

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

UMA's Veterinary Technology degree is the only one of its kind in the state of Maine. This Associate of Science degree prepares students for careers as veterinary technicians or laboratory animal technicians in a variety of settings. Along with basic, core education requirements, students in this program complete coursework in animal care and handling, anatomy and physiology, and clinical procedures and techniques. Field experience and laboratory experience provides Veterinary Technician students with a solid foundation in basic animal care and laboratory techniques. Upon successful completion of this program, students can apply for the required National Examination conducted by the Maine Board of Veterinary Medicine to become a licensed Veterinary Technician.

Transferable Skills & Competencies

Veterinary Technicians primarily function as professional technical support to veterinarians, biomedical researchers, and other scientists. Examples of the skills, and responsibilities qualified veterinary technicians are educated to assume include:

Technical

- Taking x-rays
- Understanding veterinary terminology
- Providing animal care and handling
- Performing clinical laboratory procedures
- Understanding animal nutritional requirements
- Monitoring biological vital signs
- Calculating drug dosages
- Operating and maintaining diagnostic equipment

Medical

- Restraining animals of all species
- Maintaining and using medical equipment
- Placing intravenous catheters
- Maintaining fluid therapies
- Performing dental prophylaxis
- Preparing for surgery and assisting
- Monitoring (induction, maintenance) of anesthesia
- Administering vaccinations and medications

Organization/Administrative

- Maintaining medical records
- Inventory control
- Bookkeeping and practice management
- Admitting and discharging patients
- Compiling data
- Managing operating room and medical facilities

Communication

- Providing grief counseling for clients
- Writing business letters
- Developing client education handouts
- Explaining after-care and doctor's orders
- Handling phone contacts and making appointments
- Educating about animal care



The University of Maine at Augusta
with campus locations in Augusta and Bangor,
teaching to over 100 centers and sites statewide.

Careers

Here is a list of some of the jobs past Veterinary Technology graduates have held. Some positions may require additional education or specialized knowledge:

Medical Services

Veterinarian Technician
Laboratory Animal Technician
Wildlife Rehabilitation Medicine
Technician in Exotic Animal Practice

Research & Education

Biomedical Research Laboratories
Commercial Testing Laboratories
Pharmaceutical Research Firms
Cooperative Extension (4H)
Veterinary School/Technician Program Instructor*
Veterinary Technician at a Veterinary College
Hospital
Nature Conservancy

Business

Herd Health Manager
Barn Manager, Equine Facility
Horse Trainer
Kennel Manager
Pharmaceutical Sales
Pet and Livestock Product Marketer
Veterinary Medical Supply Company Rep.

Government/Non-profit

Animal Control Officer
Wildlife Biologist*
Natural Resources Wildlife Technician
State Dept. of Agriculture Representative
Humane Society Director
Police/Armed Services Dog Trainer
Animal Shelter Staff Member
Military Service

* Baccalaureate or Graduate level study is generally required for these occupations.

For More Information

College of Mathematics & Professional Studies

621-3288 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3288

Program Coordinator: Robert Gholson

1-207-262-7856, University College Bangor

Academic & Career Advising Center

University College Bangor: 1-207-262-7808
Augusta:
621-3149 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3149

Admissions & Records Office

University College Bangor: 1-207-262-7804
Augusta:
621-3140 or 1-877-UMA-1234, ext. 3140

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