

VETERINARY NURSING, AAS

Program Code: Veterinary Nursing-AAS

Note: This degree/certificate leads to professional licensure in Nevada. Licensure requirements vary by state/territory and relocating could impact whether you will meet eligibility requirements for licensure. If you do not live in Nevada and/or do not intend to seek employment in Nevada, then your application for admittance will be under review to determine eligibility for licensure in your state prior to acceptance into the program. Please visit our Professional Licensure Programs (<https://www.tmcc.edu/vpaa/professional-licensure-programs>) page for full details on the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.

This program has special admission requirements. Please visit the program website for specific admission advising.

Program Description

The Associate of Applied Science, Veterinary Nursing program, also referred to as a veterinary technician, prepares the student to practice as a licensed veterinary technician (Vet Tech). Graduates may practice as technicians in general or specialty private practices, veterinary teaching hospitals, research facilities, pharmaceutical companies, or other agencies where veterinary technicians' skills are needed. Veterinary technicians may choose to specialize in areas including but not limited to anesthesia & analgesia, emergency & critical care, behavior, dermatology, dentistry, equine practice, nutrition, ophthalmology, zoo medicine, and surgical nursing.

Veterinary Nursing Career Map (<https://sites.tmcc.edu/flipbook/career-maps/>)

Recommended Course Schedule

1st semester		Units
Human Relations ⁴		3
ENG 101 or ENG 100 or ENG 113	Composition I or Composition Enhanced or Composition I for International and Multilingual Students	3
MATH 120	Fundamentals of College Mathematics (or higher)	3
Semester Total		9
2nd semester		Units
BIOL 190A & BIOL 190L	Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology and Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory (or other program recommendations or requirements.)	4
ENG 102 or ENG 114	Composition II or Composition II For International and Multilingual Students	3
Diversity/Fine Arts/Humanities/Social Science ⁵		3
U.S. and Nevada Constitutions ⁵		3
Semester Total		13
3rd semester		Units
VETN 101	Introduction to Veterinary Nursing	4
VETN 105	Veterinary Medical Terminology	1

VETN 110	Clinical Anatomy and Physiology I	4
VETN 125	Veterinary Office and Clinical Procedures	1
VETN 211	Animal Nutrition	2
Semester Total		12
4th semester		Units
VETN 112	Clinical Anatomy and Physiology II	4
VETN 128	Animal Nursing	4
VETN 203	Veterinary Clinical and General Pathology	4
VETN 205	Diagnostic Imaging	2
Semester Total		14
5th semester		Units
VETN 209	Parasitology	2
VETN 225	Pharmacology and Toxicology	2
VETN 235	Surgical Anesthesia, Nursing & Dental Procedures	4
VETN 240	Large Animal Procedures	4
VETN 266	Directed Veterinary Nursing Practical	2
Semester Total		14
6th semester		Units
VETN 208	Lab Animal Science and Exotics	2
VETN 227	Advanced Animal Nursing	4
VETN 250	Critical Care	3
VETN 267	Advanced Clinical Practices	2
Semester Total		11
Total Units		73

⁴ See approved General Education list for the AAS Degree. (<https://catalog.tmcc.edu/degrees-certificates/general-education/aas/>)

⁵ See program recommendations or requirements.

Special Admission Requirements

Please visit the Veterinary Nursing Program website (<https://www.tmcc.edu/veterinary-programs/nursing>) for the most current information on program admissions procedures.

The following requirements MUST be fulfilled by June 1 of the year in which you are applying for consideration for selection to the veterinary technician program.

- Must be an admitted (<http://www.tmcc.edu/vettech/application-procedures/>) student at TMCC.
- Must have completed the following or equivalent courses:

Code	Title	Units
BIOL 190A & BIOL 190L	Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology and Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory	4
or		
BIOL 189A & BIOL 190L	Fundamentals of Life Science and Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory	4
or		
BIOL 191A & BIOL 191L	Introduction to Organismal Biology and Intro to Organismal Biology Lab	4

ENG 101 or ENG 100 or ENG 113	Composition I Composition Enhanced Composition I for International and Multilingual Students	3
MATH 120	Fundamentals of College Mathematics (or higher)	3

Students must complete each class with a grade of “C” or better. The records office must receive an official copy of your transcript containing the course and grade.

- Submit veterinary technician program application and all required paperwork as described on the application (which is available online in the spring).
- Submit official transcripts of all college education.
- If spring semester coursework has not been posted to your transcript, a letter from the College’s registrar documenting coursework completed and final grade(s) must be provided to the records office.

Admission to the veterinary technician program will be based on completion of the special admissions procedures and the number of points an applicant receives. Eligible students will be numerically ranked according to total points. In the event of applicants having an equal number of points, the students’ GPAs (in all coursework applying toward an Associate of Applied Science, Veterinary Nursing degree) will be used to rank the tied group. In the event of a further tie, individual essays will be assessed to rank the tied group. Please see the veterinary technician program application for more information. From this ranked list, the fall class will be selected. Selection to the veterinary technician program occurs on a yearly basis for the fall semester. Applicants not selected will not be carried forward to the next year and must reapply for consideration.

Students’ progression in the veterinary technician program is contingent upon attaining and maintaining a grade of “C” or better in each class of the veterinary nursing program (VETN classes). Veterinary nursing courses are to be taken in the sequence outlined in the College catalog. General education support courses other than prerequisites may be taken at any time though it is strongly suggested classes be taken prior to acceptance into the program.

Veterinary technician students who are unable to progress from one course to another may apply for re-entry within one year of exiting the program. All re-entry admissions are on a space-available basis. Re-entry is not guaranteed. Upon the student’s re-admission, the program coordinator will outline the necessary coursework. Re-admission to the veterinary technician program is limited to one time only.

Veterinary technician graduates are eligible to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to apply for licensure in the state of their choice. Each state has specific criteria for licensure eligibility. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the state to ascertain eligibility requirements. Graduation from an AVMA accredited program is only one of the requirements and does not mean automatic licensure as a veterinary technician.

Program Requirements

AAS degrees are generally non-transfer degrees designed for students to enter the workforce.

To earn an AAS degree, students must:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 (see requirements for graduation.)
2. Complete a minimum of 15 units within the college.
3. Satisfy General Education requirements for the AAS (<https://catalog.tmcc.edu/degrees-certificates/general-education/aas/>).
4. Have no financial or library obligation to the college.

Code	Title	Units
General Education Requirements ²		
<i>Communications/English</i>		6
Required:		
ENG 101 or ENG 100 or ENG 113	Composition I Composition Enhanced Composition I for International and Multilingual Students	
ENG 102 or ENG 114	Composition II Composition II For International and Multilingual Students	
<i>Fine Arts/Humanities/Social Science ¹</i>		3
Recommended: Select a course which also fulfills Diversity		
<i>Mathematics</i>		3
Required:		
MATH 120	Fundamentals of College Mathematics (or higher)	
<i>Science</i>		4
Required:		
BIOL 190A or BIOL 190L	Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory	
or		
BIOL 189A or BIOL 190L	Fundamentals of Life Science Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory	
or		
BIOL 191A or BIOL 191L	Introduction to Organismal Biology Intro to Organismal Biology Lab	
Additional College Requirements ²		
<i>Diversity ¹</i>		[3]
<i>Human Relations</i>		3
Recommended:		
CE 201	Workplace Readiness	
EPY 101	Educational, Career, and Personal Development	
MGT 171	Supervision and Human Relations	
MGT 201	Principles of Management	
<i>U.S. and Nevada Constitutions</i>		3
Recommended:		
PSC 101	Introduction to American Politics	
Degree Requirements ³		
VETN 101	Introduction to Veterinary Nursing	4
VETN 105	Veterinary Medical Terminology	1
VETN 110	Clinical Anatomy and Physiology I	4

VETN 112	Clinical Anatomy and Physiology II	4
VETN 125	Veterinary Office and Clinical Procedures	1
VETN 128	Animal Nursing	4
VETN 203	Veterinary Clinical and General Pathology	4
VETN 205	Diagnostic Imaging	2
VETN 208	Lab Animal Science and Exotics	2
VETN 209	Parasitology	2
VETN 211	Animal Nutrition	2
VETN 225	Pharmacology and Toxicology	2
VETN 227	Advanced Animal Nursing	4
VETN 235	Surgical Anesthesia, Nursing & Dental Procedures	4
VETN 240	Large Animal Procedures	4
VETN 250	Critical Care	3
VETN 266	Directed Veterinary Nursing Practical	2
VETN 267	Advanced Clinical Practices	2
Total Units		73

¹ Course may also count toward degree requirements. Please consult with Academic Advising.

² General Education/Additional College degree requirements may be taken prior to the program or in the sequence listed below. A grade of "C" or better is required.

³ Students must earn a minimum grade of "C" or better in each degree requirement.

Program Outcomes

Students completing the degree will:

- PSLO1: Demonstrate a foundational knowledge needed within the veterinary field on subjects including anatomy and physiology, laboratory procedures, medical and surgical nursing skills, and an understanding of a variety of species, including companion animals, large animals, small animals, and birds.
- PSLO2: Demonstrate competency in all essential job skills as outlined by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA), including pharmacology, surgical nursing, dentistry, clinical laboratory testing, animal nursing, diagnostic imaging, emergency & critical care, and anesthesiology & pain management.
- PSLO3: Actively contribute as an integral member of a veterinary health care team while adhering to professional and ethical standards, including a strong work ethic, personal responsibility, and compassion for clients and animals.
- PSLO4: Effectively communicate with veterinary health care team members and clients to maintain a work environment that ensures the safety of clients, animals, and staff and ensures the appropriate care for patients. Effective communication is also needed to convey topics to the client related to common husbandry needs of the patient (for example, dietary needs) and for the sensitive subject of euthanasia and after care.