



**COLORADO
MOUNTAIN COLLEGE**

Veterinary Technology Program Guide

COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE
ROARING FORK CAMPUS- SPRING VALLEY CENTER

Hello Prospective Veterinary Technology Student,

Thank you for your interest in our program at Colorado Mountain College. You have chosen an exciting field of study that leads to many career opportunities. With a degree in Veterinary Technology (VT), you can be an important member of the health care team in a veterinary medical practice. Other career paths include medical research, zoos, medical sales, animal shelters/rehabilitation centers, authoring text books and VT education. The list is very long. We are very proud of our excellent program at Colorado Mountain College.

The program is challenging and rewarding. There are a few preliminary requirements that you will need to fulfill before enrolling in the Veterinary Technology Courses.

1. Complete and submit a CMC application.
2. Complete and submit the "Veterinary Technology Program Application" packet as early as possible (fall or early spring).
3. High school transcripts are required if you have no prior college experience. VT applicants must have a high school diploma or its equivalent. If you have previous college experience, official college transcripts are also required.
4. The following entry skill levels are required:
 - Scholastically ready to enroll in ENG 121
 - Scholastically ready to enroll in MAT120 or MAT 121
 - Have college level reading skills

Applicants demonstrate these mandatory skills either through Accuplacer® placement tests, ACT/SAT scores or transfer credits. These test scores within the previous 5 years. Your academic proficiency may affect the sequence of courses and can extend the time required to complete this program. Please contact the Spring Valley Admissions Office at 970 947-8276 for further information about placement into our program.

I encourage you to access our website at www.coloradomtn.edu and click on the "Quick links > Programs" tab in the upper right hand corner of the page for more information about our Veterinary Technology program. If you have additional questions, contact us via email or phone. Guided tours of the VT facilities are available and can be arranged through our Admissions Office at 970 947-8200.

I also encourage you to have firsthand exposure to veterinary medicine and surgery by working with or volunteering at your local veterinary practice. This may help solidify your career choice before committing to our demanding academic program. It will help tremendously to have some personal exposure with the concepts you'll learn about at CMC VT.

Veterinary Technology provides a career path that can be enormously rewarding and exciting. We look forward to helping you achieve your goals as a credentialed Veterinary Technician.

Sincerely,

Jeff Myers DVM
Program Coordinator and Professor of Veterinary Technology



VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

1) *Is this a 2-year program and can I only start in the fall?*

The AAS-VT degree is designed to be a two-year program (four semesters). This is based on students who are at college level performance (see question # 4) that follow the curriculum as outlined in the catalog. Some students choose to take three years to complete the program due to other demands on their time from jobs and family. The program must be completed within 4 academic years. See addenda: “2 year track” and “3 year track” at the back of this packet. While it is *possible* to start in the spring semester with the core classes (English Composition, Communications, Psychology/Human Relations), the program specific classes (VET prefix) are taught in a sequential manner that requires their start to be in the fall. So Ideally the AAS-VT program only starts in the fall semester.

2) *What kind of animals will I be exposed to and how much hands-on experience will I have?*

The program has many different types of resident animals for your learning. We have *farm animals* that include cattle, horses, sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas, chickens, ducks; *exotic animals* that include snakes, lizards, caged birds, rats, mice, guinea pigs, chinchillas and ferrets; *wildlife* (a Golden Eagle); and *small animals* (cats and dogs). The program is designed to give you hands-on experience with many species of animals. Our Handling & Restraint class teaches you how to comfortably work with these animals. The Animal Care classes teach you how to care for them.

3) *Is this an accredited program?*

We have been accredited by the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) since December 1975. Graduates from this program, after successful completion of the VTNE (Veterinary Technician National Exam), become Credentialed Veterinary Technician. Our graduates are very successful passing the VTNE with a 90 % -100 % pass rate.

4) *Are there any prerequisites for this program and if so, what are they?*

VT students must have a high school diploma or its equivalent. There are also academic skill level requirements before enrolling into Veterinary Technology Courses. The following skill levels are required:

- Scholastically be ready to enroll in English Composition ENG 121
- Scholastically be ready to enroll in College Algebra MAT 120 or MAT 121
- College Level Reading

Applicants demonstrate these skills through Accuplacer Placement Tests, acceptable ACT/SAT scores or college transfer credits. Your proficiency may affect the sequence of courses in which you enroll and may extend the time required to complete this program. Please contact the **Spring Valley Admissions Office at (970) 947-8276** for further information about placement into the program.

5) *What jobs are available after graduation? Do you have a job placement program?*

What you do with your career following graduation is limited only by your imagination. Many of our graduates follow the traditional course of employment in a veterinary medical practice. Others go into research; others work in animal control or with humane societies. With your medical background, there are opportunities in pharmaceutical food sales and with veterinary equipment and software companies. CMC's reputation for producing quality technicians has created a network of veterinarians who contact us when they have employment opportunities available. We maintain a job board on our website to assist our graduates with job placement. Often the number of job opportunities exceeds our supply of students.

6) *I have questions about certification exams. When do I take the exam, how much do they cost, am I certified in all states, and does the school help me to prepare for them?*

The Veterinary Technology National Exam (VTNE) is administered by the AAVSB. You must be a graduate of an AVMA accredited program to be eligible to take the exam. Testing details can be found at www.aavsb.org/VTNE/.

Currently the fee for the exam is \$315. Each state has their own requirements for credentialing Veterinary Technicians. Many states require only a passing grade on the VTNE while others have a state exam in addition to the VTNE. The AAVSB website lists each state's requirements for credentialing. Students who do well in school are adequately prepared for the exam after graduation.

7) *What are the costs of the program? What books am I required to purchase? What additional equipment or supplies am I responsible for providing?*

Tuition and housing expenses are explained in the college catalogue. Required text books are available through Follett or online. Additional supplies are listed on pages 6 in this packet. There is a \$300 program fee per semester.

8) *If I decide to pursue a career in veterinary medicine as a veterinarian, how much of this will transfer to another college?*

Transferable courses are the general education and BIO prefixed courses. Program specific courses (noted by their VET prefix in the course code) are not transferable; however the experiences and education you receive in our program is an excellent base for further study. Students interested in pursuing a DVM (Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree) should consider an Associate of Science degree during their time at CMC.

9) *What is the campus like? Will I be a number to my instructors or will they know me by name?*

By name. The Spring Valley Campus is a small and friendly campus surrounded by exceptionally beautiful country. The VT class size varies from year to year but is relatively small and allows us to get to know each other personally. First year VT classes contain 25-32 students. Sophomore classes typically average ~ 15-20 students. Colorado Mountain College is a very student oriented college, with a focus on encouraging student success

10) *Do the Vet Tech students have a club and if so, what does it do?*

The Vet Tech students have a very strong and active club. The club maintains a student chapter with NAVTA (National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America). Activities in the past have included fund raising (dog washes, horse poker rides, Pet Food Drive etc), trips to Denver to see the Stock Show, visit Senior Centers or the Denver Zoo. The Vet Tech club is strong because of its student participation. We encourage you to be an active member or a club officer during your time at CMC.

11) *What about financial aid?*

The college has a broad range of financial aid. Contact Eileen Montpas, Financial Aid Assistant at 970-947-8277 or emontpas@coloradomtn.edu for details.

12) *What about residence halls, apartments, off-campus living, employment assistance, foreign student matters, payment plans, and veteran affairs?*

You will receive this information after you submit your application. If you have additional questions contact the Admissions Office at 970 947-8276.

13) *What can I do to prepare myself for success in CMC's Vet Tech Program?*

One very important thing to do is to develop a sense of personal responsibility for your learning. The VT staff and faculty work very hard to guide you through the material but ultimately **you** are responsible for understanding the concepts presented. We suggest as a guideline that you plan to study 2 hours for each hour of classroom time. Another good idea is to get some experience in a veterinary practice. This helps to ground some of the details you will be exposed to at CMC. There is a lot of assigned reading in our program so it is helpful to develop good reading and comprehension skills. Some Vet tech students struggle with math so you may want to review your basic math skills.

14) *Do I need to have a computer?*

No. You have access to several computers at the Vet Tech Center, and there are wireless hubs throughout campus. Additionally, the Spring Valley campus has 2 computer labs that are open for student use - one in the Quigley library and the other is in the Calaway Academic building.

15) *What about an Honor code?*

Veterinary medicine is an honorable profession based on unconditional honesty and sound morals. We expect and insist upon this from our students at all times. This applies to all aspects of the program including, but not limited to assignments, testing, animal care treatments, and medical record keeping. We have a formal honor code that all VT students sign and agree to abide by.

16) *Is this a 9-5 program?*

No. In addition to the regularly scheduled classes and labs, each semester, each student is assigned 2 weeks (including weekends) of animal care responsibilities (feeding, watering, cleaning etc). There are also times when we diagnose and treat our animals outside regular classroom time. Veterinary practice is not 9-5 and neither is veterinary technician school.

17) *This all sounds pretty serious. Is it any fun?*

Yes. Although veterinary medicine is very serious business, the staff and faculty recognize the importance of enjoying what we are doing. We keep our classrooms and labs informal and have fun along the way.

18) *I don't like cats/horses/cattle/rodents etc. Do I have to work with them?*

Many of our students come to us with apprehension about working with certain species. We have found that after supportive, expert instruction with the animal, many students realize their feelings and interest have changed. We are sensitive to this issue and encourage free and open communication.

Application Procedure for Vet Tech Students

We accept the first 32 qualified applicants. Applying early increases the likelihood you will be attending our VT program the following fall.

1. Complete your online CMC application
2. Complete and submit the Veterinary Technology Packet to the Admissions Office *Submitting this completed packet will hold your seat in the VT program if you meet the Reading, English and Math requirements for the program.*
3. Submit SAT, ACT or Accuplacer scores - *The scores need to be within the last five years.*
4. Submit official academic transcripts - *high school or college*

The application materials will be reviewed and evaluated by Admissions Staff and Veterinary Technology Program Faculty.

Supplies and Equipment for Vet Tech students

Proof of most recent tetanus vaccination: If it has been *more than 10 years* since your last vaccination, a booster is required.

Required equipment for 1st year:

- Lab coat: \$25 to \$35
- Scrubs: \$20 to \$40
- Thermometer (digital): \$5 to \$10
- Watch: \$10
- Stethoscope: \$60 to \$85
- Pocketknife: \$25
- Calculator: \$5 to \$10
- Closed-toe shoes (for labs)
- Boots
- Coveralls or overalls
- Coat, hat and gloves

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Two-Year Track

First Semester - Fall

VET 100	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	2 credits
VET 103	Veterinary Technology Math	1 credit
VET 105	Animal Handling & Restraint	2 credits
VET 111	Animal Care I	1 credit
BIO 230	Animal Anatomy & Physiology I	4 credits
VET 121	Clinical Pathology I	5 credits
ENG 121	English Composition	<u>3 credits</u>
		18 credits

Second Semester - Spring

BIO 232	Animal Anatomy & Physiology II	4 credits
BIO 204	Microbiology	4 credits
VET ____	Veterinary Technology Species Management	1 credit
VET 102	Computer Apps for Veterinary Technicians	1 credit
VET 123	Clinical Pathology II	5 credits
VET 224	Pharmacology	3 credits
VET 112	Animal Care II	<u>1 credit</u>
		19 credits

Third Semester - Fall

COM 115	Public Speaking	3 credits
or COM 125	Interpersonal Communications	
PSY 101	General Psychology I	3 credits
or PSY 106	Human Relations	
VET 201	Anesthetic Nursing	3 credits
VET 202	Anesthetic Nursing – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 206	Radiography	3 credits
VET 207	Radiography – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 208	Veterinary Medical Nursing I	3 credits
VET 211	Animal Care III	<u>1 credit</u>
		20 credits

Fourth Semester - Spring

VET 203	Surgical Nursing	3 credits
VET 204	Surgical Nursing – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 260	Veterinary Clinical Management	3 credits
VET 209	Veterinary Medical Nursing II	3 credits
VET 287	Work Experience	5 credits
VET 212	Animal Care IV	<u>1 credit</u>
		17 credits

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 74 credits

Three-Year Track

First Semester - Fall

VET 100	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	2 credits
VET 103	Veterinary Technology Math	1 credit
VET 105	Animal Handling & Restraint	2 credits
BIO 230	Animal Anatomy & Physiology I	4 credits
ENG 121	English Composition	<u>3 credits</u>
		12 credits

Second Semester - Spring

BIO 232	Animal Anatomy & Physiology II	4 credits
BIO 204	Microbiology	4 credits
VET ____	Veterinary Technology Species Management	<u>1 credit</u>
		9 credits

Third Semester - Fall

COM 115	Public Speaking	3 credits
or COM 125	Interpersonal Communications	
VET 111	Animal Care I	1 credit
VET 121	Clinical Pathology I	<u>5 credits</u>
		9 credits

Fourth Semester – Spring

PSY 101	General Psychology I	3 credits
or PSY 106	Human Relations	3 credits
VET 123	Clinical Pathology II	5 credits
VET 224	Pharmacology	3 credits
VET 112	Animal Care II	1 credit
VET 102	Computer Apps for Veterinary Technicians	<u>1 credit</u>
		13 credits

Fifth Semester - Fall

VET 201	Anesthetic Nursing	3 credits
VET 202	Anesthetic Nursing – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 206	Radiography	3 credits
VET 207	Radiography – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 208	Veterinary Medical Nursing I	3 credits
VET 211	Animal Care III	<u>1 credit</u>
		14 credits

Sixth Semester - Spring

VET 203	Surgical Nursing	3 credits
VET 204	Surgical Nursing – Laboratory	2 credits
VET 260	Veterinary Clinical Management	3 credits
VET 209	Veterinary Medical Nursing II	3 credits
VET 287	Work Experience	5 credits
VET 212	Animal Care IV	<u>1 credit</u>
		17 credits

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 74 credits

There is some flexibility in the scheduling of general education and non-sequential courses. Please see your advisor for additional information.

NOTE: Credit load during 3rd and 4th semesters is fewer than 12 credits.

Course Descriptions

VET-100 Introduction to Veterinary Technology

This course is designed to introduce students to the veterinary profession and discusses career possibilities for the graduate veterinary technician. Topics will include medical terminology, ethics, breed identification of various species, occupational hazards, and career paths.

VET-102 Computer Applications for Veterinary Technicians

This course will provide students with computer application skills appropriate for the veterinary setting. Students will use spreadsheet, word processing, and database software and perform Internet research. Students will apply the knowledge to use common veterinary software for client, patient, and all hospital records.

VET-103 Veterinary Technology Math

Presents a broad spectrum of information commonly referred to as Posology, which is defined as the study of dose and dosage in the field of applied pharmacology. This broad spectrum ranges from basic mathematics, elementary algebra, measurements, drug orders, and dose calculations to other calculations. The goal of this course is that each student be confident and capable of calculating correct drug doses regardless of the physical form of the medication.

VET-105 Animal Handling and Restraint

This is an introductory course in proper handling, restraining, sexing, and basic manipulation of animals that are encountered in a veterinary practice. Restraint for administration of medication is an integral part of veterinary practice. Hands on practice on large and small domestic animals, avian species, and various others will be performed in this course.

VET-111 Animal Care I

This course provides practical application of concepts learned in the academic Veterinary Technology courses. Animals belonging to the program will be fed and maintained by the student. Each semester the student is assigned 14 days of morning and evening animal care responsibilities. This includes two weekends. Sick and injured patients will be cared for by the students under the direction of the staff veterinarians.

VET-112 Animal Care II

This course provides practical application of concepts learned in the academic Veterinary Technology courses. Animals belonging to the program will be fed and maintained by the student. Each semester the student is assigned 14 days of morning and evening animal care responsibilities. This includes two weekends. Sick and injured patients will be cared for by the students under the direction of the staff veterinarians.

VET-121 Clinical Pathology I with Lab

This course is a clinical parasitology course dealing with the major parasite types that are encountered with companion animals and livestock. Major parasite types include: external parasites such as fleas, lice, ticks, and mites; nematodes; cestodes; trematodes; and filaroid worms. Specific parasite diseases will be discussed, such as Lyme Disease, Heartworm, Equine Strongyles, and exotic parasites. The basic laboratory provides clinical experience in diagnostic techniques used for parasites and urine. Urinalysis techniques will include macroscopic, microscopic, and chemical evaluations.

VET-123 Clinical Pathology II with Lab

This course is a continuation of disciplines that comprise clinical pathology and will include urinalysis, hematology, and clinical chemistry examinations. Topics will include renal function review, urine collection, urinalysis interpretation, blood collection, leukocyte and erythrocyte formation and function, disease processes, and blood chemistry tests and their uses in diagnosis and prognosis. The laboratory is designed to develop competence in diagnostic procedures in the area of hematology. This course will compare hematologic traits of numerous species. Clinical biochemistry evaluations will be performed. Basic cytological examinations will be introduced.

VET-126 Equine Management

This course is designed to provide students with a basic knowledge of the equine. Topics include breeds of horses and their uses, general care of the horse, equine grooming and hoof care, nutrition and feeding of the horse, tack and tack care, equine leg care and basic lameness, equine disease, and vaccination. The format will include lectures and practical demonstrations with horses.

VET-132 Feline Management

This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge and management techniques regarding the feline. The approach will be establishment of successful cattery. Specific feline problems and their solutions will be emphasized. Topics

include: cat breeds and economic importance, feline grooming, feline diet and nutrition, feline diseases and medical conditions, breeding and reproduction.

VET-134 Exotic Pet Management

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge of the particular problems encountered with exotic pets. Species would include: pet birds, reptiles, amphibians, tropical fish, ferrets, pet rodents, pet pigs, and others. Topics for each species include: anatomy and physiology, feeding and nutrition, housing, behavior, diseases, and disease prevention.

VET-135 Wildlife Management

This course is primarily a wildlife first aid and emergency management course designed for the student who desires to work with injured and otherwise impaired wildlife. Topics include: wildlife life support systems, shock management, emergency triage methods used with wildlife, first aid, and patient monitoring.

VET-136 Canine Behavioral Management

This course is a combined lecture, demonstration, and laboratory course designed to train the student in the basics of canine behavioral therapy. Types of behavioral problems, their prevention, and treatment will be discussed. Basic behavioral principles will be demonstrated with canines.

VET-201 Anesthetic Nursing

This course explains the physiological and pharmacological changes produced by utilizing anesthetic drugs on veterinary patients. Topics include: pre-anesthetic medication and patient evaluation, induction agents, injectable anesthetics, inhalation anesthetics, local anesthetics, muscle relaxants, gas machines, patient monitoring, and anesthetic emergencies and how to manage them.

VET-202 Anesthetic Nursing Laboratory

Animals will be anesthetized and monitored using a wide variety of agents used in practice and research. Students under direct faculty supervision will calculate drug doses, administer the drugs via various routes, intubate appropriate patients, connect gas machines, and maintain anesthesia for surgical preparation and procedures.

VET-203 Surgical Nursing

Introduces techniques used in the process of assisting a surgeon in both large and small animal surgical procedures. Topics include: patient preparation, personnel preparation, surgical instrument sterilization and care, instrument identification and use, wound healing, shock and cardiac arrest, and the treatment of surgical emergency conditions.

VET-204 Surgical Nursing Laboratory

Practical application of surgical anesthesia and surgical assisting procedures will be covered in this course. Animal surgeries will be performed by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and the student will assist in the roles of scrub nurse, circulating nurse, equipment and patient preparation staff, and radiological technician. Proficiency will be determined by task performance and evaluation.

VET-206 Radiography

Students will learn the basics of producing a diagnostic X-ray to be interpreted by the veterinarian. Included will be topics such as: X-ray production, radiographic exposure, composition of X-ray film, and radiation safety techniques.

VET-207 Radiography Laboratory

Through taking and processing X-rays, the student will learn the correct methods of producing diagnostic radiographic exposures. Included will be techniques involving both large and small animals. This laboratory will be run in conjunction with the Anesthetic Nursing Laboratory. Radiation safety will be heavily emphasized for the protection of the student.

VET-208 Veterinary Medical Nursing I

This course is designed as a system-based pathophysiology course that discusses each major body system and the way disease can alter that system's physiological response. VMN I focuses on veterinary medical problems for large animals including horses, llamas, and ruminants. Topics include: dentition, gastrointestinal, respiratory, eye and ear, central nervous conditions, and health programs.

VET-209 Veterinary Medical Nursing II

This course is designed as a system-based pathophysiology course that discusses each major body system and the way disease can alter that system's physiological response. VMN II focuses on veterinary medical problems for small (companion) animals including dogs and cats. Topics include dentition and dental care, gastrointestinal, respiratory, eye and ear conditions, and health programs.

VET-211 Animal Care III

This course provides practical applications of concepts learned in the academic Veterinary Technology courses. Animals belonging to the program will be fed and maintained by the student. Each semester the student is assigned 14 days of morning and evening animal care responsibilities. This includes two weekends. Sick and injured patients will be cared for by the students under the direction of the staff veterinarians.

VET-212 Animal Care IV

This course provides practical applications of concepts learned in the academic Veterinary Technology courses. Animals belonging to the program will be fed and maintained by the student. Each semester the student is assigned 14 days of morning and evening animal care responsibilities. This includes two weekends. Sick and injured patients will be cared for by the students under the direction of the staff veterinarians.

VET-224 Pharmacology

In this course the student will learn the principles of pharmacology, mechanisms of drug actions, specific drugs, and mathematical equations as they relate to pharmacology.

VET-260 Veterinary Clinic Management

Standard office procedures and administrative techniques used in a veterinary hospital are covered in this course. Topics include client and public relations, medical and financial records, inventory procedures, grief therapy, veterinary ethics, and law.

VET-287 Work Experience

This course is a seven-week experience in a veterinary hospital, clinic, or other veterinary establishment. The student will be evaluated by the veterinarians and technicians in the work experience as well as VT program faculty based on cumulative examinations, both written and practical.

BIO-204 Microbiology

Examines microorganisms with an emphasis on their structure, development, physiology, classification, and identification. The laboratory experience includes culturing, identifying, and controlling microorganisms with an emphasis on their role in infectious disease.

BIO-230 Animal Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab

By studying the body's structure as a series of interrelated systems, the student will develop a basic knowledge of anatomy and physiology. Topics include the cell; tissues; integumental, muscular, and skeletal systems. Through laboratory dissection the student will reinforce the knowledge of the lecture portion of the course. This is a lecture course with a hands-on laboratory. Emphasis will be placed on animal anatomy and physiology.

BIO-232 Animal Anatomy & Physiology II with Lab

This course continues the study of anatomy and physiology presented in BIO-230. Topics include digestive, reproductive, respiratory, cardiovascular, renal, endocrine, and nervous systems. Through laboratory dissection the student will reinforce the knowledge of anatomy learned in the lecture portion of the course. Emphasis will be placed on animal anatomy and physiology.

ENG-121 English Composition I

This course emphasizes the planning, writing, and revising of compositions, including the development of critical and logical thinking skills. Includes a minimum of five compositions that stress analytical, evaluative, and persuasive and argumentative writing.

PSY-101 - General Psychology I

Focuses on the scientific study of behavior including motivation, emotion, physiological psychology, stress and coping, research methods, consciousness, sensation, perception, learning, and memory.

PSY-106 Human Relations

Emphasizes the development and practice of effective interpersonal skills on and off the job.

COM-115 Public Speaking

Combines basic theory of speech communication with public speech performance skills, speech delivery, preparation, organization, support and audience analysis.

COM-125 - Interpersonal Communication

Examines the communication involved in interpersonal relationships occurring in a family, social, and career situations. Relevant concepts include self-concept, perception, listening, nonverbal communication, and conflict negotiation.

Policy on Essential Functions for Veterinary Technology

Physical and intellectual requirements

The field of veterinary technology is both intellectually and physically challenging. The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ensure that qualified applicants have the ability to pursue program admission however, the applicant must meet the essential skills and technical standards to perform functions required of the Program and profession. Every student will be held to the same standards with or without reasonable accommodations. Students within the program must not pose a threat to the well-being of patients, other students, staff or themselves.

- Vision, with or without correction, must allow the determination of minute areas of detail, very small variations in color and adequate depth perception (size, shape and texture), including differentiation of details as viewed through a microscope. Visual ability must be sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care both from a distance and close by in order to recognize physical status and non-verbal responses including behaviors.
- Speech and hearing must permit clear and effective communication with colleagues, clients, faculty and staff without lip reading. Auditory ability must be sufficient to monitor and assess health status, including auscultation of heart and lungs, and hear equipment alarms and warning sounds from animals and humans of impending danger or injury.
- Students must be able to read, write, speak and report accurately and effectively in English.
- Students must be able to comprehend and carry out complex written and oral directions given in English.
- Students must possess the physical ability to tolerate walking and standing for sustained periods of time, be capable of lifting and/or carrying up to 50 pounds from floor to waist level frequently, and be capable of handling, positioning, and restraining live animals of small and large animal species.
- Students must be able to move his/her entire body a distance of no less than three meters within two seconds of a signal to do so, to move from danger while handling animals in confined spaces.
- Students must possess fine motor movements in order to perform the essential functions of the profession. This includes the dexterity to manipulate small equipment, adjust resistance on equipment, manage syringes, catheters, and common surgical instruments.
- Students must possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and to perform nursing duties in a timely manner. Examples include performing palpation during physical exams, administering oral, intramuscular, subcutaneous, and intravenous medication, insert and remove tubes and perform wound care.
- Student should be able to have sustained contact with multiple species of animals and be amenable to learning the safe handling, restraining, and working with these animals. An individual should not be allergic to domestic animals to the extent that would prohibit working in a facility that has them.
- Student must be able to work around strong chemicals.
- Students must be able to function in a structured environment within significant time constraints.
- Students must possess a willingness to assist with and perform a wide variety of routine medical, surgical, and diagnostic procedures common to the veterinary setting; including humane euthanasia.
- Students must be able to complete required tasks/functions under stressful conditions, including emergencies situations.
- Students must demonstrate socially appropriate behavior; maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close human and animal contact.
- Students must be able to progress toward minimal supervision as they advance through the program.
- Students must be able to interact appropriately with clients and all members of the veterinary healthcare team.
- Students must be at least 17 years of age and have a high school diploma or its equivalent.

Students receiving accommodations for classes or for any other program related purpose must report the accommodation to the Program Director and individual instructors prior to the start of each semester. It is the students' responsibility to notify the Veterinary Technology Program of any necessary accommodation for disability. Our Disability Services Coordinator can be reached at 970 947- 8256.