



# Veterinary Technology (VET)

## Overview

The Veterinary Technician (Vet Tech) is a formally-educated, licensed veterinary health care professional who works under the supervision of a licensed Veterinarian (DVM/VMD). The Vet Tech performs duties and carries out treatment plans as directed by the DVM. Duties are varied and include, but are not limited to the application of diagnostic imaging modalities, dental health care, veterinary nursing, veterinary surgical assisting and suturing, veterinary emergency and critical care, veterinary anesthesia and analgesia, client communication, office management, medicinal dosing and treatment. Veterinary Technicians aid in the diagnosis and treatment of animal injuries, illnesses, diseases and the alleviation of pain and distress as well as routine wellness and preventative care. Veterinary Technicians are trained to assist veterinarians in the care of a wide variety of species including companion (dogs and cats), farm (horses, cattle, pigs, goats), exotic (zoo, household pets, avian) and laboratory (rodent, fish) animals. Career growth in veterinary medicine is exponential with abundant opportunities for advancement, job security, and professional longevity. Career paths include general practice, academia, specialty medicine, research, government/public health, industry/sales, zoological/conservation and many more.

## Degree Earned

Associate in Applied Science (AAS), Veterinary Technology

## Credentials Earned

Students who graduate in the Veterinary Technology Program will be eligible to sit for the national licensure exam (VTNE) and apply for state licensure.

Southern Union State Community College is accredited by the SACSCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) and is seeking accreditation of a new veterinary technology education program from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA). Graduation from a veterinary technology/veterinary nursing education program accredited by the CVTEA is the main pathway for eligibility to sit for the licensure examination.

The program will submit the formal application material required in the CVTEA pre-accreditation stage. Submission of this documentation does not assure that the program will be granted initial or full accreditation status. Achievement of initial accreditation status signifies satisfactory progress toward accreditation, and does not assure that the program will be granted full accreditation.

## Curriculum

**Prerequisites** (Must be completed prior to application with a grade of C or higher meeting a 2.5 GPA.)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Cr. hrs.</u>
BIO 103 General Biology	4
ENG 101 English Composition I	3
MTH 100 Inter. Algebra or higher	3
PSY 200 General Psychology	3
SPH 106 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (or SPH 107)	3
IDS 102 Ethics (preferred) or a Humanities Elective	3
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Other optional courses:

CHM 104 Introduction to Chemistry I  
HED 226 Wellness  
HPS 105 Medical Terminology

### Semester I

VET 113 Fundamentals of Vet. Tech.	3
VET 110 Vet Tech. Clinics I	2
VET 114 Anatomy & Phys. of Animals	5
VET 247 Laboratory & Exotic Animals	3
VET 280 Vet. Diagnostic Imaging	2
	<b>15</b>

### Semester II

VET 120 Veterinary Tech. Clinics II	3
VET 124 Clinical Proc. & Pathology	4
VET 236 Veterinary Parasit. & Micro.	3
VET 126 Animal Diseases & Immunol.	3
	<b>13</b>

### Semester III

VET 230 Vet Tech Clinics III	3
VET 275 Vet. Anesthesia & Analgesia	2
VET 246 Vet Tech Farm Animal Clinics	2
VET 234 Animal Pharm. & Toxicology	3
	<b>10</b>

### Semester IV

VET 122 Vet. Tech. Emerg./First Aid	5
VET 240 Veterinary Clinics IV	3
VET 250 Vet. Tech. Preceptorship	3
VET 244 Review in Veterinary Techn.	3
	<b>14</b>

**Total Credit Hours** 71  
(Hours include prerequisite courses)

### Length of Study

5-6 Semesters (71 total semester hours of which 19 semester hours of prerequisite course work are required for admission and 52 are VET specific coursework).

## Admission Requirements

*Notice: Admission requirements and procedures may change without prior notice. Please check with Health Sciences advisors or website for updates.*

In addition to the general admission requirements of the College, application to the Veterinary Technology program requires:

1. Attend info session prior to acceptance.
2. Completion of prerequisite academic core courses with a **minimum** grade of "C" or higher meeting a 2.5 cumulative GPA.
3. Minimum 2.0 GPA at Southern Union if previously enrolled. Transfer students must enter the College on clear status.
4. Official transcripts in Records Office from all postsecondary institutions attended and high school transcript.
5. Optional—Official score on ACT National or ACT Residual with a minimum composite score of 18 (no time limit on when the test was taken) **OR** bachelor's degree awarded. Applicants who choose to submit an ACT score/bachelor's degree may earn points towards their application.
6. Submission of application for Veterinary Technology Program during applicable submission dates only.

## Application Dates

### Valley Campus

Classes are admitted one time per year. Application window is February through May for fall admission.

## Meeting minimal requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

Admission to the Veterinary Technology program is competitive, and the number of students admitted is limited by the number of clinical facilities available. After meeting minimal requirements, applicants are rank-ordered for acceptance using a points system based on score on ACT/ACT Residual and quality points from selected college courses. Students may be eligible to earn additional points. See program application for details.

While not anticipated, should the Southern Union State Community College Veterinary Technology Program fail to be accepted by CVTEA for consideration of Initial or Full Accreditation status within the planned time frame, SUSCC may delay program dates and timelines until such approval is granted by CVTEA. Any students that have successfully met the VET admissions requirements and/or completed VET courses may be referred to other accredited, established VET programs in the Alabama Community College System, or graduation timelines may be delayed.

**For more information about admission to the program, contact: Hayley Pritchard, Veterinary Technology Program Director • 321 Fob James Drive, Valley, Alabama 36854 • hpritchard@suscc.edu or 334-756-4151 ext. 5207**