

Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology

This program is delivered only through Matanuska-Susitna College.

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Veterinary Technology prepares students to be an integral member of a veterinary team, providing direct nursing care and fulfilling many other technician responsibilities. The program is designed to align with the educational guidelines of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

Admission Requirements

- Complete the Admission Requirements for Associate Degrees (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/academicpoliciesprocesses/admissions/undergraduate/>).
- A cumulative high school or postsecondary GPA of 2.5.
- 3 years of high school science and academically prepared for Anatomy and Physiology or Biology on a postsecondary level.
- Complete the Veterinary Technology program application which will be followed by an interview with the program admissions committee.

Special Considerations

Due to external regulations, cohort sizes are limited. For that reason, admission to the AAS in Veterinary Technology is selective and based on a ranking process and selection criteria.

Due to changing external regulations, it is important that students use the application form for the year they are applying.

- Upon acceptance to the program, the following will be required before beginning coursework:
 - Results of a national-level background check.
 - Documentation from a personal physician, Physician Assistant-Certified (PA-C), or Nurse Practitioner (NP) affirming the capability of performing the physical tasks required for the program as outlined in the AAS in Veterinary Technology Student Handbook.
 - Evidence of tetanus vaccination within the past 10 years (with booster required at the time of expiration) and rabies vaccination in accordance with the CDC guidelines for rabies prophylaxis for Risk Category 3 (https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/prevention/pre-exposure_vaccinations.html).
- The veterinary technology program admits students into a program cohort. Thus, a student must be readmitted if they leave the program for any reason.
- Further details regarding the selection process can be found in the AAS in the Veterinary Technology Student Handbook.

Graduation Requirements

- Complete the General University Requirements for Associate Degrees (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/aasrequirements/>).
- Complete the General Education Requirements for Associate of Applied Science Degrees (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/aasrequirements/>).
- Students are required to earn a minimum grade of B in VTCH A101 and earn a minimum grade of C in all remaining major requirements.
- Complete the following major requirements:

Code	Title	Credits
BIOL A100 or BIOL A102 or BIOL A108 or BIOL A111	Human Biology Introductory Biology Principles and Methods in Biology Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3-6
CHEM A103 or CHEM A105	Introduction to General Chemistry General Chemistry I	3
VTCH A101	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	1
VTCH A102	Veterinary Medical Terminology	1
VTCH A110	Medical Calculations for Veterinary Technicians	1
VTCH A111	Veterinary Office Procedures and Hospital Management	3
VTCH A112 & A112L	Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology and Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory	4
VTCH A113 & A113L	Veterinary Nursing Skills and Veterinary Nursing Skills Laboratory	4
VTCH A120	Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians	2
VTCH A121	Small Animal Medicine	3
VTCH A122 & A122L	Veterinary Surgical Nursing and Veterinary Surgical Nursing Laboratory	4
VTCH A130	Applied Small Animal Behavior I	1
VTCH A195	Clinical Practicum I	3
VTCH A223 & A223L	Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology and Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology Laboratory	4
VTCH A231 & A231L	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging and Dentistry and Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging and Dentistry Laboratory	3

VTCH A232 & A232L	Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia and Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia Laboratory	4
VTCH A233 & A233L	Veterinary Clinical Pathology and Veterinary Clinical Pathology Laboratory	4
VTCH A240	Applied Small Animal Behavior II	1
VTCH A241 & A241L	Laboratory and Exotic Animal Medicine and Laboratory and Exotic Animal Medicine Laboratory	3
VTCH A242 & A242L	Large Animal Medicine and Clinical Procedures and Large Animal Medicine and Clinical Procedures Laboratory	3
VTCH A243	Career Success for Veterinary Technicians	1
VTCH A244	Veterinary Technician National Exam Preparation	1
VTCH A295	Clinical Practicum II	3
Total		60-63

A minimum of 72 credits is required for the degree.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with an Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology will be able to:

- Apply critical thinking skills required to be effective members of a veterinary care team.
- Perform the technical skills required of a veterinary technician.
- Demonstrate the hands-on animal nursing skills required of a veterinary technician.
- Behave and communicate professionally as required to be successful as a veterinary technician.

The academic plan below is one pathway through the degree/certificate. It includes all requirements, taking into account recommendations from program faculty. Each student's plan may vary according to their initial course placement (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/academicpoliciesprocesses/academicstandardsregulations/courseplacement/>), intended course load, additional majors and/or minors, and their placement into required prerequisite courses. Any change in the plan below can have an unforeseen impact on the rest of the plan. **Therefore, it is very important to meet with your academic advisor to verify your personal academic plan.**

Please review the following terms, definitions, and resources associated with the sample academic plan below.

- Each course in the far left column links to a pop-up bubble with a course description, prerequisite requirements, and associations with university requirements. For example, if a course fulfills a general education requirement, you will see that in the pop-up bubble.

- **GER:** indicates a General Education Requirement (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/baccalaureaterequirements/gers/>). GERS that also count toward degree/certificate requirements appear as a specific course in the plan. For these courses, "GER" is not indicated explicitly in the table, but if you click on the course, you will see the course's GER status in the pop-up bubble.
- **Program Elective:** indicates a specific course selection determined by program faculty to fulfill a degree/certificate requirement. Students should seek assistance from their academic advisor.
- **Elective:** indicates an open selection of 100-400 level university courses to fulfill elective credits needed to meet the minimum total credits toward the degree/certificate.
- **Upper Division Program Elective:** indicates a specific 300-400 level course selection determined by the program faculty to fulfill a degree/certificate requirement. Students should seek assistance from their academic advisor.
- **Upper Division Elective:** indicates an open selection of 300-400 level courses to fulfill elective credits needed to meet the minimum total credits toward the degree/certificate. These courses must be upper division in order to meet General University Requirements for the particular degree/certificate type.

First Year

Fall		Credits
BIOL A100 or BIOL A102 or BIOL A108 or BIOL A111	Human Biology or Introductory Biology or Principles and Methods in Biology or Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3-6
VTCH A101	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	1
VTCH A102	Veterinary Medical Terminology	1
WRTG A111	Writing Across Contexts	3
GER Oral Communication Skills		3
GER Quantitative Skills (MATH A121 or MATH A151)		3-4
	Credits	14-18

Spring

CHEM A103 or CHEM A105	Introduction to General Chemistry or General Chemistry I	3
VTCH A110	Medical Calculations for Veterinary Technicians	1
VTCH A111	Veterinary Office Procedures and Hospital Management	3
VTCH A112	Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology	3
VTCH A112L	Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory	1
VTCH A113	Veterinary Nursing Skills	3

VTCH A113L	Veterinary Nursing Skills Laboratory	1
Credits		15
Second Year		
Fall		
VTCH A120	Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians	2
VTCH A121	Small Animal Medicine	3
VTCH A122	Veterinary Surgical Nursing	3
VTCH A122L	Veterinary Surgical Nursing Laboratory	1
VTCH A223	Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology	3
VTCH A223L	Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology Laboratory	1
Credits		13
Spring		
VTCH A130	Applied Small Animal Behavior I	1
VTCH A231	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging and Dentistry	2
VTCH A231L	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging and Dentistry Laboratory	1
VTCH A232	Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia	3
VTCH A232L	Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia Laboratory	1
VTCH A233	Veterinary Clinical Pathology	3
VTCH A233L	Veterinary Clinical Pathology Laboratory	1
GER Written Communication Skills (200-level)		3
Credits		15
Summer		
VTCH A195	Clinical Practicum I	3
Credits		3
Third Year		
Fall		
VTCH A240	Applied Small Animal Behavior II	1
VTCH A241	Laboratory and Exotic Animal Medicine	2
VTCH A241L	Laboratory and Exotic Animal Medicine Laboratory	1
VTCH A242	Large Animal Medicine and Clinical Procedures	2
VTCH A242L	Large Animal Medicine and Clinical Procedures Laboratory	1
VTCH A243	Career Success for Veterinary Technicians	1
VTCH A244	Veterinary Technician National Exam Preparation	1
VTCH A295	Clinical Practicum II	3
Credits		12
Total Credits		72-76