



Veterinary Technology Program Health Concerns, Illness or Injury

If you have a health problem, an acute illness or injury that impacts your academic or clinical performance, the VET program requires that you have continuing health care with your provider to ensure that you are well and safe enough to continue in the classroom, laboratory and clinical activities without harming yourself or others. Examples of health problems are back pain or injury, chronic pain of any nature, severe headaches, infectious illness, surgery, injuries to limbs that require immobilization, to name a few. Please see the handbook section on Ability to Perform Veterinary Technology Tasks for details.

You must provide a primary care provider's written release to the VET Program Director BEFORE attending classroom laboratories or internships if you have incurred any of these conditions:

- 1) Injury or condition that requires an immobilization device such as a brace, splint or cast.
- 2) Surgery during the semester or during the 4 weeks preceding the beginning of the semester.
- 3) Childbirth during the semester or during the 4 weeks preceding the beginning of the semester.
- 4) An acute or infectious illness that interrupted your classroom, laboratory or clinical attendance.
- 5) Any other circumstances in which the Faculty are concerned about your health and well-being.

You may obtain a medical release form from the Director of the Veterinary Technology Program's office. If your primary care provider cannot assure that you are well and safe to perform in the clinical area, you will need talk to the Dean of Student Services for help working out your next steps. You may return to the Program when your healthcare provider indicates your health has returned.

Pregnancy

- If you are, or should become pregnant, you must consult your medical doctor about continuance of the VET program. Many courses include essential activities, such as parasitology, radiology (x-ray), anesthetic gases and the handling of animals, which may be hazardous to the fetus.
- While safety is stressed in every aspect of your education, you and your doctor should discuss class participation during your pregnancy.
- You are strongly encouraged to make your instructor aware of your pregnancy in advance of laboratory sessions.

Ability to Perform Veterinary Technology Tasks

Candidates for the Veterinary Technology degree must be able to complete the required skills list. The following are minimum standards, which students must be able to meet with or without reasonable accommodation, for successful completion of degree requirements:

1. Ability to work in stressful and changing environments.
2. Within a clinic setting move from room to room, work at tables of different heights to assist with restraining animals, performing medical procedures, and assist during emergencies. During medical procedures and in a surgery setting, stand for long periods of time. Clean, engage, and remove animals from multi-level kennels. Take leashed dogs for walks and transport small animals safely.
3. Ability to navigate and respond quickly in a variety of outdoor conditions, climates, and terrains while participating in large animal laboratory sessions.
4. Lift and transfer up to 25 pounds of live, struggling animal patients from a stooped position to an exam table (average height is 3 feet).
5. Restrain a struggling 50 pound animal in a stooped position.
6. Able to respond and react quickly in order to move away from a dangerous or aggressive animal.
7. Physically apply up to 10 pounds of pressure to bleeding sites or while performing CPR.
8. Throughout all aspects of the program (classroom, laboratory sessions, internships, etc) must be able to receive accurate oral directions, monitor equipment, perform auditory auscultation, respond to different alarms, attend to the needs of a vocalizing patient, and communicate clearly and effectively.
9. Perform in a clinical laboratory experience for up to 8 hours in duration, including standing for up to 6 hours.
10. Accurately perform close and distant monitoring (medical equipment, monitoring devices, medication administration, maintain computer medical records, distinguish between healthy and unhealthy tissue, microscope work such as cell identification and parasite identification, and distinguish color changing laboratory results).
11. Anticipate Veterinarian's needs and execute appropriate responses in a safe and effective manner.
12. Discriminate between rough/smooth and hot/cold when using hands.
13. Manipulate small objects with precise movements for example administering injectable medications, blood draws, and placing intravenous catheters.
14. Communicate effectively with all veterinary faculty or staff, peers, and clients during class periods, internships, and vaccine clinics.
15. Ability to work around and appropriately handle strong chemicals.
16. Ability to recognize noxious smells and take appropriate action.

Warning: As a student you will be exposed to latex gloves and other products containing natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions such as skin rashes; hives; nasal, eye or sinus symptoms; asthma; and (rarely) shock.

Please carefully consider any physical limitations that you may have. If you have a diagnosed disability that may prevent you from carrying out any of these physical expectations, please discuss your situation with the VET Program Director. Students who enter the program do so with the understanding that they will be expected to meet course requirements, with or without any reasonable accommodations. Students who have a disability will be referred to the Learning Opportunity Center for determination of the reasonable accommodations that can be made. Inability to carry out any of these activities while in the program may prevent completion of the program.

Student Statement

(Please choose one OR the other to sign)

I understand that the above qualifications must be met in order to begin the veterinary technology program. I am able to perform the above-mentioned tasks **without** accommodation.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

OR

I understand that the above qualifications must be met in order to begin the veterinary technology program. I am able to perform the above-mentioned tasks **with** accommodation.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

If you have a disability that requires accommodation or have had any of the conditions described in the VET student handbook - Health Concerns, Illness or Injury section, please have your physician/nurse practitioner verify the above requirements, numbers 1-12, by signing below.

Physician Statement

___ I have examined the student named above and hereby verify that she or he has a physical disability (no. ___ above) that will require accommodation in order to carry out activities.

___ I have examined the student named above and hereby verify that she or he cannot perform (specify task(s) above) _____ for _____ (time period)

___ I have examined the student named above and hereby verify that he or she can perform all tasks listed above.

Physician/Nurse Signature _____ Date _____

Physician/Nurse Printed _____ Date _____

*The College will determine if an accommodation is reasonable in accordance with applicable law.