



Associate in Science in Veterinary Technology

Program Information Packet



The Veterinary Technology program is accredited by the
American Veterinary Medical Association 1931 N. Meacham Rd. Suite 100
Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360
800-248-2862

www.avma.org

Pensacola State College does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, gender/sex, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information in its educational programs, activities, or employment. For inquiries regarding Title IX and the College's nondiscrimination policies, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity and Student Conduct at (850) 484-1759, Pensacola State College, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola, Florida 32504.

Veterinary Technology Program Mission Statement

The mission of the veterinary technology program is to prepare quality candidate students to become entry-level veterinary technicians and life-long learners. A Pensacola State College Program graduate will be able to integrate their clinical and critical thinking skills to become competent, enthusiastic, and team-oriented veterinary technicians.

Veterinary Technology Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

- Program Goal #1:** **The student will perform clerical hospital/office duties routinely used in the field of veterinary medicine.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 1. Demonstrates proper intake of animals, exceptional documentation, and appropriate software.
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- Program Goal #2:** **The student will demonstrate knowledge of diseases and proper application of infection control procedures.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 2. Applies wellness and disease concepts through infection control procedures.
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- Program Goal #3:** **The student will perform clinical procedures and laboratory duties within a hospital setting.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 3. Demonstrates knowledge of specimen analysis, parasitology, microbiology, and cytology.
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- Program Goal #4:** **The student provides safe, humane, and effective care for common laboratory animals used in animal research.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 4. Demonstrates proper husbandry, restraint, and research techniques on laboratory animals.
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- Program Goal #5:** **The student will prepare animals for surgical procedures and monitor anesthesia.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 5. Demonstrates aseptic technique, proper positioning, and patient safety.
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- Program Goal #6:** **The student will apply the principles of pharmacology to the practice of veterinary medicine.**
- Student Learning Outcome: 6. Applies pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics when dispensing and administering various therapeutic agents to patients.

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General Information

The Associate in Science degree in Veterinary Technology provides students with a broad foundation in veterinary clinical work and prepares students to seek employment as veterinary technicians. The program uses a combination of lecture, laboratory, simulation, and clinical instruction.

This program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician and Education and Activities (CVTEA). Instruction is consistent with the CVTEA's Student Essential and Recommended Skills List and the Florida Department of Education curriculum framework. Accreditation allows the student to sit for the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) offered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) upon graduation.

This program is a limited access program, which means program admission and course registration are restricted to a limited number of students each semester due to accreditation requirements addressing student-faculty ratios and clinical resources. A student first will be admitted to Pensacola State College, and after satisfying all admission requirements for this program, the student is considered for admission to the Veterinary Technology-AS program. Application Pathways exist for students who have been admitted to the College and must complete any of the admission requirements. Students who do not have an earned Associate in Arts degree or earned baccalaureate degree may be placed in the Associate in Arts Pre-Veterinary Technology Advising Track. Students who have an earned Associate in Arts degree or earned baccalaureate degree may be classified as non-degree seeking.

The Associate in Science degree in Veterinary Technology accepts up to 24 students each Fall semester.

Occupational Outlook

Veterinarian Technicians can work in a variety of settings and command a varying salary based upon the employment setting. For the latest information regarding these statistics visit the Bureau of Labor and Statistics website for Veterinarian Technicians. <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes292056.htm>

The outlook for Veterinarian Technicians in Florida can also be found on the Bureau of Labor and Statistics website for Veterinarian Technicians: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/veterinary-technologists-and-technicians.htm>

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- High school Diploma or GED
- College Application
- Minimum grade of "C" or better and 2.75 GPA on Program Specific General Education Prerequisite Courses.

When the student has met the program admission requirements, the student's application is evaluated by the Office of Admissions and ranked according to the date on which the student completed the final requirement. Students are selected in that rank order.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Progression through the Associate in Science degree in Veterinary Technology program requires the following.

- A grade of C or higher in courses in the curriculum.
- Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in all courses applicable to the program of study.
- Satisfactory completion of clinical requirements which include the following:
 - Level II FDLE background screen;
 - Urine drug screen; and
 - Immunizations and Vaccines.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

- Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in all courses applicable to the program of study.
- Meet the academic residence requirement of completing at least 25% of the program with classes at Pensacola State College.

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Performance Standards

The Veterinary Technology program applicant should possess the following capabilities:

1. Be of sound mind and body to perform the professional duties of a Veterinarian Technician student without becoming injurious to self or others.
2. Sufficient physical, motor, sensory, intellectual, emotional, and social/communication skills to provide safe patient care utilizing a variety of equipment in Veterinary Clinic environment.

Examples of performance standards are outlined below.

Technical Standards/ Physical Abilities & Skills	Standard	Examples
Mobility	<p>Possess the physical ability to tolerate walking and standing for at least ten minutes at a time, multiple times an hour.</p> <p>Lift and/or carry up to 50 lbs. from floor to waist level or higher at least several times per day.</p>	<p>Walking independently with patients (carrying or leading) from exam room to treatment area, to kennel, to diagnostic lab; and care of all patients on a team and to assist clients in a veterinary office environment, standing for periods of time. Walking, standing, stooping, lifting, squatting, reaching, twisting, bending, pushing, pulling, dragging, or climbing for periods of time.</p>
Motor Skills	<p>Gross and fine motor skills to deliver safe and efficient patient care. Sufficient manual dexterity to manipulate equipment in the patient care setting.</p>	<p>Prepare, store, distribute medications. Demonstrate manual dexterity by manipulating small items, maneuvering equipment, hold hooves while cleaning and evaluation, manage syringes and catheters and common surgical instruments. Possess tactile ability necessary for physical assessment and to perform nursing duties in a timely manner, including palpation, administering oral, intramuscular, subcutaneous, and intravenous medication, wound care, determination of proper endotracheal tube size. Be able to hold surgical instruments in one hand and perform fine movements with such instruments.</p>
Hearing	<p>Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health status, including auscultation of heart and lungs, and hear equipment alarms and warning sounds from animals, humans, and/or equipment of impending danger or injury.</p>	<p>Ability to hear customers or patient's owner when speaking in a low tone. Auscultation of breath sounds, heart sounds, blood pressure, bowel sounds, hearing alarms, telephone tones and alerts, converse with patient's owner, and staff from varying distances with varying audible sounds from varying distances with varying audible sounds.</p>
Visual	<p>Visual ability 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.</p>	<p>Ability to determine minute areas of detail, very small variations of color and adequate depth perception; ability to characterize and interpret color, odor, clarity, and viscosity of body structures and fluids; observe variations in skin and mucus membrane color, integrity, pulsations, tissue swelling, etc.</p>

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Technical Standards/ Physical Abilities & Skills	Standard	Examples
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for medication preparation to deliver a safe product for patient care.	Prepares, administers, and documents activities related to medications in accordance with state and federal regulations or lawful institutional policy. Performing palpation, giving injections, sterile and non-sterile dressing changes. assist with patient care activities.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in coherent and concise oral and written form.	Follow spontaneous verbal and/or written instructions and effectively communicate in English. Ability to communicate the patient's response to other members of the health care team. Ability to consult with health care team members/workers in a professional manner. Make legible and coherent written notes in English within the margins and space provided on the appropriate forms or in appropriate management software.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal skills sufficient for interaction with patient's owners or individuals from diverse backgrounds (cultural, emotional, intellectual) in a variety of settings such as health care and retail settings.	Converse effectively with patient's owner in stressful patient care situations such as emergencies. Remain sensitive to the needs of the patient's owner through good communication and patient assessment. Maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close human and animal contact. Be able to interact appropriately with clients and all members of the veterinary healthcare team. Have the ability to exercise good judgement and make appropriate professional and procedural judgement decisions under stressful and/or emergent conditions, emergent demands, and a distracting environment.
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking sufficient for clinical decision-making	Ability to prioritize. Ability to reason, analyze and synthesize. Ability to retain information. Ability to function in a structured environment within significant time constraints and capability to make rapid decisions in urgent situations and meeting deadlines. Utilize time-management skills to perform job tasks. Evaluate, synthesize, and communicate diagnostic information to the attending veterinarian.

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Veterinary Technology Program Degree Requirements**Prerequisite Courses (10 cc)**

ENC 1101C	English Composition I	3 cc
BSC1010	Principles of Biology	3 cc
BCS1010L	Principles of Biology Lab	1 cc
MAC 1105	College Algebra	3 cc

Term 1 - Fall (12cc)

ATE 1110	Animal Anatomy & Physiology	3cc
ATE 1110L	Animal Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1cc
ATE 1650C	Introduction to Clinical Procedures	3cc
ATE 1311	Veterinary Office Procedures & Terminology	3cc
ATE 1050	Canine and Feline Behavior	2cc

Term 2 - Spring (15 cc)

ATE 1636	Large Animal Clinical Procedures	3cc
ATE 1636L	Large Animal Clinical Procedures Lab	1cc
ATE 2648	Radiology	3cc
ATE 2632	Small Animal Clinical Procedures II	3cc
ATE 2632L	Small Animal Clinical Procedures II Lab	1cc
ATE 1612	Large Animal Diseases	3cc
ATE 1941L	Clinical Work Experience I	1cc

Term 3 - Summer (9 cc)

ATE 2722	Avian, Exotic, Small Mammals and Fish	2cc
ATE 2671	Laboratory Animal Medicine	2cc
ATE 2671L	Laboratory Animal Med Lab	1cc
ATE 1942L	Clinical Work Experience II	1cc
See Choices	Social Sciences (General Education Core Course)	3cc

Term 4 - Fall (15 cc)

ATE 2634	Small Animal Clinical Procedures III	3cc
ATE 2634L	Small Animal Clinical Procedures III Lab	1cc
ATE 2630	Pharmacology	4cc
ATE 2710	Veterinary Emergency Medicine	3cc
ATE 2943L	Clinical Work Experience III	1cc
See Choices	Humanities (General Education Core Course)	3cc

Term 5 - Spring (12cc)

ATE 2618	Small Animal Diseases	3cc
ATE 2635	Small Animal Clinical Procedures IV	3cc
ATE 2635L	Small Animal Clinical Procedures IV Lab	1cc
ATE 2501	Professional Development Seminar	2cc
ATE 2511	Human Animal Bond	2cc
ATE 2944L	Clinical Work Experience IV	1cc

Total Credit Hours 73

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Who Can I Call If I Have Questions About the Program or The Application Process?

Department	Telephone #
Allied Health Department Head Dr. Mitzie Sowell.....	850-484-2301 msowell@pensacolastate.edu
Program Director Ms. Sarah Meyer	850-471-4673 smeyer@pensacolastate.edu
Academic Advising Offices Warrington Campus.....	850-484-2270
Pensacola Campus	850-484-1630
Milton Campus	850-484-4410
South Santa Rosa Center	850-471-4630
Century Center	850-471-4622
Admissions Warrington Campus.....	850-484-2270
Pensacola Campus	850-484-2544
Milton Campus	850-484-4410
South Santa Rosa Center	850-471-4630
Century Center	850-471-4622
healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu	
Financial Aid/Veteran Affairs/Scholarships Pensacola Campus.....	850-484-1680
Warrington Campus.....	850-484-2349
Milton Campus	850-484-4410

Estimated Cost of Program

Expenses	In-State	Alabama Residents	Out of State
Pensacola State College Matriculation Fee (first time students)	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Tuition – 73 credits (\$104.58/cc FL) (\$114.58/cc/AL), (\$419.76/cc out state)	\$7,634.34	\$8,364.34	\$30,642.48
Lab Fees	\$752	\$752	\$752
Books	\$1030	\$1030	\$1030
Tetanus, Rabies Vaccination, Liability Insurance	Varies	Varies	Varies
Uniform	Varies	Varies	Varies
Program Total	\$9,446.34	\$10,176.34	\$32,454.48