

Veterinary Medical Technology Program Technical Standards

The Veterinary Medical Technology A.A.S. degree identifies graduates as being prepared for entry into the practice of veterinary medicine. Graduates must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care.

Students must have somatic sensation and functional use of the senses. They must be able to consistently, quickly, and accurately integrate all information received by whatever senses are employed. They must also have the intellectual ability to learn, integrate, and analyze data. Note that outcomes may not be all-inclusive and individual circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Students must be able to satisfy, with or without the use of reasonable accommodations, the following Technical Standards:

Auditory Standards:

Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs

- Expected Outcomes
 - ☐ Able to recognize and respond to voices
 - ☐ Able to hear medical equipment, emergency alarms, calls for help, cries of distress, and call bell
 - ☐ Able to hear heart, lung, bowel, and/or blood pressure sounds
- Program Specific Outcomes
 - ☐ Able to monitor patients for distress, cardiac, and respiratory function
 - ☐ Able to discern behavioral sounds from animals (barks, growls, etc.)

Behavioral and Emotional Standards:

Ability to demonstrate professional behavior

- Expected Outcomes
 - ☐ Demonstrate compassion, concern for others, flexibility, initiative, integrity, and cooperation
 - ☐ Accept responsibility, accountability and ownership for own actions as an emotionally mature individual
 - ☐ Display a strong work ethic
 - ☐ Accept constructive criticism and respond by appropriate modification
 - ☐ Demonstrate the ability to tolerate taxing workloads, function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in fast-paced clinical situations
 - ☐ Demonstrate emotional health and mental stability required for full utilization of intellectual abilities and exercise of good judgment
 - ☐ Develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with clinical team
 - ☐ Cope with psychological issues involving catastrophic illness, disability, and death; respond appropriately to emergencies
 - ☐ Manage academic schedules and deadlines

- ☐ Comply with the professional standards of your industry
- Program Specific Outcomes
 - ☐ Must possess the emotional health required for exercising good judgment and developing sensitive and effective relationships with animals

Communication Standards:

Ability to communicate effectively, in English, using verbal, nonverbal, and written formats with faculty, patients, families, other health care team members, and peers

- Expected Outcomes
 - ☐ Answer questions posed by patient, family members, physicians, faculty, and/or other health care team members
 - ☐ Demonstrate active listening skills
 - ☐ Assess nonverbal communications
 - ☐ Relay information to fellow students, faculty, staff, and members of the health care team
 - ☐ Receive, write, and interpret written communication in both academic and clinical settings
 - ☐ Able to resolve conflict with professionalism, respect, and sensitivity with people from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, physical, medical, and intellectual backgrounds
 - ☐ Perform or assist with patient education
- Program Specific Outcomes
 - ☐ Ability to interpret verbal and non-verbal cues from animals during all animal handling interactions and between animals interacting with each other or other species

Critical Thinking Standards:

Ability to collect, interpret, integrate and synthesize information to make decisions as well as the ability to read and comprehend relevant information in textbooks and professional literature

- Expected Outcomes
 - ☐ Able to assimilate knowledge from lecture, laboratory, and clinical arenas
 - ☐ Able to utilize basic mathematical skills
 - ☐ Able to identify cause and effect relationship in clinical situations
 - ☐ Able to acquire information from written documents and computer information systems; identify patient problems and develop appropriate patient goals and interventions; know when to use universal precautions
 - ☐ Able to determine an alternate plan of action when the situation deviates from the textbook or standard of care
 - ☐ Apply knowledge to new situations and to problem solve scenarios
- Program Specific Outcomes
 - ☐ Ability to consistently, quickly, and accurately assess and respond to situations involving animal interactions to keep animals and persons safe
 - ☐ Ability to induce and monitor general anesthesia, and quickly and accurately respond to changes in the patient

Fine Motor Skill Standards:

Possess manual dexterity and fine motor skills to perform safe and effective clinical skills

- Expected Outcomes

- ☐ Demonstrate adequate coordination, balance, and speed when entering data into computer software
- ☐ Able to move, calibrate, and use equipment and supplies with sharp edges
- ☐ Able to handle and use syringes to give injections to patients
- ☐ Possess the manual dexterity to perform procedures involving very small instruments and supplies
- ☐ Have adequate feeling in fingertips to perform a variety of clinical skills
- ☐ Turn pages using thumbs and fingers on both hands
- ☐ Able to perceive temperature change and pulsations to differentiate between various textures and structures
- ☐ Able to palpate a pulse, check skin temperature, turgor, and skin contours
- ☐ Able to document legibly, either in written or computer format, using correct terminology and spelling, and record pertinent clinical information regarding assessment findings or treatment rendered

- Program Specific Outcomes

- ☐ Able to catheterize the urinary tract, blood vessels, and salivary glands of animals
- ☐ Able to handle needles and syringes single-handedly

Mobility Standards:

Physical abilities sufficient to move around rooms in the administrative, clinical, and laboratory environment as well as the ability to maneuver in small spaces and reach needed equipment

- Expected Outcomes

- ☐ Able to move quickly and safely in a variety of clinical settings
- ☐ Able to quickly and safely exit from buildings, corridors, file areas, and tight spaces in an emergency
- ☐ Able to move, adjust and position oneself to bending, stooping, sitting, and squatting for long periods of time without standing or moving around
- ☐ Able to stand for long periods of time
- ☐ Able to administer CPR and BLS procedures
- ☐ Able to transfer patients from wheelchair to exam table, chair, or bed and back to the wheelchair
- ☐ Able to lift up to 50 pounds
- ☐ Able to access medical equipment from the floor to the ceiling

- Program Specific Outcomes

- ☐ Able to move safely around animal facilities, including rodent caging, kennels, and large animal facility
- ☐ Able to move quickly and safely around all types of animals, including large animals
- ☐ Able to safely and effectively restrain animals in differing situations, including companion animal species, laboratory animal species, birds, reptiles, equine, and livestock in order to keep animals safe and controlled, and personnel safe
- ☐ Able to balance, maintain controlled balance and safety on slippery surfaces

Tactile Standards:



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perceive temperature change and pulsations and to differentiate between various textures and structures

- ☐ Able to perform physical examinations including assessing mucous membrane texture, skin turgor, hair coat abnormalities, skin lesions, and abdominal palpations

- Program Specific Outcomes

- ☐ Able to perform manual rectal palpation of cattle
- ☐ Able to palpate peripheral pulses in a variety of species

Vision Standards:

Visual ability sufficient for physical assessment, performance of administrative, clinical, and laboratory procedures, and maintenance of environmental safety

- Expected Outcome

- ☐ Adequate vision to observe patient responses and assess variation changes
- ☐ Adequate vision to visually monitor medical equipment
- ☐ Able to visually discriminate letters and numbers
- ☐ Able not to transpose numbers
- ☐ Adequate color vision to read digital displays
- ☐ Adequate vision to use equipment such as refractometer, microscope, sphygmomanometer, and hemocytometer
- ☐ Adequate vision to safely perform laboratory procedures
- ☐ Adequate vision to read handwritten or typed orders
- ☐ Able to read textbooks and medical literature

- Program Specific Outcomes

- ☐ Adequate vision to recognize and distinguish surgical instruments

VMT Technical Standards Acknowledgement Form

The ACC Health and Public Services division is responsible for applying these standards with respect to prospective students. The faculty of the Veterinary Medical Technology program is responsible for applying these standards with respect to students in the VMT program.

The ACC Health and Public Services division will make appropriate and reasonable accommodations to facilitate enrollment and participation of qualified individuals with temporary or permanent disabilities. Technological compensation can be made for some handicaps in certain areas, but students should be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner. Failure to perform the program's essential technical standards shall result in a student's removal from the program.

Please note that you must carefully review these technical standards. Once reviewed, please complete the information below. This form will be submitted with your VMT Application.

I have read and I understand the performance criteria expected of me in this program.

- ☐ I **DO PERCEIVE PROBLEMS** complying with the above Technical Standards
- ☐ I **DO NOT** perceive problems complying with the above Technical Standards

Should a student perceive problems complying with the above Technical Standards, further information may be requested from the student to determine the student's eligibility for entry into the program. If you are an individual with a disability who seeks reasonable accommodation, please contact the Coordinator of Accessibility Services at (336) 506-4130 or email kmgarrison728@alamancecc.edu for information concerning the College's accommodation process.

STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE SIGNED
