



Veterinary Assisting

accredited by the North American Veterinary Technician Association



VETERINARY ASSISTING is an important part of the veterinary health care team in clinics, zoos, pet shops and research facilities. Students work with a large variety of animals such as dogs, cats, rodents, birds/poultry, farm animals, and reptiles. Students will learn about general care and feeding of various species as well as tasks the veterinary assistant performs under the guidance of a veterinary technician or veterinarian. Tasks include: animal feeding, basic animal grooming, animal nursing, common office/clinic procedures, client education, exam room procedures, surgical and diagnostic lab procedures, maintenance of animal/medical records on computers and other skills as recommended by the North American Veterinary Technician Association. Day students will participate in a vaccination clinic onsite at Manor Plains. Students may receive certificates in kennel maintenance, shelter operator, and veterinary foundations.

Work Environment

Veterinary Assistants have a wide range of employment opportunities in animal clinics, veterinarian's offices, pet stores, laboratories, pet grooming shops, animal shelters, zoos, and preserves.

Career Opportunities

Veterinary Assistant
Lab Animal Technician
Grooming Assistant
Pet Shop employee
Animal Caretaker
Field Biologists Assistant
Zookeeper

Advanced Standing Available*

Suffolk County Community College
SUNY Canton
SUNY Cobleskill

*Advanced Standing may be available to those who successfully complete this Tech course. See Articulation Agreements on page 49.

Employment Outlook

As the small pet industry grows, the need for qualified animal support personnel grows along with it. Graduates of this program can expect to find immediate career opportunities as veterinary assistants, grooming assistants, pet shop employees, or clinic assistants. Students who continue their training and gain valuable experience can expect to enjoy such opportunities as a veterinary technician, laboratory animal technologist,

professional groomer, or pet shop manager. Students who continue on to college may study veterinary science, biotechnology, business management, or animal husbandry.

Starting salaries in this field tend to range from \$10 to \$12/hour; part-time and evening work is available.

Student Supplies (approx. \$50)

1. Lab Coat or scrub coat
2. Gloves (garden type)
3. Work shoes (non-slip) or boots
4. Current Tetanus vaccination is recommended

Academic credits integrated:

- Technical Science
- English 12

CTE Endorsement

In order to be granted the Technical Diploma endorsement, students must successfully meet the academic and attendance criteria for a two-year Wilson Tech Certificate of Completion, including Career and Financial Management (CFM), and pass the following national certification exam: Animal Care Training (ACT) exam - Animal Care Training Exam.

Helpful Preparatory Courses

- Biology
- Chemistry

Course Outline:

- Individual Animal Care & Handling Bio-profiles

- Basics in Grooming
- Office, Hospital & Kennel Maintenance Procedures
- Small Animal Nursing & Pharmacology
- Client Communication/Medical Record Keeping
- Exam and Treatment Room Procedures
- Surgical Preparation and Assisting
- Laboratory Procedures
- Animal Disease & Health Maintenance
- Diagnostic Imaging Assisting

Consider these classes at Tech

- Certified Personal Trainer
- Early Childhood Education & Care
- Equine Studies
- Floriculture
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Laboratory
- Nurse Assisting/Prof. Health Careers

All placements are based upon individual needs and approval from the district and parent/guardian.