

Veterinary Technician A.A.S. (VET)

The Veterinary Technician program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. www.avma.org/Pages/home

Veterinary technicians are professionals knowledgeable in the care and handling of animals, basic principles of normal and abnormal life processes, routine laboratory and clinical procedures, and in veterinary medical and surgical nursing. Certified veterinary technicians are employed in veterinary clinics serving large, small, and exotic species. In addition, graduates are employed as veterinary technicians in pharmaceutical settings, research laboratories, animal feed companies, wildlife and zoo centers, and animal shelters. The job market for formally trained veterinary technicians has been growing, and this trend is expected to continue.

Lehigh Carbon Community College, working jointly with Northampton Community College, has developed a two-year associate in applied science degree program in this field.

Coursework will provide students with a foundation in the basic principles of animal medicine and disease, anatomy and physiology, diagnostic laboratory work, surgical assisting, anesthesia, diagnostic radiology, pharmacology, veterinary medical nursing, laboratory and exotic animal medicine, and veterinary practice management. Students will be given the opportunity to develop technical skills through multiple clinical experiences with live animals.

Graduates of this program are prepared to sit for the veterinary technician national board examination. Students that pass the exam may obtain certification.

This program has received full accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Program features: LCCC provides academic and practical experience through a combination of veterinary technology and general education core courses. One third of veterinary technology courses include laboratory experience including exposure to small, large and exotic animal species. The culminating experience of the program is a summer externship experience during which students can practice their clinical skills at veterinary hospitals. Classes are held on Northampton Community College (NCC) and LCCC campuses. There is a clinical science laboratory on NCC's campus and a veterinary teaching facility adjacent to LCCC's campus provided exclusively for the veterinary technician students. Classes are offered during the day and the program takes 2 full years (Fall, Spring and Summer to complete). For additional information, please refer to www.lccc.edu and click on Academics; Veterinary Technician.

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate competence in performing and engaging in office and hospital procedures, client relations and communication.
- Demonstrate proficiency working in the pharmacy and understand and utilize pharmacologic concepts.
- Safely and competently engage in medical nursing.
- Safely and competently engage in surgical nursing.
- Safely and competently engage in anesthetic nursing.
- Competently perform laboratory procedures.
- Safely and competently perform diagnostic imaging.
- Competently perform laboratory animal and exotic patient husbandry and nursing.

First Semester

		Credits
VET 101	Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology	4
VET 110	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	3
ENG 105	Research and Composition	3
CIS 105	Introduction to Computers and Applications	3
CHE 106	Physiological Chemistry	4
		17

Second Semester

VET 115	Animal Management and Nutrition	2
VET 120	Veterinary Parasitology	2
VET 125	Veterinary Clinical Laboratory Techniques	4
BIO 220	Microbiology	4
ENG 106 or ENG 107 or ENG 108	Introduction to Literature Writing in the Workplace Creative Nonfiction	3
		15

Summer Session

VET 210	Large Animal Clinical Procedure	3
		3

Third Semester

VET 215	Animal Disease	3
VET 218	Veterinary Pharmacology and Anesthesia	3
VET 220	Small Animal Clinical Procedure	4
Elective*	Mathematics	3
Elective	Social Science/Humanities	3
		16

Fourth Semester

VET 225	Veterinary Radiology and Surgical Nursing	4
VET 228	Lab Animal Science and Exotics	4
Elective	Social Science/Humanities	3
Elective	General Education	3
		14

Summer Session

VET 230	Veterinary Technician Externship	3
		3

Credit Total **68**

Electives:

Recommended: *Math electives a student must choose from include: MAT 105, MAT 121, MAT 150 or MAT 160.

Required: CHE 106 (Physiological Chemistry) - must be taken their first semester in the program or prior to starting the program. It is a prerequisite for VET 125.

Please note that admission to this program is competitive and requires a special application. Not all students will be offered a seat in the program.

All students in the Veterinary Technician program must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 during the course of their program.

In addition, any student who does not successfully complete (with a grade of at least a "C") two veterinary core courses (either two different courses or the same course twice) will be withdrawn from the program. Readmission to the program will require re-application and re-acceptance through the admissions office.



Special Admission Program Requirements

Additional admission information and requirements for the Veterinary Technician program are as follows:

Note: Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the programs.

Veterinary Technician

Before Admission:

- High school diploma or GED and successful completion of appropriate high school or post-secondary courses.
- Completion of high school laboratory Biology with a “B” or better, and high school Algebra 1 and 2 with grades of a “C” or better. Fundamentals of Biology (BIO 105) is highly recommended if a college-level biology course has not been previously completed.
- Submission of high school transcript or copy of GED and transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended.
- Acceptable scores on the LCCC assessment test (English, Math and Biology). Any remediation must be completed before starting the program.
- A minimum GPA of 2.5.
- Knowledge of field gained through experience with animals strongly recommended.
- Selected students will participate in a personal interview with the program director. The college will contact the student to schedule an interview.
- At the time of the interview, the student must have completed a minimum of 20 hours of observation in a veterinary facility. The career exploration form can be printed by going to LCCC’s homepage; clicking on Academics: Veterinary Technician.
- The deadline for submission of the application is February 1 for the fall semester.
- Admission into the Veterinary Technician program is competitive. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the program. Only the most qualified applicants are interviewed; the college will contact students to schedule interviews when appropriate.

After Admission:

- Medical forms: physical examination
- Proof of current health insurance
- Rabies pre-exposure vaccine.