

Fox Valley Technical College

Veterinary Technician Program

Technical Standards

During the course of the Veterinary Technician program, students must demonstrate the ability to perform the functions listed below safely, reliably and efficiently within the scope of practice as defined by the Board of Veterinary Medicine. Every student will be held to the same standards with or without reasonable accommodations.

It is the intent of Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) to fully comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974 and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) of 1990. (In accordance with the ADA and Section 504, FVTC does not provide students with personal devices and services). If a student enters the Veterinary Technician program based on falsification of records related to their ability to meet the technical requirements, he/she may face disciplinary actions.

Gross Motor Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move within confined spaces • Maintain balance in multiple positions • Reach above shoulders (e.g., IV poles) • Reach below waist (e.g., plug electrical cord into wall outlet) • Reach out front
Fine Motor Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up objects with hands • Grasp small objects with hands (e.g., IV tubing, pencil) • Write with pen or pencil • Key/type (e.g., use a computer) • Pinch/pick or otherwise work with fingers (e.g., manipulate a syringe) • Twist (e.g., turn objects/knobs using hands) • Squeeze with finger (e.g., eye dropper) • Dexterity to manipulate small equipment, adjust resistance on equipment, and manage syringes, catheters and surgical instruments
Physical Endurance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand, kneel, squat, bend or sit for an extended period of time (e.g., at patient side during surgical, diagnostic or therapeutic procedures) • Sustain repetitive movements (e.g., CPR) • Maintain physical tolerance (e.g., work on your feet a minimum of eight hours)
Physical Strength: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push and pull 50 pounds (e.g., position patients, move equipment) • Support 50 pounds of weight (e.g., walk patient with towel support) • Lift 50 pounds (e.g., bend to lift a dog up to a table, handle large bags of animal feed) • Carry equipment/supplies • Use upper body strength (e.g., perform CPR, physically restrain a patient) • Squeeze with hands (e.g., operate fire extinguisher) • Be capable of handling, positioning, and restraining live animals of small and large species
Mobility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twist • Bend • Stoop/squat • Move quickly • Climb stairs • Walk • Crawl/climb to enter and exit animal cages or stalls • Must be able to move his/her entire body a distance of no less than three meters within two seconds of a signal to do so (to move from danger while handling in confined spaces)
Hearing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear normal speaking-level sounds (e.g., person-to-person report) • Hear faint voices Hear faint body sounds (e.g., blood pressure sounds, heart and lung sounds, assess placement of stomach and endotracheal tubes) • Hear in situations when not able to see lips (e.g., when masks are used) • Hear auditory alarms (e.g., monitors, fire alarms, warning sounds from animals and humans of impending danger or injury)

Visual:

- See objects up to 20 inches away (e.g., information on computer screen, skin conditions)
- See objects up to 30 feet away (e.g., horse in an aisle)
- Use depth perception
- Use peripheral vision
- Distinguish color and color intensity, including slight color variations (e.g., clinical pathology slides under a microscope)

Tactile:

- Feel vibrations (e.g., palpate pulses)
- Detect temperature (e.g., skin, solutions)
- Feel differences in surface characteristics (e.g., skin turgor, rashes)
- Feel differences in sizes, shapes (e.g., palpate vein, identify body landmarks)
- Detect environmental temperature
- Physical assessment and performance of above tactile skills must be done in a timely manner

Smell:

- Detect odors (e.g., foul smelling discharge, anesthetic gas leak)

Environment:

- Tolerance to allergens such as latex, animal dander, and hay/straw
- Tolerance to strong soaps
- Tolerance to strong odors (e.g., chemical disinfectants)
- Tolerance to handling bodily fluids and solids (e.g., urine and feces)
- Ability for sustained contact with multiple species (both large and small animals)
- Not allergic to domestic animals to the extent that would prohibit working in a facility that has them

Reading:

- Read and understand written documents (e.g., monitoring sheet, directions)
- Read digital displays

Math:

- Comprehend and interpret graphic trends
- Calibrate equipment
- Convert numbers to and from metric and Apothecaries system (e.g., dosages)
- Tell time
- Measure time (e.g., count heart beat in 15 sec and multiply by 4)
- Count rates (e.g., drips/minute, pulse rate)
- Read and interpret measurement marks
- Add, subtract, multiply and/or divide whole numbers
- Compute fractions and decimals (e.g., medication dosages)
- Document numbers in records (e.g., charts and computerized data bases)

Emotional Stability:

- Establish professional relationships
- Establish therapeutic boundaries
- Provide client with emotional support
- Adapt to changing environment/stress
- Deal with the unexpected (e.g., client condition, crisis)
- Focus attention on task
- Cope with own emotions
- Perform multiple responsibilities concurrently
- Cope with strong emotions in others (e.g., grief)
- Must be able to complete required tasks/functions under stressful conditions, including emergencies
- Must be willing to assist with and perform a wide variety of routine medical, surgical and diagnostic procedures, including humane euthanasia

Analytical Thinking:

- Transfer knowledge from one situation to another
- Process information from multiple sources
- Analyze and interpret abstract and concrete data
- Evaluate outcomes
- Problem solve
- Prioritize tasks
- Use long-term memory
- Use short-term memory

Critical Thinking:

- Identify cause-effect relationships
- Plan/control activities for others
- Synthesize knowledge and skills
- Sequence information
- Make decisions independently
- Adapt decision based on new information
- Show progress towards minimal supervision as advance through program

Interpersonal Skills:

- Establish rapport with individuals, families and groups
- Respect/value cultural differences
- Negotiate interpersonal conflict
- Demonstrate socially appropriate behavior
- Maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close human and animal contact
- Interact appropriately with clients and all members of the veterinary healthcare team

Communication Skills:

- Teach (e.g. client/family about veterinary health care)
- Direct/manage/delegate activities of others
- Speak English
- Write English
- Read English
- Comprehend and carry out complex written and oral directions given in English
- Collaborate with others (e.g., veterinary team members)
- Manage information

Time Constraints:

- Must be able to function in a structured environment within significant time constraints

FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Veterinary Technician Program
TECHNICAL STANDARDS CRITERIA

Statement of Understanding For students with a disability, reasonable accommodations are available. Reasonable modifications are defined as modifications or adjustments that allow individuals with disabilities to gain equal access and have equal opportunities to participate in FVTC's courses, services, activities, and use of the facilities. To be eligible for disability-related services/accommodations, students must have a documented disability. This documentation must be provided by a licensed professional, and qualified in the appropriate specialty area. The College is also not obligated to provide an accommodation that poses an undue financial or administrative burden to the College or poses a direct threat to the health and/or safety of others.

Examples of accommodations allowed, without disability documentation: supportive back brace or other supportive braces that does not impede required movement or interfere with infection control policies, hearing aids, glasses, and/or contacts. Other student-suggested accommodations will require approval of the Program Department Chair and the Disabilities Specialist. All requests should be approved BEFORE the student has enrolled in the program. Any accommodation cannot substantially alter the requirements of the program or inflict an undue burden on the respective program and clinical sites.

If after the start of class a student status changes and the student can no longer meets all of the required above named program technical standards; it is the student's responsibility to notify their instructor of any changes in their inability to perform and of the technical standards listed here. The College is required to keep these documents on file.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991 (42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C 794) prohibits discrimination of persons because of her of his disability. In keeping with these laws, colleges of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) make every effort to insure a quality education for students. The purpose of this document is to ensure that students acknowledge that they have been provided information on the technical standards of a student in the Veterinary Technician program. In addition, information was given to the student on reasonable accommodations to meet the Technical Standards at this time.

_____ I have read and understand the Technical Standards Criteria specific to a student in
initials the Vet Tech program.

_____ I am able to meet the Technical Standards presented with or without accommodation.
initials

_____ I was provided with information concerning accommodations or special services, if needed
initials at this time.

Name of Student (Please print)

Student ID#

Signature of Student

Date