



Veterinary Technology Program 2024-2025 Facts and FAQs

Provides answers to frequently asked questions regarding the VT Program

1: IS THE VET TECH PROGRAM ACCREDITED?

Yes, the Veterinary Technology Program is accredited through American Veterinary Medical Association by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA), 1931 North Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360.

Phone: 800.248.2862

Fax: 847.925.1329

<https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Programs/Pages/vettech-programs-all-programs-list.aspx#westvirginia>

2: HAS ANYTHING CHANGED WITH THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

No, not at this time. Students are encouraged to complete prerequisite courses prior to admissions to aid in successful completion of the program.

3: DO I NEED TO COMPLETE ANY PREREQUISITE CLASSES BEFORE BEING ADMITTED?

No, however the most successful students have completed some general education courses prior to applying to the program in order to decrease the overall course load of program studies. The general education courses consist of 21 credit hours that must be completed along with or prior to the VET TECH Program requirements.

4: WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES?

Written Communication

Math Elective-120 or higher

Introduction to Vet Tech

Medical Terminology

Chemistry 230

Introduction to Microbiology

Interpersonal Communications

5: ARE THERE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH COMPLETION THE OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES?

Yes. It is recommended (not required) that the general education courses be taken at MCTC, which are offered on days, evenings and online. Students who choose to take courses elsewhere must submit an official transcript to Admission/Registrar office. In addition to the official transcript sent to admission, an unofficial copy must accompany the application to the program. Any courses completed prior to admission into the VET TECH Program must have been completed with a minimum grade of "C" in order to be considered "**satisfactorily**" completed.

6: DOES COMPLETION OF GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES GUARANTEE ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM?

NO...The VET TECH Program at Mountwest is a highly competitive, selective admission program with limited enrollment. Students are required to have all the appropriate documentation and application requirements completed prior to admission, but doing so does not guarantee program admission.

7: ARE THERE MINIMUM GPA EXPECTATIONS WHEN APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM?

Yes. Students must demonstrate a minimum cumulative GPA (all previous coursework) of 2.5.

8: HOW LONG IS THE PROGRAM & WHEN CAN I APPLY?

It takes approximately 2 years, including both summers, to complete the program after admission, which is offered only in a full-time format.

Applications are available in the Main Building, Room #427/443 and online beginning Jan. 15th with a submission deadline of May.

9: HOW MANY STUDENTS ARE ADMITTED INTO THE PROGRAM?

A total of twenty four (24) students are considered for admission. However, based upon the overall quality of the applicant pool, 24 students may not be admitted each year.

10: WHAT IS A TYPICAL “SUCCESSFUL” APPLICANT PROFILE?

The following represents the performance level averages, which were necessary for the successful applicant in 2023. It should be noted that each year’s applicant pool varies. This information is presented to provide you the opportunity to self-evaluate your position and potential for success.

- Cum. GPA: 3.00 (all college coursework completed)
- Prior college coursework completed or degree completed- completing even a few general education courses prior to admission has been deemed very beneficial to the success of students within the VET TECH Program.

11: DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE A DRUG SCREEN and BACKGROUND CHECK AS PART OF THE ADMISSION PROCESS? WHEN CAN I EXPECT THEM TO OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM?

Yes, upon admission to the program students are required to complete a background check and drug screen. Applicants with positive screens will not be admitted into the program. Cost of initial screenings for program admittance are the responsibility of the student. Students admitted to the program will be subject to random, unannounced screenings throughout their enrollment in the program. Students may be subject to additional screenings upon the request of specific clinical education facilities assigned by the program or as deemed necessary. Students admitted may challenge a positive result one time; retesting cost is the responsibility of the student. The college will pay for the first random screening of those students within the program, other screenings are the responsibility of the student.

12: STATEMENT ON BACKGROUND CHECKS, DRUG SCREENS & THE STATE LICENSING BOARD:

Students with an arrest and or/criminal conviction may be unable to fulfill the degree clinical requirements in order to graduate. Individuals with an arrest and or criminal conviction are advised that the State Licensing Boards will consider their application for licensure as a veterinary technician on an individual basis. *Conviction of crimes such as felonies and misdemeanors may affect the ability of an applicant’s admittance and a graduate’s ability to obtain state licensure.

13: MUST OBSERVATION HOURS BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM?

No, observation hours do not have to be completed prior to applying to the program. The date in which the 120 observation hours must be completed by will be listed in the application and is generally the first week of Aug prior to classes beginning. It is highly recommended that some hours are completed prior to applying to the program. That is to ensure the student is aware of the type of work being performed in the field of veterinary technology.

14: WHERE CAN I COMPLETE MY 120 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE?

The 120 hours of observation may be completed in any Veterinary Hospital or Clinic setting and Shelter or Rescue (minimum of 100 hours within a clinic or hospital and 20 hours within a shelter or rescue). Note that this time must be completed at two separate settings under the supervision of a veterinary professional and shelter/rescue supervisor. You should contact the supervisor of the facility where you would like to volunteer and request to observe for hours toward your application to the Vet Tech Program. This activity must occur within 2 years of submitting your application to the program in order to be counted.

15: WHO CAN COMPLETE THE TWO SUPERVISOR/ OBSERVATION FORMS?

Employers, Vet/RVT, college instructors, etc. may complete the supervisor forms. Observation and supervisor forms are included in the application packet.

16: DOES EVERY APPLICANT PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERVIEW PARTS OF THE ADMISSION PROCESS?

NO. Only students who demonstrate having submitted a “complete” application by the deadline, meet the minimum cumulative GPA, completed observation hours, submitted vaccination requirements, and attained a “C” or better in all completed prerequisite coursework will advance to participate in these activities. Students who have not met these initial requirements will be withdrawn from consideration at that point. It must be noted that participation in these activities does not guarantee program admission.

17: WHEN WILL ADMISSION NOTIFICATIONS BE SENT OUT?

Admission notifications will be emailed as well as a letter mailed to the addresses provided on the applications. This will be done by June 30th in order to allow time for completion of observation hours prior to the deadline.

18: WHEN WILL VET 101 BE SCHEDULED?

Introduction to Veterinary Technology – VET 101 is offered in the Spring and Fall terms and if there is enough interest a summer course is an option. This course can be taken prior to admission into program. It is designed to peak interest in the veterinary profession.

19: UPON PROGRAM ADMISSION, ARE THERE ANY OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM? Yes, you will be required to verify purchase of the following: (prices subject to change without notice).

-Initial drug screen/background	\$125 (varies)	-Stethoscope/Equipment	\$100 (varies)
-Health insurance	Cost varies	-Lab Uniforms	\$50 (min)

-Any needed immunizations or titers

Cost varies (\$1200)

-Lab Supplies

\$150

20: CAN STUDENTS WORK WHILE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM?

Students are encouraged not to work more than fifteen (15) hours per week. During clinical affiliations, student work schedules **MAY NOT** interfere with the hours required while affiliating at a clinical site. Program coursework can be very strenuous many students struggle to work full time and become successful students at the same time.

21: WHAT IS THE “CRITERIA” THAT IS CONSIDERED TOWARD ADMISSION INTO THE PROGRAM?

Each item that follows is determined and weighted according to policies in place for each application cycle: Cumulative GPA, observation hours, personal recommendations/supervisor evaluations, and an interview score (if applicable).

22: ARE THE PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS HIGHER IN THE PROGRAM?

Students should be aware that the academic performance expectations of this program are notably higher than what you may be accustomed to. This includes a 70% performance requirement on each didactic measure (tests) as well as a 70% performance requirement on each laboratory measure (practical's). Students who are unable to successfully demonstrate this minimum level of competency will not receive a passing grade and will be dismissed from the program. Applicants are encouraged to request a meeting with the program faculty as they complete their application if they have any questions regarding the programs academic policies.

23: WHAT ARE THE CLINICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM?

Students are scheduled for two 10 week clinical experiences one during the summer between 2nd and 3rd semesters, requiring 120 hours and the 2nd clinical at the conclusion of the program, summer following 4th semester requiring 200 hours. The hours for both clinicals must be within a veterinary hospital or clinic and must meet minimum criteria for a clinical site. . The clinical supervisor will follow the course work necessary to provide the student with the appropriate framework knowledge to optimize the clinical education experience. The clinical assignments are arranged through the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education and are generally scheduled during the week. NOTE: Some clinical assignments may be a distance from a student's home, thus requiring significant travel and or the need for housing accommodations. The program will offer suggestions on low cost accommodations but students are responsible for all costs associated with the required clinical education component of the program.

24: SHOULD I FAIL A COURSE/S DO I NEED TO START THE ENTIRE PROGRAM OVER?

No, students who are unsuccessful on their first attempt at a course can repeat that course one time without restarting the entire program, unless it is a first semester course in which case the student would need to reapply and repeat the entire first semester. Students are given two (2) years to reenroll in a course and after the two (2) year period has lapsed the student would need to reapply and repeat the entire program. Students are required to repeat both lab and lecture courses if they are co-requisites for each other. Once admitted to the program, students must demonstrate adequate academic progress by earning a grade of "C" or better in all required VET courses, as well as General Education courses.

Repeating a single course:

1. Earning a grade less than “C” in a single course the student can repeat that single course without being dismissed from the program, however should that course be a lecture/lab co-requisite both course must be repeated. This does not apply to students that have previously repeated any course within the program.
2. Earning a grade less than “C” in any VET course in the first semester **MUST** reapply and repeat the entire program.

Dismissal from the Program:

A student will be dismissed from the program for any of the following situations:

1. Earning a grade less than “C” in the first semester or withdrawing while failing a VET required course.;
2. Earning a grade less than "C" or withdrawing while failing from the same required VET course more than once;
3. Earning a grade less than "C" or withdrawing while failing from two different required VET courses;
4. Inability to complete the program within four (4) academic years of beginning the program.

Reinstatement to the Program:

Once dismissed from the program, a student must reapply to the program and be readmitted.

- Readmitted students must complete all courses in the VET sequence as if starting for the first time.
- Reinstatement into the program is not automatic.
- Students who have earned a grade less than “C” more than once or withdrawn while failing are not eligible for remittance for the time period of academic forgiveness of four (4) years.
- Reapplicants must demonstrate both the aptitude and motivation to succeed in the program.

25: WHAT CONSTITUTES IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM?

- Failure to follow student code of conduct
- Failure to meet behavioral standards or performance standards of the program
- Failure to submit or pass a drug screen

- Any form of animal abuse or misconduct

Nondiscrimination Clause

The MCTC VET TECH Program prohibits preferential or adverse discrimination on the basis of race, age, color, religion, marital status, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a medical condition or disability status in all areas including but not limited to its qualifications for program admission, activities and policy.

*Fact Sheet 2024-25
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