

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN, A.A.S.

Entry Time

Summer

Award

Associate of Applied Science degree

2 years (6 terms including summers)

Veterinary technicians provide professional technical support to veterinarians, biomedical researchers and other scientists. They also care for hospitalized patients; assist the doctor in surgery; perform physical exams, lab work and technical procedures (blood draws, IV placement); take health histories and X-rays; give and monitor anesthesia; provide client education; and perform reception duties.

At Kirkwood, veterinary technician students work with a variety of animals including dogs, cats, horses, cows, pigs, birds, snakes, guinea pigs, hamsters and rats. A strong background in biological sciences is needed for this program.

Accreditation

This program is accredited by the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA). For more information, go to www.avma.org (<https://www.avma.org/>).

Career Opportunities

- small, mixed or large animal practices
- humane societies
- animal shelters
- zoos
- specialty veterinary practices
- pet shops
- biological research labs
- animal control agencies
- veterinary teaching hospitals
- state and federal agencies

Entrance Requirements

Prospective students for the Veterinary Technician program are required to take an entrance exam. There are minimum cut scores that must be achieved for admission into the program. For more information about the entrance exam, visit: <http://www.kirkwood.edu/veterinarytechnician> (<http://www.kirkwood.edu/veterinarytechnician/>). You can also contact the Kirkwood Ag Sciences Department at 319-398-5609.

Degree Requirements

Term 1		
Summer		Credit Hours
AGV-116	Introduction to the Veterinary Technology Program ¹	1
AGV-126	Animal Anatomy and Physiology I ¹	3

AGV-152	Veterinary Computer Applications ¹	2
AGV-120	Veterinary Medical Terminology ¹	1
ENG-105	Composition I	3
	Term Totals:	10
Term 2		
Fall		
AGV-127	Animal Anatomy & Physiol II ¹	4
AGV-142	Math for Vet Tech ¹	3
AGV-105	Animal Behavior/Kennel Mgmt ¹	5
AGC-313	Leadership in Agriculture ¹	1
CHM-110	Introduction to Chemistry	3
CHM-111	Introduction to Chemistry Lab	1
	Term Totals:	17
Term 3		
Spring		
SPC-101 or ENG-106	Fundamentals of Oral Communication or Composition II	3
AGV-214	Small Animal Medicine I ¹	3
AGV-167	Vet Clinic Pathology I ¹	3
AGV-161	Animal Nursing I ¹	3
MGT-145	Human Relations in Management	3
AGV-140	Veterinary Pharmacology ¹	3
	Term Totals:	18
Term 4		
Summer		
WBL-301	Intern: Ag/Food/Natural Resrc	4
	Term Totals:	4
Term 5		
Fall		
AGV-162	Animal Nursing II ¹	3
AGV-215	Small Animal Medicine II ¹	3
AGV-168	Vet Clinic Pathology II ¹	3
AGV-144	Fund of Small Animal Nutrition ¹	3
BIO-186	Microbiology	4
AGV-117	Professionalism for Vet Tech ¹	1
	Term Totals:	17
Term 6		
Spring		
AGV-171	Large Animal & Poultry Med ¹	4
AGV-163	Animal Nursing III ¹	3
AGV-169	Vet Clinic Pathology III ¹	3

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AGV-216	Avian and Exotics ¹	2
AGV-217	Diagnostic Technologies ¹	2
Humanities or History/Culture Course (https://creditcatalog.kirkwood.edu/aas-degree-humanities-requirement/)		3
	Term Totals:	17
	Program Totals:	83

¹ Minimum C- required for graduation.