**VETERINARY TECHNICIAN**

**Job Description**
Licensed veterinary technicians provide professional support services to veterinarians. A licensed veterinary technician’s duties are those of a veterinary nurse, nurse-anesthetist, operating room technician, dental hygienist, medical laboratory technician, and radiology technician. The veterinary technician also performs administrative duties pertaining to the practice’s management.

**Career Opportunities**
Career fields for a licensed veterinary technician may include:
- Private Animal Clinical Practice
  (small, mixed, or large animals)
- Specialty Practice
  (ophthalmology, oncology, etc.)
- Zoo Medicine
- Food Production
  (herd health management)
- Government
  (USDA)
- Industry Sales
- Wildlife Rehabilitation
- Military
- Research
  (lab animal health management)
- Education
  (Instruction of professional veterinary students and technicians students)
- Clinical Laboratory
  (Biological sample analysis)

**Program Description**
The College of Southern Nevada’s Veterinary Technology Program is 4 semesters in length, and leads to an Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology. The curriculum consists of 47 credits of professional course work which includes directed clinical practice opportunities, and 27 credits of general education courses. The program is the first in the state of Nevada to achieve full accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association. It also has unique affiliations with multiple private institutions and organizations which provides learning opportunities overseen by nationally and internationally recognized veterinary specialists. A graduate of this program will have nationally recognized credentials and may sit for all national and state licensing examinations.

**Salary Expectations**
Salary is highly variable depending on disciplinary focus of the technician. Entry level salary for a technician in small animal practice ranges from approximately $25,000 to $48,000/year. Whereas salary for technicians in industry, research, teaching or other disciplines is commensurate with experience and job requirements.

**Admission Requirements**
The CSN Veterinary Technology Program is a Limited Entry program, therefore, a “Limited Entry Application for Admission to a Health Science Program” must be submitted. This form is available online at: http://sites.csn.edu/health/limitedentry.html.

**Approximate Costs**
- Tuition: 74 credits X $91.50 per credit hr.......................$6,771.00
- Books..................................................$500-$1,200.00
- Lab Fees............................................$25.00 - $50.00/per lab
- Immunizations..........................................$0 - $1,000.00
  Depending on vaccine history
- Uniforms & Equipment.........................$200.00 - $450.00
- Medical Insurance..............................$20.00 - $190.00/month
- Medical Examinations..........................$50.00
- Animal Health Exam.............................$10.00
- Non-resident Fee ................................$3322.50 per semester

All program prerequisites must be completed by the completion deadline, or approval obtained by Program Director, in order to be eligible for consideration. See reverse side for specific requirements and deadlines.

**Accepted Students**
Students accepted into the program will be required to show proof of health insurance and immunization against Tetanus (Tdap). Students must also receive, or show proof of Rabies immunizations before, or while in, the first semester of the Veterinary Technology program courses. In addition, proof of a negative drug screen may also be required. A physical exam is also required prior to starting the program.

**Licensing as a Veterinary Technician**
The term, “Veterinary Technician in Training (VTIT),” refers to a person who has met the criteria and is registered with the Nevada Veterinary Medical Examiners while enrolled in an approved program of study. Registration material for the “VTIT” will be available after the completion of the first year of coursework. The term, “Licensed Veterinary Technician,” refers to a person who is licensed in Veterinary Technology in the State of Nevada. To become a licensed veterinary technician an applicant must have a high school diploma (or equivalent), be of “good moral character,” have graduated from a board approved program in Veterinary Technology, and passed both the National and Nevada State Veterinary Technology licensing exams.

A Conviction or Violation of laws governing possession, distribution, or use of any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined in NRS 454.201, may influence the ability to obtain licensure. Contact with the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners regarding this subject is recommended before starting any Veterinary Technology program.