

# 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 Cochetco 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 practicum and internship coursework. Transportation is provided to students for practicum coursework. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation during internship experiences.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
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
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>53</b>

### 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
<b>Writing Skills - Required Course</b>		
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4

<b>Biological Science - Required Course</b>		
VTEC 435	Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics	4
<b>Physical Science - Required Course</b>		
CHEM 411	Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences	4
<b>Quantitative Reasoning Recommendations</b>		
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	
<b>Social Science Category Recommendations</b>		
NURS 535	Death and Dying	
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 444	You've Got Your Troubles, I've Got Mine	
SW 550	Human Behavior and Social Environment I	
SW 551	Human Behavior and Social Environment II	

Social Science	4
<b>Credits</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>65</b>

## Student 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.

## Degree Plan

### Veterinary Technology Program of Study

#### 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
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

#### 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
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>

#### 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
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14</b>

#### Spring

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