

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY (A.A.S.)

<https://colsa.unh.edu/thompson-school-applied-science/program/aas/veterinary-technology>

Description

The primary goal of the veterinary technology program is to provide students with exceptional technical and clinical reasoning skills and knowledge in veterinary technology such that graduates will be prepared to pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to be immediate and valuable members of a veterinary medical team. Additionally, the program aims to develop a firm foundation in both farm animal and companion animal veterinary practices. Courses in the program cover basic sciences, veterinary nursing, and veterinary practice management, with a strong focus on hands-on practical knowledge throughout the curriculum. Students gain basic knowledge and skills for the major domestic animal species (dog, cat, horse, and cow). Integration of knowledge in communication, veterinary ethical and legal issues, veterinary practice management, clinical reasoning skills, and hands-on technical skills allow students to become complete veterinary technicians, capable of providing high-quality, compassionate, and expert care to animals both small and large.

Practical learning experience is provided at the [PAWS Veterinary Teaching Clinic](#), the [UNH Equine Facilities](#) and the [Thomas P. Fairchild Dairy Teaching and Research Center](#). The program has a number of animal-related educational partnerships, including those with the [New Hampshire SPCA](#) in Stratham, N.H., and the [Pope Memorial Humane Society of Cochecho Valley](#) in Dover, N.H.

The program is accredited by the [AVMA](#). Students who graduate from an accredited program are eligible to take the [Veterinary Technician National Exam \(VTNE\)](#) and pursue credentialing.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 64 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 16 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery Program

Major, Option, and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Veterinary Technology Requirements

Students must demonstrate all of the following for retention in and completion of the veterinary technology program:

1. Courses must be completed in proper sequence, according to prerequisites listed in the course catalog.
2. To progress in the program, students must:

- a. Earn a minimum of 70% on their exam average in each VTEC course.
 - b. Earn a minimum of 80% on their skills grades in VTEC 579 and VTEC 580.
 - c. Receive a minimum grade of C+ (2.33 grade point) or better in all required AAS and VTEC courses.
3. Students who fail to meet retention requirements after 3 semesters will not be allowed to progress further in the program until retention requirements have been met.
 - a. Students are allowed to repeat any major course once. If the student does not meet the grade standard on the retake, they must repeat the class again before taking other major courses.
 - b. Students are allowed to repeat no more than two major courses.
 - c. Students who fail to meet program grade standards in a third course will not be allowed to proceed in the program.
 4. Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA in major courses to take additional courses in major.
 5. Students must have a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA in major to qualify for graduation from the program.
 6. Students must successfully complete all required skills listed in the Veterinary Technology Essential and Recommended Skills List developed by the AVMA (the accrediting body for this program).
 7. All coursework in the veterinary technology curriculum should be completed within five years of initial program enrollment. If this cannot be accomplished, the student may be required to reapply to the program for a new admission status and all veterinary technology specific courses may have to be repeated.

Students must show proof of pre-exposure rabies immunization or adequate rabies titer prior to enrollment in the program. Transportation is provided to students for practicum coursework. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation during internship experiences.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
AAS 421	Large Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques	2
AAS 428	Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals	4
CHEM 411	Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences	4
VTEC 424	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	2
VTEC 430	Companion Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques	4
VTEC 435	Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics	4
VTEC 449	Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques I	4
VTEC 497	Veterinary Technology Work Experience	0
VTEC 550	Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques II	4
VTEC 565	Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians	4
VTEC 575	Veterinary Anesthesia and Surgical Assisting	4
VTEC 579	Small Animal Practicum I	4
VTEC 580	Small Animal Practicum II	4
VTEC 583	Large Animal Practicum	2
VTEC 595	Veterinary Technology Internship	3
VTEC 599	Comprehensive VTNE Review	4
Total Credits		53

Discovery Program Requirements

Students must complete 20 credits within the Discovery program; with at least one course in the following categories: Writing Skills, Quantitative Reasoning, Biological Science, Physical Science, and Social Science.

Code	Title	Credits
Writing Skills - Required Course		
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
Biological Science - Required Course		

VTEC 435	Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics	4
Physical Science - Required Course		
CHEM 411	Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences	4
Quantitative Reasoning Recommendations		
Select one:		
BIOL 528	Applied Biostatistics I (Recommended for students pursuing ANSC 2+2 articulation)	4
MATH 420	Finite Mathematics	
MATH 439	Statistical Discovery for Everyone	
PAUL 450	Personal Finance	
PSYC 402	Statistics in Psychology	
SOC 402	Statistics	
Social Science Category Recommendations		
Select one:		
NURS 535	Death and Dying	4
OT 520	Happy and Healthy at Work: Promoting Wellness, Diversity and Inclusion	
PSYC 401	Introduction to Psychology	
SOC 400	Introductory Sociology	
SOC 450	Contemporary Social Problems	
SW 550	Human Behavior and Social Environment I	
SW 551	Human Behavior and Social Environment II	

VTEC 595	Veterinary Technology Internship	3
VTEC 599	Comprehensive VTNE Review	4
Social Science		4
Credits		17
Total Credits		65

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- The primary goal of the veterinary technology program is to provide students with exceptional technical and clinical reasoning skills and knowledge in veterinary technology such that graduates will be prepared to pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to be immediate and valuable members of a veterinary medical team. Additionally, the program aims to develop a firm foundation in both farm animal and companion animal veterinary practices. Courses in the program cover basic sciences, veterinary nursing, and veterinary practice management, with a strong focus on hands-on practical knowledge throughout the curriculum. Students gain basic knowledge and skills for the major domestic animal species (dog, cat, horse, and cow). Integration of knowledge in communication, veterinary ethical and legal issues, veterinary practice management, clinical reasoning skills, and hands-on technical skills allow students to become complete veterinary technicians, capable of providing high-quality, compassionate, and expert care to animals both small and large.
- Specific skills and decision making abilities are outlined by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accrediting body.

Disclosures

Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures

The University of New Hampshire offers a number of academic programs designed to lead to professional licensure or certification in New Hampshire. However, completing a UNH degree/program does not guarantee professional licensure or certification. Eligibility may also depend on factors like years of work experience, professional examinations, passing a background check, and other criteria.

UNH does not guarantee that its professional licensure programs will satisfy the criteria of professional licensure boards in other states. Some states maintain different requirements for professional licensure or certification and requirements can change frequently. Federal regulations require the University to make public disclosure of certain information regarding professional licensure or certification programs, regardless of the modality the program is offered (i.e., in-person or online). The University provides guidance below but recommends students contact their state/territory licensing or certification board to ensure a program meets specific state/territory requirements.

Visit the Office of the Registrar's [website](#) for information about whether this program meets professional licensure requirements in your state.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
AAS 428	Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals	4
CHEM 411	Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences	4
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
VTEC 424	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	2
VTEC 430	Companion Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques	4
Credits		18

Spring

VTEC 435	Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics	4
VTEC 449	Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques I	4
VTEC 565	Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians	4
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Credits		16

Second Year

Fall		Credits
AAS 421	Large Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques	2
VTEC 497	Veterinary Technology Work Experience	0
VTEC 550	Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques II	4
VTEC 575	Veterinary Anesthesia and Surgical Assisting	4
VTEC 579	Small Animal Practicum I	4
Credits		14

Spring

VTEC 580	Small Animal Practicum II	4
VTEC 583	Large Animal Practicum	2