency Procedures	30	10		2.0
VTT 258	Clinic Surgery and Lab		30		1.0
Professional Sequence V Total		90	70		8.0

Las Vegas Program Only					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
HST 205	Nevada History and US Constitution	45			3.0
Additional Las Vegas Course Total		45			3.0

Externship					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
VTT 262	Veterinary Technician Seminar	15			1.0
VTT 291	Externship			225	5.0
Externship Total		15		225	6.0
PROGRAM TOTALS		820	490	465	77.5
LAS VEGAS PROGRAM TOTALS		865	490	465	80.5

The evening program is 86 weeks in length depending upon campus schedule.

What You Will Learn

Pima Medical Institute's Veterinary Technician program will prepare you for success in this rewarding field. You'll learn medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, office management, examination techniques, and radiologic, dental and surgical procedures as they relate to veterinary care.

In addition, you will spend time honing your skills in equine, livestock and lab animal medicine, and handling birds, reptiles and some exotic mammals. And, the first sequence of courses will be taught in a hybrid learning system – a unique mix of online and classroom work.

Once you graduate, you will have earned an associate of applied science degree and gained the skills and knowledge needed to complete the board exam and become a professional veterinary technician.

Job Outlook

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of veterinary technologists and technicians is projected to grow 19 percent from 2023 to 2033, much faster than average for all occupations. Employment is expected to grow as veterinarians continue to utilize technicians and technologists to do general care and lab work on household pets.†

The availability of advanced veterinary services, such as preventive dental care and surgical procedures, may provide opportunities for veterinary professionals specializing in those areas. Biomedical facilities, diagnostic laboratories, wildlife facilities, humane societies and animal control facilities may provide more jobs for veterinary technicians.

Employment

Veterinary clinics, animal hospitals, biomedical facilities, diagnostic laboratories, wildlife facilities, humane societies and animal control facilities may provide jobs for veterinary technicians.

Certification

The majority of states have regulations that provide for technician credentialing (certification, licensure or registration). Candidates are typically tested for competency through an examination regulated by the state board of veterinary medical examiners. Most states require candidates to pass the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) before being issued a license to practice.

†Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/veterinary-technologists-and-technicians.htm> (visited January 11, 2025).



- Hands-on training
- Financial aid if qualified
- Career planning services