



Veterinary Technology

Opportunity – Then. Now. Always.

2025 Application Cycle

Apply by May 1, 2026 at 5pm to start fall term 2026

LEARN MORE: pcc.edu/vet



**Portland
Community
College**

Veterinary
Technology

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Veterinary Technology program. We are one of two American Veterinary Medication Association (AVMA) accredited programs in Oregon, and one of the few in the nation, that provide hands-on, on-campus learning experiences with a full range of farm and domestic animals. Upon successful completion of our two year program, students earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Veterinary Technology and are eligible to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) to become Certified Veterinary Technicians. We provide a quality in-depth education that prepares students for success in their careers. Our program enrolls students annually, each fall. **All information, deadlines, and timelines in this guide are subject to change.** Visit pcc.edu/vet for updated program information.

Helpful Contacts

Connect with an Advisor	vet@pcc.edu
Direct Observation, Internship, and Job Info	Aimee Bosland, PCC Careers Specialist 971-722-7452 aimee.bosland@pcc.edu
Enrollment Services	971-722-8888, option 2 enroll@pcc.edu pcc.edu/enroll
Financial Aid	971-722-8888, option 4 pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/financial-aid/

Applying to Veterinary Technology

To be considered for Fall admission, the online application and all required steps must be completed by 5:00 pm on May 1st of each year. Qualified applicants will be invited for an admission interview sometime in May and

acceptance notifications will be sent via email 1-2 weeks after the interview date. This moderately competitive program accepts up to 30 students, once per year, in the spring for a fall start date. Students are assessed based on grades in prerequisite course work, fulfillment of the high school transcript or GED requirement, other related college coursework, veterinary experience, animal experience, and interview. Points are earned in each category as outlined later in this guide.

It is essential to ensure a complete understanding of all required application criteria. Incomplete applications or missing documents can result in forfeiture of consideration.

Steps to Complete Before Applying

Attend an Information Session

VT Program Information sessions are held remotely, multiple times each year. These sessions provide an overview of the career, details about our program, and an in depth explanation of the application process. Session dates and sign up information can be found [here](#).

Apply to PCC

Complete this step as soon as possible in order to gain access to PCC resources. On the PCC application, choose Associate of General Studies for your major. (Your major will be updated if you are admitted to the program.) Go to pcc.edu/enroll.

Once admitted, you will receive a student identification number (G-number) and a PCC email address. All communications from the PCC Veterinary Technology program will occur through the PCC email address.

Complete Prerequisite Courses

These classes must be completed with a “C” or better by the May 1 deadline. If you have taken these, or an equivalent course at another college, please submit a copy of your unofficial transcript (PDF preferred) to vet@pcc.edu for approval.

- MTH 95: Intermediate Algebra, or higher
- WR 121: English Composition, or higher
- CH 104: Allied Health Chemistry I, or higher
- BI 112: Cell Biology, or equivalent
- MP 111: Medical Terminology, or equivalent

Complete Veterinary Observation

Applicants must spend at least 40 hours in a veterinary clinical setting and submit a completed Veterinary Observation Form with the application.

- If assistance is needed with finding a veterinary setting, please contact Aimee Bosland, PCC Careers Specialist at 971-722-7452 or aimee.bosland@pcc.edu
- The direct observation form can be found at pcc.edu/programs/veterinary/apply/ and is also located at the end of this document.

Letter of Recommendation

Obtain a letter of recommendation that verifies animal care skills and knowledge, personal/team skills, and commitment/work ethic. This letter will ideally come from a practicing Veterinarian or Certified, Licensed, or Registered Veterinary Technician. The letter should be emailed to vtapply@pcc.edu.

Transcripts

The program requires two types of transcripts to be submitted with your application, see below for details.

High School Transcripts

- An official high school transcript confirming graduation or, alternatively, official GED scores, must come directly from your high school or GED testing entity. These can be emailed to vtapply@pcc.edu or if electronic transcripts are not available, they can be mailed to:

Portland Community College
Veterinary Technology Program
% Dr. Ragan Borzcik
PO Box 190000
Portland, OR 97280

- Note that diplomas, certificates, copies of unofficial high school transcripts, etc. do not fulfill this requirement. Opened transcripts are not considered official.

College Transcripts

- If an applicant is using coursework from a college or university other than Portland Community College, the applicant must submit official college transcripts. Submission of college transcripts can be done by following the instructions to "[Transfer Credits to PCC](#)".

Submit Application

- The online application form is available in January each year on this web page:
pcc.edu/programs/veterinary/apply/
- Applications are due **by 5:00 pm on May 1st** of each year for admission the following Fall.

After you Apply

- Within 1-2 weeks after the May 1st deadline, competitive applicants will be invited to sit for an interview
- 1-2 weeks after the interview, final decisions for program entry will be made and notifications of acceptance will be emailed to applicants' PCC email address.

Selection Process

Applicants are evaluated using a point system. Points can be earned as follows:

Complete application by May 1 at 5pm	1 pt
Prerequisite GPA	
A (4.0)	2 pts each
B (3.0)	1 pt each
College Experience	
Passed all classes with a full load (12+ credits) in a term	0.5pt/term (max 2 points)
Additional Coursework	
Communication Course(s) 3.5+ GPA	1.5 pt
Communication Course(s) 3.0 GPA	1 pt
Communication Course(s) 2.0 GPA	0.5 pt
Animal Handling Experience	
Any animal related employment, volunteer work, or personal experiences will be awarded points based on the type of animal experience	max 2 pts
Required Veterinary Volunteer Hours	
Minimum of 40 hours of documented time spent in a veterinary clinical setting	0 points
Veterinary Experience	
Hours of veterinary work experience	1 pt per 500 hrs
Personal Statement	3 points
Letter of Recommendation	
Verifying animal care skills and knowledge, personal/team skills, and commitment/work ethic	up to 2 pts
Interview	
Average score based on readiness for the program, understanding of the career and interview skills	Up to 8 points
Alternate Status	
Awarded to repeat applicants that were alternates in the previous years' application cycle	1 pt

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

When will the Veterinary Technology application be available?

During the application period, the application is available online on this web page:

pcc.edu/programs/veterinary/apply/

When is my application due?

All application materials must be received by **May 1 of each year by 5:00 pm.**

Can I apply to the Veterinary Technology program if I have not completed all of the prerequisite courses?

All prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of winter term prior to the May 1st application deadline.

How do I find out if my credits from another college or university meet the requirements for the program prerequisites?

Please submit a copy of your unofficial transcript (PDF preferred) to vet@pcc.edu.

Can someone help me find a clinic to fulfill the 40-hour observation requirement?

Yes. Please contact Aimee Bosland, PCC Careers Specialist, if assistance is needed in finding a veterinary clinic where you can fulfill your 40-hour observation requirement.

- 971-722-7452
- aimee.bosland@pcc.edu

What are my chances of being accepted into the program?

The program receives 60-70 applications per year and accepts 30 students to begin in the fall term of each year. To be most competitive, an applicant would satisfy some combination of the following criteria:

- At least three months experience in a veterinary clinical setting
- A's and B's in prerequisite coursework
- Other college credits (especially in math and science)
- Competitive college GPA

- Excellent letter of recommendation from a licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician
- High interview score

If I am not accepted into the program, do I have to reapply next year?

Candidates who are not accepted must fill out a new application and re-submit the application packet the following year. We highly encourage students to contact the program and determine how they can improve their application for future years.

Veterinary Observation

Suggestions for Obtaining Your Hours

- Contact the facility by phone or preferably in person to schedule an appointment.
- Clearly identify yourself as a student applying to the PCC Veterinary Technology program. Emphasize that the observation is required to be considered for admission to the program, and that you are interested in a professional career in a veterinary setting.
- Speak with the Lead Veterinary Technician, the Hospital Owner, or the Practice Manager to arrange your on-site hours.
- Bring the Observation Form Letter and form with you for the veterinarian and staff to review at your observation appointment.
- Use more than one Veterinary Observation form if you observe at more than one location.
- Remember, the veterinarian and staff of the facility are helping you. Please be considerate of their time and policies while in their facility. Some hospitals and clinics will only let you observe, without any actual hands-on experience with the patients due to legal/insurance issues.
- At the site, try to focus on the job duties being performed by the Certified Veterinary Technician. Ask yourself: “Are these the responsibilities that I would like to have, are these tasks that I would enjoy doing?”
- If you are currently employed as a veterinary assistant, your previous work experience will fulfill this direct observation requirement but the Veterinary Observation Form must still be completed and submitted with your application.

Veterinary Observation Letter

To Whom It May Concern,

The Portland Community College Veterinary Technology program requires all applicants to observe at least 40 hours in a veterinary clinical setting in order to be eligible for admission to the program. The purpose of these hours is to introduce the applicant to the Veterinary Technology profession, and to allow the applicant to observe the activities of veterinary hospitals to help them decide if this is the occupational training they desire.

We respectfully request that you allow these students to observe 40 hours in your hospital. If the prospective applicant is currently or formerly an employee of yours and has met the requirements for observation and discussion listed on the attached "Veterinary Observation Form", then simply fill out the form and return it to the applicant.

We greatly appreciate any effort you make to accommodate these requests for observation. Both the program's faculty and our advisory committee feel this experience will be extremely valuable for the applicants and will, ultimately, strengthen our program and profession.

Sincerely,

Ragan Borzcik, DVM
Faculty Department Chair
Veterinary Technology Program
Portland Community College

Veterinary Observation Form

CVT/DVM Initial When Complete	Tasks to be Observed
	Minor surgical procedures (e.g. abscess drainage)
	Major surgical procedures (e.g. ovariohysterectomy)
	Office procedures (e.g. daily cash chart)
	Client interaction (e.g. history taking, discharge instructions)
	Kennel or stall clean-up (e.g. cage clean-up)
	Animal Medicating: (e.g. pilling and/or injecting a cat)
	Euthanasia, if possible (not an absolute requirement)
	Instrument clean-up
	Laboratory work such as looking through a microscope: (e.g. fecal analysis)
	Various other treatment procedures: (e.g. expressing anal sacs, enemas)
	Suggested Topics of Discussion
	Anticipated wages of a Certified Veterinary Technician
	Working hours for Certified Veterinary Technicians
	Employment benefits anticipated, such as paid vacation, health insurance, etc
	Rewards of being a Certified Veterinary Technician
	Challenges associated with being a Certified Veterinary Technician

Signature of DVM or CVT

Total hours

Hospital Name

Date

Additional Support Resources

PCC Internal Support Resources

- Academic Advising: pcc.edu/advising/
- Accessible Ed & Disability Resources: pcc.edu/disability/
- Apply to Veterinary Technology Program Page: pcc.edu/programs/veterinary/apply/
- Career Services: pcc.edu/careers/
- Financial Aid: pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/financial-aid/contacts/
- International Students: pcc.edu/international-students/
- Job Finding Support: pcc.edu/careers/jobs/
- Orientation Center: pcc.edu/visit/orientation-centers/
- PCC Foundation: pcc.edu/foundation/
- Placement Process: pcc.edu/enroll/placement-process/
- Scholarship Support: pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/scholarships/
- Student Records: pcc.edu/student-records/
- Tutoring: pcc.edu/tutoring/
- Veterinary Technology Information Sessions: pcc.edu/programs/veterinary/info-sessions/

Portland Community College is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution. Students are admitted without discrimination as to age, race, religion, gender, sexual preference, national origin or marital status.