



VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

The Veterinary Technology Program prepares students for a career in the animal welfare industry as Veterinary Technicians. Students will develop skills to assist Veterinarians with the treatment of animals by administering medications, testing blood and other samples, administering anesthesia and monitoring patients during and after surgery. Students will learn ways to work with, and educate, clients and pet owners on how to improve the health and welfare of their animals.



APPLY NOW!

www.novascotiaspca.ca/vt-applynow-pre

Program Starts September, 2023

Accelerated 2-Year Full-Time Program: 92 weeks of instruction with a planned graduation date of July 2025.

Classes are regularly scheduled from Monday to Thursday. Fridays are reserved for make-up days and instructor office hours for students to book appointments for individual help.

Prerequisites

- Applicants are required to have a Grade 12 Diploma, Adult Diploma or GED, as well as Grade 11 or 12 Biology with a minimum average of 65%, Grade 11 or 12 English with a minimum average of 65%, and Grade 11 or 12 Academic Math Level with a minimum average of 65%. Grade 11 or 12 Chemistry and/or Physics is considered an asset.
- 20 hours of volunteering in an animal hospital, shelter or refuge
- Interview with the program director
- PI cognitive and aptitude tests
- Three dose series of rabies vaccines and proof of current tetanus vaccination during or before first semester.

Graduation Requirements

- 70% or higher grade in each module
- Successful completion of required certifications
- Attendance of 90% or higher

Program Benefits

- **Tuition Scholarship Available:** Qualified students will receive scholarships for the 2023 VT Program.
- **Guaranteed Pathway to Employment:** Students graduating from the inaugural class with a minimum cumulative average of 85% are guaranteed employment in an SPCA facility in Nova Scotia with a starting salary of \$18/hour.
- **Hands on Training:** Students will have hands on training during the program in SPCA Shelter, Clinic and the Animal Redemption Centre (ARC) as well as other facilities.
- **Build strong working relationships** in the animal welfare community.

Instructors

Instructors are experienced industry professionals and are approved and regulated by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Private Career College Division.

Modules

Anatomy and Physiology

– 130 hours

This module teaches the comparative anatomy and physiology of canine, feline, equine and ruminant species.

Animal Behaviour – 58 hours

This module teaches the basics of animal behaviour with details for specific breeds and how this knowledge is applied to ensure animal welfare, safe animal handling and housing.

Introduction to Veterinary Technology – 33 hours

This module teaches an overview of the veterinary industry including regulation, ethics, terminology and occupational health and safety procedures.

Veterinary Sciences – 82 hours

This module teaches the basics of animal nutrition, genetics, embryology and veterinary mathematics.

Clinical Pathology Level 1 – 87 hours

This module is an introduction to the diagnostic tests that Veterinary Technicians perform on a daily basis.

Pharmacology – 112 hours

This module teaches the science of how major drug classes work in the body as well as how to identify expected and unexpected reactions to medications.

Clinical Pathology Level 2 – 120 hours

This module builds on the basics learned in Clinical Pathology Level 1. Students will learn to identify normal blood cells, urinalysis findings and parasite lifecycles.

Nursing Level 1 – 96 hours

This module teaches basic restraint techniques, methods of sample collection, bandaging, history taking, medicating and performing physical examinations.

Common Diseases – 98 hours

This module teaches the typical presentation, pathology and treatment protocols for the common diseases and emergency conditions seen in cats and dogs.

Surgical Nursing – 118 hours

This module is an in-depth study of the drugs, protocols and procedures used to safely perform anesthesia and surgery.

Large Animal Nursing Level 1 – 42 hours

This module provides an introduction to the industry, husbandry and nursing care for common large animal farm species.

Nursing Level 2 – 92 hours

This module builds on the basics taught in Nursing Level 1. Subjects include medical nutrition, sample collection, advanced patient care.

Radiology and Advanced Imaging – 49 hours

This module teaches the theory of radiology, radiation safety and the legal aspects of diagnostic radiology. The theory and application of ultrasonography, computed tomography, nuclear scintigraphy and magnetic resonance imaging are also covered.

Clinical Pathology Level 3 – 89 hours

This module teaches identifying abnormal blood cells, endocrinological testing, and troubleshooting laboratory errors.

Clinical Rotation Level 1 – 420 hours

This is a completely hands on module that allows students to apply all material learned to date in a real clinical setting.

Exotics, Wildlife and Laboratory Animal Medicine – 78 hours

This module teaches the husbandry, restraint sample collection and common diseases in these animals. Ethics and animal welfare issues are explored.

Client Communications and Computer Skills – 100 hours

This module teaches how to effectively and professionally communicate to ensure excellent customer service and patient care.

Dentistry – 66 hours

This module teaches comparative dental anatomy, pathology and oral veterinary care for dogs, cats, horses and ruminants.

Emergency and Critical Care – 71 hours

This module provides training in recognizing emergencies and typical emergency protocols.

Large Animal Nursing Level 2 – 64 hours

This module builds on the topics covered in Large Animal Nursing Level 1 and covers advanced nursing care and technical skills used in caring for Large Animals.

VTNE Preparation – 39 hours

This module prepares students to write the national licensing exam for Veterinary Technicians.

Clinical Rotations Level 2 – 252 hours

This is a completely hands on module that allows students to apply all material learned to date in a real clinical setting.

Clinical Internship – 240 hours

This is a 240-hour unpaid internship at an accredited veterinary hospital of the student's choosing.