

NOVA

Northern Virginia
Community College
LOUDOUN CAMPUS



Veterinary Technology
A.A.S. Degree
Full-time and Part-time
Programs



Veterinary Technology Program Application Overview 2023

Important dates:

- **The next full-time and part-time cohorts begin in the Fall.**
- **The program application window is April 15th through June 1st.**

Welcome

Choosing a career in veterinary technology is an exciting and personally rewarding choice for many individuals. The students in our Veterinary Technology Program are a very diverse group of women and men, both experienced and inexperienced with animals. They all share a common goal, to obtain and utilize a degree in Veterinary Technology.

There are many occupational opportunities in this continually growing field and many specialized fields are constantly emerging. Our graduates are working in private practices with companion animals, exotics, and large animals. They work at zoos, wildlife rehabilitation centers, and aquariums. Many of our graduates work in specialty practices, pharmaceutical companies, research laboratories, and are practice managers. Qualified graduates work as instructors in veterinary technology programs. Some of our LVTs own their own companies such as kennels, pet sitting services, and even own their own veterinary hospitals. There are graduates of our program who have joined an elite group of LVTs and are recognized veterinary technician specialists (VTS) in disciplines such as anesthesia and analgesia, surgery, dentistry, emergency and critical care, behavior, equine veterinary nursing, internal medicine, laboratory medicine, clinical pathology, clinical practice, dermatology, physical rehabilitation, nutrition, zoological medicine, and diagnostic imaging.

Accreditation

Our program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). We award an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree and prepare you for the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE), a national exam required for licensure to practice veterinary medicine under the directive of a veterinarian.

Our Courses

The courses in our program offer a liberal amount of hands-on experience with small and large animals. Some of the skills and knowledge you will acquire through our program include:

- animal nursing techniques
- client relations and education
- preparation of patients, instruments and equipment for surgery
- specimen collection and performance of laboratory procedures
- radiographic and anesthetic techniques
- surgical assisting
- familiarization with anatomy, physiology, nutrition and animal diseases
- breeds and behavior

Prerequisite Requirements

We are committed to accepting students who show the strongest academic foundation. We expect our students to enter the program with excellent skill sets in writing, math, critical thinking, communication, teamwork, interpersonal/social skills, study skills, organizational skills and time management. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older. The required curriculum for Veterinary Technology students includes some Liberal Arts courses. These courses can either be taken prior to entering the program or after being accepted to the Program. Preference for admission is given to those applicants who have already completed these general education courses or already have a degree. Preference is especially given to applicants with a degree in a related field, such as animal science, or any of the natural sciences. Your transcripts are evidence of your academic preparedness and an indicator of your readiness to complete the rigorous veterinary technology coursework. Thus, in the admission review process, we will be considering the number of college credits and fundamental general education courses already completed and your cumulative grade point average (GPA). We will also note the number of withdrawals and failures you may have earned over time; they may indicate a student's inability to persist and we would be concerned about our ability to retain you through degree completion.

You must be a high school graduate/GED, with completion of the following college courses with a "C" letter grade or higher (a "C-minus" does not meet this requirement). **Grades for these courses must be posted prior to applying.**

- SDV101 Orientation to Veterinary Technology or SDV elective
- ENG111 College Composition I
- CHM101 Introductory Chemistry or CHM111 General Chemistry (preferred)
- MTH133 Mathematics for Health Professionals or MTH154 Quantitative Reasoning
- VET111 Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals

VET111 is only available at the Loudoun campus and can be completed on-campus or online. There are no substitutions for this course.

Review the most current academic NOVA Advising Sheet for a checklist of program requirements that fulfill the Applied Associates of Science degree in Veterinary Technology (A.A.S.).

General Education Requirements

Students who have been most successful in our program are those who have completed all non-Vet Tech courses. The following are additional courses that need to be completed before degree completion:

- CST110 Introduction to Communication (Speech)
 - CST126 may be substituted
- Humanities Elective: Refer to the current on-line NOVA course catalog for the list of courses that fulfill the humanities elective course.
- Social Science Elective: Refer to the current on-line NOVA course catalog for the list of courses that fulfill the social science elective course.

Veterinary Technology Course Requirements

Once accepted into the program, students are program-placed by the Loudoun campus and receive E-mailed instructions regarding when to register for the veterinary technology specific (VET-prefixed) sequence of courses.

Financial Aid

At the same time that you are preparing an application to be accepted to the Veterinary Technology program, be sure to also meet with a financial aid counselor on any campus to discuss the financial aid process, G3 Funding, and other financial aid options.

The Loudoun Campus financial aid counselors are located in the Reynolds building, LR237. Call toll-free 1-855-323-3199 first to confirm their weekday walk-in hours before you visit. Or you may email them: finaidsupport@nvcc.edu.

- Information about financial aid offices at all NOVA campuses can be found [here](#).
- The six-digit identification code for Northern Virginia Community College is **003727**.

APPLY HERE SECTION

The Full-Time and Part-Time Program application process is completed online and will open April 15th. We no longer accept mailed applications. Once final grades from your spring courses are posted, you should wait 2-3 business days to apply so that your grades will import properly during the application process.

Important Dates

- The application for the Veterinary Technology Program will close June 1st.
- Admissions notifications are generally sent on or before July 1st to the student's NOVA college E-mail address.
- Candidates with declined admission will be provided with re-application information.
- For accepted students only: New Student Orientation (NSO) is held the **first Monday of August and is mandatory to enter the program**. There are no exceptions.
- Program placed VET-prefixed classes begin in August and have the same schedule as all other NOVA courses.

**If you wish to apply to the Veterinary Technology Program,
it is required that you complete the following:**

1. Admissions Checklist

- a. Print out the current year *Admissions Checklist* to ensure that you meet and have completed all of the requirements and are including all of the supporting materials needed to apply to the preferred (Full-time or Part-time) Program.

2. Transcript Evaluation

- a. If not previously completed during your NOVA application: Submit a Request for Evaluation of Transcript Form (Form 125-049E) which must be completed online at <https://www.nvcc.edu/prior-learning/transfer.html>. Paper transcript evaluation request forms will no longer be accepted. You must submit a separate request for each transcript you would like to have evaluated. All international high school and international college transcripts must first be evaluated for course-by-course credit by an evaluation agency. Once you have received the completed course-by-course evaluation, follow the steps listed above to request final evaluation through NOVA Student Services.
- b. Recommended private services to use for international transcript translation and review:
 - i. World Education Services (WES) – <http://www.wes.org>
 - ii. International Education Research Foundation (IERF) – <http://www.ierf.org>
- c. If applicable, submit official score documents for Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) credits with packet.

3. Resume

- a. Resume must be single-spaced, 12-pt font, and a maximum of 2-pages.
- b. Submit your current resume listing your employment history, diplomas/degrees, certifications, skills, memberships, and extracurricular activities.

4. One Professional Reference

- a. Professional reference must include full name and credentials, title, place of work, phone number, and email address.
- b. Letters of reference should be obtained from a DVM, LVT, or Veterinary Practice Manager who knows you well, can speak of your character, and the kind of person that you are.
- c. Letters must be mailed to Dr. Kiana Adkisson-Selby, Program Head, in a sealed envelope with their signature over the seal.
 - i. Dr. Kiana Adkisson-Selby, Program Head
21200 Campus Dr.
LA Building, LA159
Sterling, VA 20164

5. Letter of Intent

- a. Letter must be single-spaced, 12-pt font, and a maximum of 2-pages.

- b. **Letter of intent for new applicants (Both Programs):** Describe your background including academia, work experience, life skills, and your interest in becoming a professional Licensed Veterinary Technician.
- c. **Letter of intent for re-applicants (Both Programs):** We want the students in our Program to maintain a vested interest in their own academic success. Please write an essay explaining why you withdrew from the Veterinary Technology Program and be sure to include the date of withdrawal. If you left the Program for academic reasons, describe what you have done or plan to do to ensure success if you are accepted back into the Program. How have you changed during your time away from the Program? What in your life has changed that will allow you to be successful this time? Have you set any personal goals that will help you achieve success in your academic career here at NOVA? Describe why you feel that you are ready to return to the Veterinary Technology Program at this time. Please include any other pertinent details.

6. Work Requirements

- a. All veterinary technology program students are required to work in the field and have a veterinarian and/or LVT as a mentor at the time of their application.
 - i. Full-Time Program: Requires students to work in the field an average of 10 hours per week or 150 hours per semester.
 - ii. Part-Time Program: Requires students to work in the field an average of 20 hours per week or 300 hours per semester.
- b. Download the Clinical Affiliation Agreement, Clinical Task List and Equipment Check List forms listed below.
 - i. [Clinical Affiliation Agreement](#)
 - ii. [Clinical Task List](#)
 - iii. [Equipment Check List](#)
- c. Have your mentor complete the Clinical Affiliation Agreement, Clinical Task List and Equipment List. We understand that clinics will not be able to provide all of the skills nor have all the necessary equipment.
- d. You will be required to upload all of the documents when applying online.
 - i. Only upload the first page of the Clinical Task List and Equipment List.

7. Application Completion Notification

- a. An automated E-mail will be sent confirming that your online application packet is received and complete.