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 (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/academicpoliciesprocesses/admissions/undergraduate/).

• Complete the following admission requirements for the AAS in Veterinary Technology:
  • Due to external regulations, cohort sizes are limited. For that reason, admission to the AAS in Veterinary Technology is competitive and based on a ranking process and selection criteria.
  • Admission requirements must be completed prior to the published application deadline.
  • There is no guarantee of admission, despite satisfactory completion of all admission requirements. For this reason, it is highly recommended that students begin their studies with a holistic plan, that includes other pathways of interest.
  • Formal admission requirements to the AAS in Veterinary Technology:
    • Attend an advising session and have an interview with the veterinary technology program coordinator.
    • Submit an admission essay.
    • Submit a résumé with three letters of recommendation.
    • Due to changing external regulations, it is important that students use the application form for the year they are applying.
    • Further details regarding the selection process can be found in the AAS in Veterinary Technology Student Handbook.

Special Considerations

• Students are required to provide the following before beginning coursework:
  • Results of a national-level background check.
  • Documentation from a personal physician, PA-C, or 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 diphtheria/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).
  • Professional liability insurance coverage as outlined in the AAS Veterinary Technology Student Handbook.
  • Students enrolled in clinical courses must provide their own transportation to clinical assignments and will be required to purchase uniforms and specialized equipment.
  • Students are required to earn a minimum grade of B in VTCH A101 and BIOL A100/BIOL A102/BIOL A111 to progress to the second semester. They are required to earn a minimum grade of C in all remaining VTCH and CHEM courses.
  • The veterinary technology program admits students into a program cohort. Thus, a student must be readmitted if they leave the program for any reason.

Graduation Requirements

• Complete the General University Requirements for Associate Degrees (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/aasrequirements/).

• Complete the General Education Requirements for Associate of Applied Science Degrees (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/aasrequirements/educationrequirements/).
  • For the Quantitative Skills GER choose MATH A121, MATH A151, or higher.

• Students are required to earn a minimum grade of B in VTCH A101 and BIOL A100/BIOL A102/BIOL A111 and earn a minimum grade of C in all remaining VTCH and CHEM courses.

• Complete the following major requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL A100 or BIOL A102 or BIOL A111</td>
<td>Human Biology or Introductory Biology or Human Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM A103 or CHEM A105</td>
<td>Introduction to General Chemistry or General Chemistry I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>VTCH A101</td>
<td>Introduction to Veterinary Technology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>VTCH A102</td>
<td>Veterinary Medical Terminology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>VTCH A110</td>
<td>Medical Calculations for Veterinary Technicians</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTCH A111</td>
<td>Veterinary Office Procedures and Hospital Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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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 Externship 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 A243  Career Success for Veterinary Technicians  1
VTCH A244  Veterinary Technician National Exam Preparation  1
VTCH A295  Clinical Externship II  3

Total  60

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.