NORTHSHORE
TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The mission of the Veterinary Technology Program at Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC) is to provide exceptional education and training in order to foster high professional standards in all aspects of veterinary care. The Veterinary Technology Program at NTCC allows students to gain knowledge and perform essential skills necessary to be proficient in an entry-level position in the field of Veterinary Technology.

The NTCC Veterinary Technology Program utilizes several modalities to interact with, teach and engage students. The program is a "hybrid" combination of online learning and hands on instruction. Students are able to access lecture material in an on-line setting using *Canvas*™, an internet-based learning management system. Students attend laboratory classes in a traditional face-to-face setting at the Florida Parishes Campus. Students also attend laboratory classes at local bovine farms and horse stables. This variability in lab/field class locations provides students with well-rounded, real world learning experiences.

In addition to online and laboratory learning, students complete required clinical rotations in veterinary clinics of their choice, as long as the clinic meets certain criteria. Clinical rotation experiences offer students exposure to a variety of veterinary practice settings, as well as other facilities that work with animals such as zoos, animal shelters and research facilities. Each semester a clinical rotation experience gives students an opportunity to apply their acquired clinical knowledge and skills in a real world setting.

The NTCC Veterinary Technology Program offers a Certificate of Technical Studies in Veterinary Assisting upon completion of the first year of the program, and an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology after completion of the second year. The AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) accredits the Veterinary Technology Program. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and become a Licensed Veterinary Technician.

The NTCC Veterinary Technology Program admits students each fall semester. Students are highly encouraged to apply for the program by July 31st each year. The NTCC Veterinary Technology Program is a full-time, six semester Associate of Applied Science (AAS) program. Students are required to take a minimum of 72 credit hours in order to graduate with the AAS degree. Included in the 72 credit hours are 15 credit hours of general education classes: ENGL 1015 – English Composition I, a Math Elective, Natural Science Elective, Behavioral Science Elective and Humanities Elective.   Students may take the general education classes before application to the program, or within the first year. However, students are strongly encouraged

to take at least ENGL 1015, the Math Elective and the Natural Science Elective before applying to the program.

The remaining 57 credits consists of Veterinary Technology classes, including courses such as Animal Anatomy and Physiology, Animal Nursing, Pharmacology, Clinical Pathology, and Surgical Nursing and Anesthesia, to name a few. The Veterinary Technology curriculum is a cohort program, meaning everyone moves through the program together, except for the general education courses. Students must maintain a 'C' in all courses in order to progress within the curriculum and obtain program credit. Only one grade of 'D' is acceptable in the general education core.

NTCC has an open admission policy. However, to support student success in the program, Veterinary Technology Program students must:
- Provide evidence of high school diploma or equivalent
- Meet the required entrance scores for the ACT, Compass, or Accuplacer Tests (ACT English 17+; or COMPASS English 39+; or Accuplacer Sentence Skills 60+; or complete ENGL 0098; and ACT Math 17+; or Compass Algebra 30+; or Accuplacer Elementary Algebra 65+; or complete MATH 0098)
- Establish a relationship with a veterinary practice for the purpose of clinical rotations, and submit a letter from a Veterinarian in the practice confirming permission is given. This letter is due during the first week of classes, but students are requested to email a copy of the letter to the Program Director prior to the start of the program: dainapowers@northshorecollege.edu

If you have any questions about the Veterinary Technology Program, please email the Program Director, Daina Powers, RVT (dainapowers@northshorecollege.edu), or call Ginny McElveen in Student Services (Phone: 225-222-4251).

Career Opportunities
Veterinary Private Practice (small/large/mixed/exotic)
Humane Societies and Shelters
Specialty Veterinary Medical Facilities
Zoo and Wildlife Medicine
Agriculture or Biomedical Research
Teaching

Benefits of becoming a Licensed/Registered Veterinary Technician
Credentialing elevates the role and responsibilities of the Veterinary Technician in every setting.
According to the October 2008 Veterinary Technician Journal,
Education + Certification = Higher Pay
Credentialed Veterinary Technicians surveyed by MediMedia Research made roughly 35% more than non-credentialed/licensed veterinary assistants did.
It pays to be licensed!