CENTRAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Health Sciences

Program Planning Guide

Veterinary Assistant Diploma (D45780)

Program Length: 3 semesters
Program Sites: Lee Main Campus, seated only
Career Pathway Options: Associate in Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Medical Technology; Diploma Veterinary Assistant

The diploma program prepares students to work as veterinary assistants, providing hands-on care and support for animals in clinical settings. Veterinary assistants play a vital role in animal health by managing daily needs such as feeding, bathing, and exercising; restraining animals during exams and procedures; assisting with non-invasive treatments; cleaning and disinfecting cages and equipment; scheduling appointments; sterilizing surgical tools and rooms; monitoring patient health; and educating pet owners. They may also assist veterinary technicians and veterinarians with more advanced tasks, including administering medications, processing lab samples, and performing basic medical tests.

Upon graduation, students are eligible to sit for the Approved Veterinary Assistant examination through the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA). Veterinary assistants who successfully complete the exam receive a documenting certificate and are entitled to use the designation AVA (Approved Veterinary Assistant).

Limited Enrollment Program:

This is a Limited-Enrollment program, which means the program has a set number of seats available for each entering class. The number of seats is based on factors such as classroom space, available clinical placements, accreditation requirements, and faculty resources. Students interested in this program will work with an Education Navigator to develop an academic plan and register for the courses needed to meet the minimum admission requirements. Once all minimum requirements are completed, a program application can be submitted. Qualified applicants are admitted in the order completed applications are received, as seats become available. For more information, visit the Limited-Enrollment Programs webpage.

Minimum Admission Requirements:

- ☐ Complete 10 credit hours of Pre-VA general education courses with a C or better (see page 2).
- ☐ Have a minimum 2.5 GPA based on 10 credit hours of VA general education courses.

Health Sciences

Pre-VMT General Education Requirements & Suggested Course Schedule:

		Class	Lab	Work	Credits	Notes:
Required Classes						
ACA 122	Transfer & Career Success	0	2	0	1	Seated or online
ENG 111	Writing & Inquiry	3	0	0	3	Seated or online
Elective	Humanities/Fine Arts	3	0	0	3	Seated or online
MAT 110	Math Measurement & Literacy	2	2	0	3	Seated or online
	Total Semester Hours	**8**	**4**	**0**	**10**	

Humanities/Fine Arts Elective Options: ART 111, ART 114, ART 115, DRA 111, ENG 125, ENG 231, ENG 241, ENG 242, HUM 110, HUM 115, HUM 122, HUM 150, HUM 160, MUS 110, MUS 112, **PHI 240**, REL 211, REL 212

Approved Mathematics Substitutions: Can substitute any higher-level math class (MAT 171 is required for the AAS).

Upon acceptance into the Veterinary Assistant program, students will take the following courses:

Program Course Schedule		Class	Lab	Work	Credits	Notes:
1st Semester (fall)						
VET 113	Animal Breeds, Husbandry, & Nutrition	2	0	0	2	Seated
VET 120	Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology	3	3	0	4	Seated
VET 121	Veterinary Medical Terminology	3	3	0	4	Seated
VET 222	Intro to Exotic Animal Med	2	0	0	2	Seated
	Total Semester Hours	**10**	**6**	**0**	**12**	
2nd Semester (spring)						
VET 127	Vet Infect & Parasitic Dis.	2	3	0	3	Seated
VET 137	Veterinary Office Practices	2	0	0	2	Online
VET 215	Veterinary Pharmacology I	2	0	0	2	Seated
ACM 112	Facility Management	3	0	0	3	Seated
	Total Semester Hours	**9**	**3**	**0**	**10**	

Health Sciences

3rd Semester (summer)						
VET 132	Veterinary Diagnostics and Pathology I	2	3	0	3	Seated
VET 133	Veterinary Clinical Practices I	2	3	0	3	Seated
VET 216	Veterinary Pharmacology II	2	0	0	2	Seated
	Total Semester Hours	**6**	**6**	**0**	**8**	
4th Semester (fall)						
WBL 112	Work-Based Learning I	0	0	20	2	In-person work experience
	Total Semester Hours	**0**	**0**	**20**	**2**	
Total General Education Semester Hours Credit: 10						
Total Program Semester Hours Credit: 32						
Total Semester Hours Credit Required for Graduation: 42						