

## Veterinary Technology Program

### Application Checklist

Students interested in pursuing admission into the Veterinary Technology program at Iowa Western Community college must complete all admission requirements listed below in sections 1 and 2. In order to be eligible for admission, the requirements listed below must be submitted to the Admissions Office by the priority deadline. If the program does not fill on this date, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until the program has filled.

The Veterinary Technology program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The American Veterinary Medical Association can be contacted at 1931 N. Meacham Road, Schaumburg, IL 60173; 1-800-248-2862; [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org).

Location	Start Date	Priority Deadline	Program Capacity
Council Bluffs	Fall Semester (August)	January 31 <sup>st</sup>	32
<p><b>It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all admissions requirements are on file with the Admissions Office and that his or her admissions application is correct, including intended start term, start year, and location.</b></p>			

### Section 1: College Admission Requirements

- Complete an Iowa Western application for admission:** The application is online at [www.iwcc.edu](http://www.iwcc.edu) and there is no application fee. When completing the application for admissions, applicants should select which location (Council Bluffs) and which start term (Fall) they wish to begin the program.
- Request Transcripts:** You need to have a final, official high school transcript or HiSET/GED transcript sent to Iowa Western. If you have completed college course work, you will need to have an official college transcript sent to Iowa Western from the institution where the credit was earned.
- Test scores are not required for admission to the College.** However, students who have taken a standardized college aptitude test, like the ACT or SAT, need to have their most recent scores sent to the Admissions Office. Test scores, in addition to previous coursework and non-cognitive assessment results, are utilized by advisors to help determine placement into appropriate math and English courses.

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Once you complete the application for admission, you will be accepted to Iowa Western as a Prep-Veterinary Technology student, and eligible to register for general education courses required for the Veterinary Technology Program. For more information on being registered for general education courses, or for help with the admissions requirements, please contact us at [admissions@iwcc.edu](mailto:admissions@iwcc.edu) or call 712.325.3277.

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## Section 2: Veterinary Technology Program Admission Requirements

- **Complete 24 hours of observation** with a Veterinary Technician or Veterinarian and submit completed Veterinary Technology Program Observation Form to the Office of Admissions. Hours submitted must have been completed within 18 months of the priority deadline.
- **BIO-112 General Biology I with a grade of "C" or higher.** (This course has prerequisite of a grade of "C" or higher in high school biology, Introductory Biology, or Biotechnology I.)
- **Chemistry requirement** of either a high school-level chemistry course of at least one semester or a college-level chemistry course of at least three semester hours before they are eligible to begin Veterinary Technology classes.
- **AGV-104 Veterinary Technology Anatomy and Physiology I with a grade of "C" or higher.**

### Recommended Course Sequence

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
BIO 105 Introduction to Biology – <i>may be waived</i>	4	*BIO 112 General Biology	4
MAT 102 Intermediate Algebra – <i>may be waived</i>	4	CHM 122 Intro to Gen Chem – <i>may be waived</i>	4
		*AGV104 Vet Tech Anatomy and Physiology I	3
Total Credit hours		Total Credit Hours	
8		11	

\*Classes listed with an asterisk are required for acceptance. Additional classes listed are needed to graduate from the Veterinary Technology program. It is important to remember that taking the additional program general education courses may affect your full-time status when accepted into the Veterinary Technology program.

## Section 3: Acceptance Process for Veterinary Technology Program

After completing Section 1: College Admissions Requirements and Section 2: Veterinary Technology Admissions Requirements your application is complete. The Admissions Office does not require a separate application. Our office uses what is called your "Start Term" (example: fall 2019) for acceptance in our competitive programs. It is important that the start term on file correctly reflects the semester you anticipate starting the program. Students can request to have their start term updated by submitting the [Update Start Term Form](#).

Acceptance will begin on the listed priority acceptance deadline, see chart on page one. If the program does not fill on the priority acceptance deadline, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until the program is full. If there are more eligible students than space available, preference will be given to the students with the earliest admission file completion date.



## Section 4: Frequently Asked Questions

### Does the Veterinary Technology Program have a waiting list?

No, we do not utilize a waiting list. Once you have completed the College Admission Requirements and the Veterinary Technology Program Admissions Requirements listed above, you will have everything you need to be considered for admission to the program for an upcoming term. It is important to ensure that your record is up to date with the Admissions Office, including your start term and start year.

### How long does it take to get into the Veterinary Technology Program?

Iowa Western does not utilize a waiting list, so the amount of time it takes to get into the program varies by student depending on how long it takes to complete the College Admissions Requirements and the Veterinary Technology Program Admissions Requirements listed above. The prerequisite courses typically take one to two semesters to complete for students who enter the college with no college credit.

### Is there a separate application process to apply for the program?

Iowa Western requires that students submit an application of admission to the college. There is no separate application for the Veterinary Technology program. The Admissions Office uses what is called your "Start Term" (example: fall 2021) for acceptance in our competitive programs. It is important that the start term on file correctly reflect the semester you anticipate starting the program. Students can request to have their start term updated by submitting the [Update Start Term Form](#).

### If I do not complete the requirements for the program in time to be accepted, can I reapply?

Yes. To re-apply, simply update your start term – [Update Start Term Form](#). You may also visit the Admissions Office, contact us at [admissions@iwcc.edu](mailto:admissions@iwcc.edu) or 712.325.3277 and request to change your start term.

### How will I know if I get accepted to the Veterinary Technology Program?

Approximately two weeks after acceptance begins, which is January 31 for the fall semester, you will receive an email from the Admissions Office indicating your acceptance status. If the program does not fill during our priority acceptance, we will continue accepting students who complete the requirements until the program has reached capacity.



## Section 5: Top 7 things you need to know about the Veterinary Technology program

1. Kennel duty
  - Students must complete kennel duty in the mornings **and** evenings (expect to be on campus until 4 every day) along with the weekends during the spring and fall semester, it is not optional!
  - Must be done no matter the weather conditions, even during blizzard conditions
  - For credit course
2. An associate's degree in veterinary technology from IWCC is not a stepping stone to veterinary school
  - Most vet schools require a minimum of 60 credit hours of science and other classes of which only a possible 10 credit hours might possibly transfer
3. Academically challenging curriculum
  - Students must earn a (70%)C or better in all their vet tech and science courses in order to continue in the program
  - Fast paced
  - Time management is a priority, school comes first
  - Studying and kennel duty are time consuming
  - Emphasis placed on canine and feline species with an introduction/entry level knowledge to other species
  - Two internships, summer and final spring semester (credit courses so you pay for them)
  - Students must take Microbiology (BIO 186 or approved transfer equivalent) prior to the end of the second semester of freshmen year
  - We are almost always above the national average on first time test takers passing the veterinary technician national exam.
4. Animals
  - Animals are obtained from the Council Bluffs Animal Shelter
  - Vet work only done on shelter animals, not student or public animals, we are not a clinic
5. Readmission policy
  - Failing a course will add an extra year, minimally, to earn your degree
  - Only admit in the fall, no part time
  - Interview with Advisory Board to earn readmission to the program
6. Financial Aid
  - Summer courses need to be budgeted for with your spring financial aid
7. Cohort
  - Lifelong friendships made
  - Only three instructors, so you definitely are known on a first name basis



## Rabies Vaccine Policy

Starting for the fall 2022 semester, students accepted into the Veterinary Technology program at Iowa Western are required to obtain pre-exposure rabies vaccines per the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

**NOTE:** Students accepted as a Prep-Veterinary Technology students are not required to show proof of vaccination until they have completed all [additional admissions requirements](#) and have been accepted into the program by the Admissions Office.

### Steps after acceptance:

Upon acceptance into the Veterinary Technology program and prior to the start of the first semester of the program, students must provide proof of immunization for the pre-exposure rabies vaccine to the Veterinary Technology Department ([ddewitt@iwcc.edu](mailto:ddewitt@iwcc.edu)) If the vaccine is older than two years from the start date of the first semester, students must provide adequate titer documentation.

Students will come into contact with animals within their first semester of the program. Vaccinations and/or titers are mandatory for all students as it will allow them to participate in labs and clinicals.

### Information regarding the vaccine:

Pre-exposure rabies vaccination with either the human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV) or the purified chick embryo cell vaccine (PCEC) is administered intramuscularly in the deltoid area of the arm. This 3-step vaccination series, with one injection per day on days 0, 7, and 21 or 28, as directed by your medical provider. Failure to comply with the vaccination schedule or complete the series puts you at risk of incomplete protection.

### To obtain the vaccine series:

- **Students are required to obtain vaccinations and titers at their own expense.** Note: Insurance coverage varies, contact your medical provider for more information on cost.
- Obtain a prescription for the vaccine series from your family physician. Once you obtain a prescription, contact your local pharmacy for instructions.

### Resources per the American Veterinary Medical Association:

- Rabies, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/index.html>
- What is Rabies? World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/rabies/about/en/>

For questions regarding the requirements of the rabies vaccine can be directed to the Veterinary Technology Department, Dr. Dan DeWitt at [ddewitt@iwcc.edu](mailto:ddewitt@iwcc.edu) or 712-325-3200.



## Veterinary Technology Observation Form

The purpose of the observation is to expose applicants to a wide-variety of veterinary procedures performed on small and large animals by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT), Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), and/or Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT). Applicants are required to complete a minimum of 24 hours of observation in a small animal practice or large animal setting, or a combination of both. Although applicants are encouraged to observe a variety of procedures, **they are required to observe eight specific procedures**, which are detailed below.

In order to successfully complete this requirement for admission, applicants must:

1. Complete a minimum of 24 hours of observation in a small animal practice or a large animal setting, or a combination of both. Hours submitted must have been completed within 18 months of the priority deadline.
2. Complete the Required Procedures for Observation detailed below, and ensure that the supervising DVM, LVT, RVT, and/or CVT initials and dates each Required Procedure for Observation.
3. Complete the Observation Log by documenting the times and dates for each observation.
4. Complete the Observation Details by indicating which procedures they observed and in what setting they observed those procedures in by placing check marks in the appropriate boxes.
5. Ensure that the supervising DVM, LVT, RVT, and/or CVT completes the DVM, LVT, RVT, and/or CVT Certification section.
6. Sign and date the Applicant Certification section and submit forms to the Office of Admissions.

We prefer you scan your documents into a PDF/Word file and submit them (admissions@iwcc.edu). There are many free scanning apps that can be downloaded on most smartphones. If submitting a picture of a document it must meet the following guidelines:

- Pictures may not be at an angle. Pictures of documents must be taken straight on
- Pictures may not cut off any part of the document
- No part of the picture may contain any shadow or glare
- The document must be easily readable

\*\*\*If your picture does not meet the criteria above you will be required to resubmit your document.



To be completed by the student and signed by the participating Veterinarian or Veterinary Technician.

Student name (print or type): \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUIRED Procedures for Observation

The following procedures are required for observation. Applicants may observe these specific procedures in a small animal practice or a large animal setting, or a combination of both. The supervising DVM, LVT, RVT, or CVT must initial and date next to each observed procedure. All "Procedure Required for Observation" must be completed in order to be considered for admission. If needed, observation hours can be completed at multiple locations. A form is required for each office location.

Procedures <u>REQUIRED</u> for Observation	Supervising DVM, LVT, RVT, or CVT Initials	Date of observation
Prepare fecal specimens/floats		
Urinalysis		
Restraint techniques		
Anesthesia machine operation		
Euthanasia		
Surgical Procedure		
Post-operative care		
Cleaning cages, equipment & clinic		



## Observation Details

Applicants are required to document each procedure they observed by placing check marks next to each of the procedures they observed during their 24 hours of observation. It is not *required* to observe all of the items listed below; however, applicants are *encouraged* to observe a wide-variety of procedures.

## Small Animal Procedures

ITEM	√	ITEM	√
Obtain patient history		Heartworm tests	
Check temperature/pulse/heart/lungs		Cystocentesis	
Communicate with client		Gram stain	
Collect/prepare fecal specimens/floats		Diff-quick stain	
Analyze fecal specimen for parasites		Taking radiographs	
Express anal glands		Developing radiographs	
IV catheter		Restraint techniques (feline/canine)	
Urinary catheter		Restraint techniques (other animal)	
IV or IM anesthetic		Administer pills	
Anesthesia machine operation		Force-feeding	
Mask animal for anesthetic		Administer subcutaneous fluids	
Intubation		Euthanasia	
Cephalic blood draw		Operate & maintain autoclave	
Jugular blood draw		Apply/remove bandages & splints	
Blood draw-inner/outer rear legs		Therapeutic bathing/basic grooming	
Lab analysis of blood - PCV/TP		Cleaning cages, equipment & clinic	
Blood chemistry machines		Use of clinic software (access records/set appointments)	
Blood smears		Access client/patient files	
Urinalysis		Misc. paperwork, filing & records	
Surgical preparation		Trim nails	
Post-operative care		Spay/neuter	
Routine dental prophylaxis		De-claw	



## Large Animal Procedures

ITEM	√	ITEM	√
Mobile ambulance inventory/cleanup		Collect/examine blood specimens	
Prepare squeeze chutes/head gates		Collect/examine urine specimens	
Restraint techniques		Collect/examine fecal specimens	
Tagging, tattooing, identification		Take/develop radiographs	
External parasite examination		Surgical preparation	
Use of balling gun		Anesthesia	
Gastric tubing		Embryo transplant	
Drenching		Cesarean section	
Dipping		Post-operative care	
Injections		Euthanasia	
Implanting		Necropsy	
Dehorning		Artificial insemination	
Castration		Pregnancy check	
Dock tails		Semen collection	
Trim hooves			



\*Admissions Requirements are subject to change. Contact Office of Admissions for questions.

## Equal Educational Opportunity and Non-discrimination

It is the policy of Iowa Western Community College to provide equal educational opportunities and not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, genetic information, physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, marital status, veteran status, AIDS/HIV status, citizenship, or medical condition, as those terms are defined under applicable laws, in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. Inquiries and complaints regarding equal opportunity and nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Equal Opportunity Coordinators, phone number 712-325-3200, [equity@iwcc.edu](mailto:equity@iwcc.edu); or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, phone number 312-730-1560, fax 312-730-1576.

## Office of Admissions

Hours: M-Th. 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Hours: Fri. 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Ph: (712) 325-3277

E-mail: [admissions@iwcc.edu](mailto:admissions@iwcc.edu)

