



ALAMO  
COLLEGES  
DISTRICT

Palo Alto College

# VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY



## WHAT IS A VETERINARY TECHNICIAN?

A Veterinary Technician is a person who successfully completed formal schooling with either a two-year or four-year degree from an American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accredited Veterinary Technology program. A Veterinary Technician is an integral part of the veterinary hospital staff, which is composed of individuals who are dedicated to ensuring high quality medical care for animals.

If you are interested in science, research in public health, as well as helping animals, Veterinary Technology is the career for you. Personal attributes that contribute to a successful career as a veterinary technician include:

- A strong science background and good basic math skills
- Ability to work well with people and animals
- Good communication and decision-making skills

## WHAT IS A REGISTERED, LICENSED, OR CERTIFIED VETERINARY TECH?

A graduate of an AVMA accredited veterinary technician or veterinary technology program may apply to become registered, licensed, or certified in the state where he or she lives. Although states vary in their requirements for becoming a credentialed veterinary technician (RVT, LVT, CVT), most require successful graduation from an AVMA accredited program plus a passing score on the Veterinary Technician National Examination. Some states may require passing a state examination as well. To find individual state requirements, you can contact the State Veterinarian's Office, the State Board of Medical Examiners, or regulatory offices in your state with similar titles.

# COMBINE YOUR LOVE AND COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS INTO A CAREER



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Program is fully accredited by AVMA as a program for educating veterinary technicians.
- State-of-the-art 15,000 square-foot facility on the Palo Alto campus.
- Facility includes a Clinical Pathology lab, an Anatomy/Physiology lab, a Parasitology lab, large animal facilities, a surgery prep room, a surgery suite, and recovery room.
- Courses taught by Registered Veterinary Technicians and Licensed Veterinarians



## DEGREES & CERTIFICATES OFFERED

- Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology
- Veterinary Assistant Level II Certificate

## WHAT CAN A CREDENTIALLED VET TECH DO?

A Vet Technician employed in a clinic or hospital handles many responsibilities that nurses and other professionals perform for physicians. They are trained to:

- Collect specimens and perform laboratory procedures
- Provide specialized nursing care
- Prep animals, instruments and equipment for surgery
- Assist in surgical procedures
- Expose and develop radiographs
- Perform dental prophylaxes

## CAREER AREAS & EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS

- Companion Animal Veterinary Technician
- Laboratory Animal Technician – research and development
- Large Animal Technician – equine or food animal
- Military or Government Veterinary Animal Technician
- Veterinary Technician in a zoo or aquarium facility
- Pharmaceutical sales
- Wildlife rehabilitation
- Teaching
- Specialty or Referral practice



For more information, contact:  
Palo Alto College  
Veterinary Technology  
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(210) 486-3355 | [alamo.edu/pac/vet-tech](http://alamo.edu/pac/vet-tech)



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