

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY Online ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

ADMISSIONS GUIDE



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Put your love of animals to work for you by earning a Veterinary Technology degree from St. Petersburg College. Our Veterinary Technology A.S. Degree gives you a solid foundation for success. Online students working at a veterinary practice will integrate your hard-earned clinical experience with online classroom activities.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

Term	Applications Accepted	Application Review	Student Notified by Email: xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu
Fall: August	April 1 – July 15	weekly	Weekly; Thursdays beginning in May Final Notifications: July 21
Spring: January	July 16 – November 30 <i>Fall enrollment included if grades are posted by December 15</i>	weekly	Weekly; Thursdays beginning in September Final Notifications: December 15
Summer: May	December 1 – March 30	weekly	Weekly; Thursdays beginning in February Final Notifications: April 15

- New** students must complete the St. Petersburg College Admission Application and pay the non-refundable fee. **Returning** students must complete the online Readmission steps in MySPC if you have not enrolled in the previous six semesters. [Admissions and Readmissions](#)

A secondary Health Program Application is required for limited access Health Programs (link below)

- Submit official, unopened (sealed) high school or GED transcripts indicating completion of standard high school diploma or equivalency. We do not accept unofficial copies or official copies that have been opened. Applicants who have earned an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, Baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution are waived from this requirement. **Transcripts must be received and evaluated by St. Petersburg College prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.** [Submitting Official Transcripts](#)
- Submit official, unopened (sealed) transcripts from all regionally accredited college(s) and/or universities currently or previously attended. We do not accept unofficial copies or official copies that have been opened. **Transcripts must be received and evaluated by St. Petersburg College prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.** [Submitting Official Transcripts](#)
- Students must demonstrate they are at college level in Writing, Reading, and Math either through appropriate test scores or through appropriate course completion.

*St. Petersburg College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment.
For additional information visit www.spcollege.edu/eaao*

- ❑ Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale in all postsecondary coursework. Your Academic Standing may have an impact on your admission, enrollment, and financial aid eligibility. See the SPC Academic Standing Policy for details. [Academic Standing Policy](#)
- ❑ Completion of at least 16 credit hours from the A.S. Surgical Services program with a grade of "C" or better, including:
 - **BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L Human Anatomy & Physiology 1 and Lab**
 - **BSC 2086 and BSC 2086L Human Anatomy & Physiology 2 and Lab**
 - **Computer/Information Literacy**
- ❑ Complete at least 15 credits of approved General Education and Support courses from the A.S. Veterinary Technology program with a "C" or better, including:
 - 3 credits from the State approved General Education **Composition 1** coursework or an equivalent
 - 3 credits from the State approved General Education **Math Core** coursework
 - 3 credits from the State approved General Education **Natural Science Core** coursework **and a science lab**
 - 6 additional approved General Education credits from the A.S. Veterinary Technology program
To view approved General Education courses, please refer to [A.S. General Education Requirements](#).
- ❑ Complete a minimum of 40 hours of Veterinary Hospital Observation and discussion with a veterinarian and veterinary technician in a veterinary practice.
*Please review the **Veterinary Technology Observation requirements** (page 5 of this Admissions Guide) and print the **Veterinary Technician Observation form** (pages 6 & 7).
If admitted, a completed **Veterinary Technician Observation form**, signed by the Veterinary Clinic, will be required as part of the Student Success Course which is completed prior to enrolling in classes.*
- ❑ I have reviewed the [Technical Standards](#) (Essential Functions) of my selected health program. I agree that I can meet the Technical Standards with or without accommodation(s). If you feel that you cannot meet these requirements due to a disability, please contact the Health Education Center Accessibility Services office to set up a confidential consultation at (727) 341-4141 or visit www.spcollege.edu/accessibility.
- ❑ Submit the Health Programs Application: [Health Programs Application](#)

Admission notifications will be sent through SPC student email (xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu)
If you are not sure how to access your SPC student email, please visit [How do I Access My SPC Email](#)

Program Information and Schedule

- The A.S. Veterinary Technology degree will prepare students for the National Certification Exam.
- SPC's online Veterinary Technology A.S. Degree program can be completed by taking clinical practicums where you live. Clinical practicums require the student to obtain an agreement with a veterinary facility under the supervision of a credentialed technician or veterinarian who oversees your academic experience for credit in the program.
- Three cohorts are available each year: Fall, Spring, and Summer
- Online students are required to complete 280 hours of clinical experience in a veterinary facility during each semester enrolled in the program.
- Students should expect a minimum of 3 hours studying per credit hour, each week.
- Some online courses hold weekly evening chat sessions where students participate in discussions relevant to the course subject.
- Completion of the program allows a student to apply to SPC's B.A.S. Veterinary Technology.

Selection Criteria, Selection Process and Admissions

- **All application requirements must be satisfied by the closing of the application window.**
Fall enrollment included for Spring admissions if grades are received and posted to transcript.
- The Veterinary Technology Online A.S. degree program will accept applications continually throughout the year. Please apply once your prerequisite coursework has been completed and posted to your SPC transcript. All qualified students will be admitted and will be eligible to enroll in the following semester.

If you are admitted, you will need to complete the following pre-enrollment requirements to maintain eligible status.

- Complete the Notice of Intent survey by the date indicated in the admission email.
- Successfully pass a background check and drug screening by the date indicated in the admission email.
- Complete the Health Education Program orientation and Student Success Course. Details provided in the admission email and department Welcome Letter.
- Complete any required immunizations. See **Estimated Cost** below.

Veterinary Technology students are required to be vaccinated for rabies at the student's expense.

If you are not admitted, please discuss admissions qualifications with an Academic Advisor and consider reapplying during a future application cycle.

Estimated Cost

Tuition* ¹	Drug and Background Check	Immunizations**	Uniforms, Special Equipment, Lab Fees & Other Costs	Textbooks	State Exam & License Fees	Total
\$5,700.00	\$102.75	Up to \$1,000.00**	\$685	\$1,000.00	\$400.00	\$8,887.15

* Tuition is estimated using the Florida residency rate of \$111.75/credit hour. Non-resident rate is \$386.90/credit hour. *Online courses are an additional \$15/credit hour.*

¹ Tuition is for core coursework only. General Education and Support courses are not included.

** These are high estimates; actual costs will vary depending on health insurance coverage.

Civic Literacy

Students entering an A.S. Degree program in the 2022-2023 academic school year and thereafter must demonstrate competency through successful completion of one of the following Civic Literacy courses and assessment exam prior to program completion.

- POS 2041 American National Government** 3 credits
 - AMH 2020 History of the United States II** 3 credits
 - AMH 2010 History of the United States II** 3 credits (completed Fall 2024 or after)
- AND by achieving a 60% passing score on the Florida Civic Literacy Examination (FCLE)

The following are alternatives to the Civic Literacy course and Florida Civic Literacy Examination (FCLE).

- AP Government and Politics: United States** Score: 3
- AP United States History** Score: 4
- CLEP: American Government** Score: 50
- CLEP: History of the United States 1** Score: 50

Accessibility Services

St. Petersburg College is committed to providing quality education and services to all students by ensuring that admission, academic programs, support services, student activities, and campus facilities are accessible to and usable by qualified students with disabilities. Each specific health program has its own technical standards which all students must meet with or without accommodation(s). To help students achieve success, Accessibility Services works with students, faculty, and staff to coordinate the provision of reasonable accommodations. To put your accommodations in place, please contact the Health Education Center Accessibility Services at (727) 341-4141 or visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility>

PRE-ENTRY COURSES (9 credits) A grade of "C" or higher is required.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (May be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)

COMPOSITION 1

3 credits from the approved General Education COMPOSITION 1 coursework
ENC 1101- Composition I or ENC 1101H (Honors)

MATHEMATICS

3 credits from the approved General Education MATHEMATICS-CORE

SUPPORT COURSES (May not be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)

NATURAL SCIENCE CORE and a SCIENCE LAB

3 credits from the approved General Education NATURAL SCIENCE CORE and a SCIENCE LAB

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (May be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)

A grade of "C" or higher is required.

SPEECH

3 credits from the approved General Education SPEECH coursework

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

3 credits from the approved General Education SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES – CORE

*Recommended: a CORE Social and Behavioral Science that meets the Civic Literacy requirement ***

HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS

3 credits from the approved General Education HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS – CORE

Recommended: a CORE Humanities that meets the Enhanced World View See **Enhanced World View below*

ETHICS

3 credits from the approved General Education ETHICS coursework

COMPUTER/INFORMATION LITERACY COMPETENCY

Competency may be demonstrated by completing the Computer Information and Literacy Exam OR by successful completion of one of the approved Computer/Information Literacy Competency courses.

No minimum credits required.

***ENHANCED WORLD VIEW:**

Complete at least one 3-credit course intended to enhance the student's world view considering an increasingly globalized economy.

This course may also be used to satisfy another General Education Requirement (Humanities and Fine Arts)

At least 15 of the 21 General Education and Support Course credits must be completed to be eligible to apply for admission to the program, including Composition, Core Math, Core Science, and lab.

Transfer courses for which there is no direct SPC equivalent will be posted as elective credit and designated with a '999' course number. If you believe a course posted as an elective should satisfy a degree requirement, you may submit a request for **Alternate Satisfaction**.

To initiate the alternate satisfaction request/review process, please complete the **Alternative Satisfaction Survey**.

<https://web.spcollege.edu/survey/21215>

Veterinary Technology Observation Requirements

Please collect the following information while completing your 40 observation hours. This is for informational purposes only and does not need to be sent to the Health Education Center.

- **Name of Facility**
- **Date**
- **Time Spent**
- **Name of Health Provider**
- **Provider's License Number**

Please make sure that you have **discussed** the following items:

- Anticipated wages for a registered veterinary technician
- Working hours for a veterinary technician
- Benefits: vacation, continuing education allowance, uniform allowance
- Rewards of being a veterinary technician
- Challenges associated with being a veterinary technician

In addition, please make sure that you have **observed** the following:

- Observation of minor surgical procedures:
 - Abscess drainage, laceration repair
- Observation of major surgical procedures – large or small animal
 - Small animal – castration, ovariohysterectomy
- Observation of dental prophylaxis procedures
- Observation of the technician's role in:
 - Anesthesia
 - Surgical assisting
 - Sample collection
- Office procedures:
 - Appointment scheduling, invoice preparation, cash management
- Client interaction:
 - History taking, client education
- Kennel or stall clean-up
- Animal medicating
- Euthanasia, if possible
- Instrument clean-up
- Laboratory procedures:
 - Parasitology, hematology, serology
- Miscellaneous procedures:
 - Anal sac expression, ear cleaning

Veterinary Technician Observation

This is to certify that _____ has worked/observed in my clinic 40 hours within the past two years.

Please rate the student objectively based on observed behaviors. Give feedback that can help the student/program identify both strengths and areas of potential growth.

If you have concerns about this student joining the veterinary technology profession, please contact the Program Director immediately by calling St. Petersburg College at (727) 302-6733 or by email at

Gorham.Tricia@spcollege.edu. **If you would rather share this observation form privately, you may also send it to Tricia Gorham at the email provided above.**

****This form must be completed by a CVT, RVT, LVT, DVM, or VMD**

****Digital Signatures are not accepted**

Student Name:	
Clinic Name:	
Supervisor's printed name and credentials	
Supervisor's phone number	
Supervisor's email	
Supervisor's signature	

Please check off the observations/discussions that have been completed:

- Job duties of a credentialed veterinary technician
- Anticipated wages for a credentialed veterinary technician
- Working hours and physical requirements for a veterinary technician

Observation in the technician's role in:

- Anesthesia
- Surgical assisting
- General nursing care of hospitalized patients
- Radiology procedures
- Observation of major surgical procedures
- Veterinary Software – appointment scheduling, invoice preparation, cash management
- Client interaction / Education
- Instrument clean-up / Autoclaving
- Laboratory procedures: parasitology, hematology, serology

Assessment Scale

- **N/A – Not Applicable:** The work-based learning opportunity provided no opportunity to observe this type of skill
- **1 – Performance Improvement Needed:** Needs to have a strategy to improve
- **2 – Competent:** Regularly demonstrates and is aware of the importance
- **3 – Proficient:** Exceeds expectations, showing initiative to learn

	Employability Skills	Score (1-3) Rate each category, not each skill	Feedback
Applied Knowledge	Critical Thinking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinks creatively • Thinks critically • Makes sound decisions • Solves problems • Reasons • Plans/organizes 		
Effective Relationships	Interpersonal Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands teamwork and works well with others • Responds to customer needs • Respects individual differences Personal Qualities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates responsibility and self-discipline • Adapts and shows flexibility • Demonstrates a willingness to learn • Demonstrates integrity • Demonstrates professionalism 		
Workplace Skills	Resource Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manages time/arrives promptly Communication Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates verbally • Listens actively • Observes carefully • Effectively communicates with staff • Works in a manner that ensures safety to oneself, animals, and co-workers 		
Evaluation Review	<p>Are you willing to allow this student to return to your practice to complete the clinical hours required of the program?</p> <p>If no, could you please provide feedback as to why.</p>		