

RCTC PROGRAM PLAN

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

Associate of Applied Science

I. MINNESOTA TRANSFER CURRICULUM (MnTC)/

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.....16 CREDITS

GOAL 1: WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATION3 CR

COMM 1114, Fundamentals of Public Speaking, 3 cr OR

COMM 1130, Interpersonal Communication, 3 cr OR

ENGL 1117, Reading and Writing Critically I, 4 cr

GOAL 3: NATURAL SCIENCES7 CR

BIOL 1220, General Biology I, 4 cr

CHEM 1101, Elements of Chemistry, 3 cr

GOAL 5: HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES3 CR

PSYC 1611, Psychology of Adjustment, 3 cr OR

Credits from MnTC Goal 5

GOAL 6: HUMANITIES - THE ARTS, LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY3 CR

Choose one of the following courses:

PHIL 1125, Ethics, 3 cr OR

Credits from MnTC Goal 6

Required General Education courses must be completed with a grade of C or better.

II. PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS.....59 CREDITS

MATH 1026, Mathematics for Vet Technicians, 1 cr

*VT 1010, Veterinary Medical Terminology and Anatomy, 3 cr

*VT 1110, Introduction to Animal Health Technology, 3 cr

VT 1220, Small Animal Nursing Techniques I, 3 cr

VT 1410, Veterinary Surgical Nursing and Anesthesia, 2 cr

VT 1510, Veterinary Office Procedures, 2 cr

VT 1610, Fundamentals of Diagnostic Imaging, 3 cr

VT 1710, Introduction to Veterinary Technology Field Experience, 2 cr

VT 1810, Parasitology, 2 cr

VT 1900, Small Animal Care and Management, 2 cr

VT 2020, Comparative Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology, 2 cr

VT 2230, Small Animal Nursing Techniques II, 3 cr

VT 2240, Small Animal Nursing Techniques III, 2 cr

VT 2250, Large Animal Procedures, 3 cr

VT 2260, Veterinary Surgical Nursing II, 2 cr

VT 2270, Laboratory and Exotic Animal Care and Management, 3 cr

VT 2360, Veterinary Dentistry, 1 cr

VT 2720, Veterinary Technician Field Experience, 4 cr

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VT 2820, Clinical Laboratory Techniques I, 3 cr
VT 2830, Clinical Laboratory Techniques II, 3 cr
VT 2900, Kennel Management and Nutrition, 2 cr
VT 2910, Pharmacology and Disease for Veterinary Technicians, 4 cr
VT 2920, Small Animal Disease and Diagnostics, 2 cr
VT 2930, Applied Pharmacology and Nutrition, 2 cr

TOTAL.....75 CREDITS

PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the Veterinary Technician program at RCTC, students will achieve the following outcomes:

- Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations.
- Communicate in a professional manner in all formats – written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic.
- Safely and effectively administer and dispense prescribed drugs to patients.
- Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.
- Understand and demonstrate husbandry, nutrition, therapeutic and dentistry techniques appropriate to various animal species.
- Safely and effectively manage and maintain patients in all phases of anesthesia.
- Safely and effectively select, utilize and maintain anesthetic delivery and monitoring instruments and equipment.
- Understand and integrate all aspects of patient management for common surgical procedures in a variety of animal species.
- Understand and provide the appropriate instruments, supplies and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures.
- Demonstrate knowledge of proper handling, packaging and storage of specimens for laboratory analysis to ensure safety of patients, clients, and staff.
- Properly perform analysis of laboratory specimens.
- Safely and effectively produce diagnostic radiographic and non-radiographic images.
- Safely and effectively handle common laboratory animals used in animal research.
- Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for birds, reptiles, amphibians, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, and ferrets.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

PURPOSE: The Veterinary Technology department offers one major option: Veterinary Technician A.A.S Degree. The Veterinary Technician Program is designed for students to complete some prerequisites in Veterinary Technology and after successful completion provide an opportunity to advance into the Veterinary Technician Applied Associate Degree. Courses are arranged in a sequential manner with a field experience component scheduled in the summer semester for the first year and the spring of the second year. All students begin the Veterinary Technician program in the spring semester of the academic year. Courses continue in an arranged sequential manner and are designed to combine theory with practical experience.

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The Veterinary Technician curriculum is designed to prepare students for a career as a Veterinary Technician. Students are taught the skills and procedures to effectively contribute to the health and well-being of the animal patient. Veterinary Technicians are qualified to provide a diverse range of medical skills and responsibilities that include advance nursing care, anesthesia monitoring and induction, clinical laboratory testing and analysis, critical care support, surgery assisting, dental prophylaxis, radiographic imaging and client education.

OCCUPATIONAL OBJECTIVES: Training as a Veterinary Technician enables the student to work as professional technical support to veterinarians, biomedical researchers, and other scientists as well as positions in the pharmaceutical industries, animal control and humane organizations and local and state health departments. Opportunities for jobs exist in the following areas: Veterinary practice, Veterinary supply sales, Zoo/Wildlife Medicine, Diagnostic Laboratories, Biomedical research, Humane Societies, Military Service, Teaching, and Herd Health Managers.

ADMISSION: APPLICATION TO THE VETERINARY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM:

1. Meet college admission requirements.
2. Complete RCTC Veterinary Technician application form.
3. Submit official transcripts from high school and college (if any) for evaluation.
4. Seek academic advisement to ensure that all pre-requisites are complete.
5. Application is valid for the current year only.
6. Application deadline is November 15. Only offering a spring start.
7. Thirty-six students will be admitted annually.
8. Should there be more qualified applicants than are spaces available, students will be admitted according to GPA ranking and a score on a program 50 point test given in the middle of fall semester.
9. Must have completed program prerequisites prior to entrance into the program.
10. Admittance will be conditional until fall grades have been finalized.

PROGRAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

***PREREQUISITES:** Successful completion of VT 1010, Veterinary Medical Terms and Anatomy; VT 1110, Introduction to Animal Health Technology; Written and Oral Communications (Goal 1); CHEM 1101, Elements of Chemistry; and MATH 1026, Mathematics for Vet Technicians. All VT and required general education courses must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to continue to the next semester of the program.

Revised: 2/16/2024

Implementation: Fall 2024