

Veterinary Technology, AAS

Academic Year 2025-2026

Program Description:

Veterinary technicians are an integral part of veterinary medicine and they work under the supervision of veterinarians. Veterinary technicians are employed to assist in many veterinary tasks. They cannot diagnose, prescribe medications or perform surgery. Most veterinarians consider their technicians to have the same role as nurses would to general doctors and surgeons. They must be knowledgeable in many areas of veterinary care including anesthesia, surgery, bandaging, radiology, pharmacology, dentistry, nutrition, laboratory procedures, and animal care and handling. They are also required to communicate with clients and must possess office and management skills.

The Veterinary Technician program at Mountwest Community & Technical College consists of 78 credit hours. This is a two-year associate program and is not to be considered a pre-veterinary medicine program. The course of study will include biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, parasitology, nutrition, animal disease, anesthesia, pharmacology along with animal care, restraint and handling. Students will work with client pets, small animals and farm animals.

Students will gain experience by completing two practicums and an externship in veterinary facilities. Students will be placed in facilities at the program director's discretion so that they may obtain experience in different types of settings. Students will obtain approximately 440 hours of clinical experience.

Career Outlook and Salary Forecast:

For the most current information please refer to the Bureau of Labor Statistics "Occupational Outlook Handbook" found at www.bls.gov/ooh/.

Program Outcomes:

- Utilize and apply the knowledge necessary to function within the scope of practice of a Registered Veterinary Technician
- Proficiently execute the Essential Skills dictated by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities
- Actively contribute as an integral member of a veterinary health care team while adhering to professional and ethical standards including a strong work ethic, personal responsibility and compassion for clients and animals
- Effectively communicate with veterinary health care team members and clients
- Establish and maintain a work environment that ensures the safety of clients, animals, and staff
- Perform patient assessment, safe handling and restraint, administration of medications and other veterinary treatments under the direction of a veterinarian

Admission Requirements: Students must submit an application for this program as it is selective admission. Students must also:

- be accepted to Mountwest Community and Technical College prior to program admission
- Submit application fee of \$45
- Must provide copy of unofficial transcripts from previous institutions or high school with application
 - Must have a 2.5 GPA from the institution currently or previously enrolled
- Must provide copy of ACT scores or other comparable testing
 - Have a minimum ACT math score of 19 or Accuplacer score of 250+.
- Must have 120 hours of documented voluntary/work experience in veterinary hospital or animal clinic with a minimum of 100 hours in clinic or hospital and 20 hours in an animal shelter/rescue completed by deadline. Must have been completed within 2 years of applying to the program.
- Consent to a background check and drug testing upon admission to the program
 - Must pass drug test and background check for admittance into program
 - Must pass random drug testing and background check for continuation of program study
 - Conviction of crimes such as felonies and misdemeanors may affect the ability of an applicant's admittance and a Graduate's to obtain state licensure
- Must submit proof of health insurance
- Must receive or be willing to receive the Rabies pre-exposure vaccinations and Tetanus vaccination. If not completed prior to admission the student must receive the series upon admissions to the program (student is responsible for associated costs) **MUST SUBMIT PROOF OF VACCINATIONS.**
 - Record of the Tetanus vaccination
 - Record of pre-exposure Rabies vaccination
- Read and understand the characteristics of a successful veterinary technician.

Accreditation: The program is accredited through the American Veterinary Association (AVMA) based on accreditation requirements.

Contact Information:

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Mountwest empowers students to learn and lead in the community and in the workforce.

Veterinary Technology – Major Code CV10 ¹							
COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR
MAT 120	Applied Professional Math ²		3				
VET 101	Intro to Veterinary Technology		3				
VET 210	Veterinary Nursing I ³	F	2				
VET 210L	Veterinary Nursing Lab I ³	F	1				
VET 215	Clinical Lecture I ³	F	2				
VET 215L	Clinical Lecture I Lab ³	F	1				
VET 227	Anatomy and Physiology for Vet Tech ³	F	4				
	Total Semester Hours		16				
AH 151	Medical Terminology ⁴		3				
CHEM 205	Chemistry for Healthcare Professionals		4				
VET 216	Veterinary Pharmacology	S	2				
VET 220	Veterinary Nursing II ^{5,6}	S	2				
VET 220L	Veterinary Nursing II Lab ⁵	S	1				
VET 225	Clinical Lecture II ^{5,6}	S	2				
VET 225L	Clinical Lecture II Lab ⁵	S	1				
VET 260	Veterinary Imaging ^{5,6}	S	2				
VET 260L	Veterinary Imaging Lab ⁵	S	1				
	Total Semester Hours		18				
ENL 101	Written Communication ⁴		3				
VET 285	Vet Tech Practicum I ⁷	SU	3				
COM 125	Interpersonal Communication		3				
	Total Semester Hours		9				
BIOL 210	Intro to Clinical Microbiology		3				
VET 217	Veterinary Pharmacology ^{8,11}	F	2				
VET 230	Veterinary Nursing III ^{10,11}	F	2				
VET 230L	Veterinary Nursing III Lab ¹¹	F	1				
VET 235	Veterinary Office Technician Procedures ¹¹	F	2				
VET 245	Veterinary Anesthesia ^{10,11}	F	2				
VET 245L	Veterinary Anesthesia Lab ¹¹	F	1				
VET 255	Veterinary Surgery ^{10,11}	F	2				
VET 255L	Veterinary Surgery Lab ¹¹	F	1				
	Total Semester Hours		16				
VET 240	Veterinary Nursing IV ^{12,13}	S	2				
VET 240L	Veterinary Nursing IV Lab ¹²	S	1				
VET 250	Veterinary Nutrition and Disease ¹²	S	3				
VET 265	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care ¹²	S	2				
VET 265L	Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care Lab ¹²	S	1				
VET 275	Small Animal Vet Dentistry ¹²	S	2				
VET 275L	Small Animal Vet Dentistry Lab ¹²	S	1				
VET 290	Veterinary Technology (VINE) Seminar ¹²	S	2				
	Total Semester Hours		14				
VET 295	Veterinary Technology Externship ¹⁵	SU	5				
	Hours Required for Graduation: 78						

¹ All courses must be completed with a grade of C or better.

² MAT 120 has a prerequisite of a minimum ACT Math score of 19 or SAT Math score of 510 or Accuplacer 250+.

³ VET 210, VET 210L, VET 215, VET 215L, and VET 227 are co-requisites.

⁴ ENL 101 has a prerequisite of ACT 18, SAT 480+, ACCUPLACER 250-300, or placed in ENL 101E. Students must earn a "C" or better in ENL 101 or ENL 101E to graduate.

⁵ VET 220, VET 220L, VET 225, VET 225L, VET 260, VET 260L are co-requisites.

⁶ VET 220, VET 225 and VET 260 have a prerequisite of VET 210, VET 210L, VET 215, VET 215L, VET 227.

⁷ VET 285 has a prerequisite of VET 210, VET 215, VET 216, VET 220 and VET 260.

⁸ VET 217 has a prerequisite of VET 216, VET 220 and VET 285.

¹⁰ VET 230, VET 245 and VET 255 have a prerequisite of VET 285.

¹¹ VET 217, VET 230, VET 230L, VET 235, VET 245, VET 245L, VET 255, and VET 255L are co-requisites.

¹² VET 240, VET 240L, VET 250, VET 265, VET 265L, VET 275, VET 275L and VET 290 are co-requisites.

¹³ VET 240 has a prerequisite of VET 210, VET 220 and VET 230.

¹⁴ VET 275 has a prerequisite of VET 217, VET 230, VET 245, VET 250 and VET 255.

¹⁵ VET 295 is a capstone course.