

Understanding of a Career in Veterinary Technology

Please read and **initial** each of the following:

	The Veterinary Technician employed in a veterinary hospital or clinic has many of the same responsibilities that nurses perform for physicians in human medicine.
	The Veterinary Technician will be exposed to infectious organisms, such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, protozoan, helminth parasites, and external parasites; and many will be zoonotic pathogens.
	The Veterinary Technician will be exposed to bodily fluids, such as blood, urine, feces, vomit, and cerebrospinal fluid. The Veterinary Technician will collect such samples and tissue specimens, and perform laboratory procedures.
	The Veterinary Technician will assist the Veterinarian (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) with surgery, radiography, diagnostic and medical procedures, and anesthesia.
	The Veterinary Technician will assist the Veterinarian with the humane euthanasia of debilitated animals, animals with severe illness or injuries, or rabies suspect animals. Humane euthanasia may also involve geriatric animals with poor quality of life and chronic end-stage disorders.
	The Veterinary Technician will perform routine dental prophylaxes; and will assist the Veterinarian with more in-depth dental/periodontal procedures.
	The Veterinary Technician will obtain medical histories from clients, maintain medical charts, assist with the physical assessment of animals, and educate clients about the health and care of the animal patient.
	The Veterinary Technician cannot make any medical diagnosis, cannot prescribe medications, cannot perform surgery, and cannot engage in any activity that is prohibited by a state's Veterinary Practice Act.

A student interested in a career in Veterinary Technology must have an aptitude for general science, math, and biology. The student must also demonstrate excellent decision-making and strong communication skills.

I acknowledge that I have an understanding of a career in Veterinary Technology. I am aware that the Veterinary Technician will serve an integral role in the veterinary health care team, and I am aware of the duties that will be required of me as a Veterinary Technician.

Name (print legibly)

Date

Signature