

CAREERS IN LESS THAN A YEAR



# Veterinary Assistant Training



Pet owners love their animals and are willing to pay for veterinary care when those animals are sick or injured. Annually, Americans spend in excess of \$13 billion dollars\* on medical care for their pets. When a four-legged member of the family needs care, pet owners place their trust in trained professionals

\*American Pet Products Association, 2011 statistics.

### What is the job outlook for veterinary assistants?

Employment of veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers is expected to grow 14 percent from 2010 to 2020, as fast as the average for all occupations. Employment of veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers is concentrated in veterinary services, an industry that is expected to grow very quickly during the next projected decade. Fast industry growth will be spurred by a growing pet population and advancements in veterinary medicine (source: [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh)).

### What credentials can I earn through HCC's program?

HCC's Veterinary Assistant Training Program consists of four courses. A certificate of completion for the program will be given upon successful completion of all four courses. Please note that students will not be given certificates of completion for individual courses.

### What classes are available?

- *Terminology for Veterinary Assistants*  
Learn the veterinary terminology and vocabulary that is used in speech and documentation in a veterinary practice.
- *Veterinary Assistant Training Principles Part I*  
Learn about outpatient care and diagnostic practices as you discuss topics such as office procedures, client relations, exam room procedures, diagnostic and radiological imaging, and pharmaceutical information.
- *Veterinary Assistant Training Practices*  
Get hands-on training by participating in clinical visits, field trips, Humane Society volunteer work, and classroom instruction. Number of training hours required: 50.
- *Veterinary Assistant Training Principles Part II*  
Finish the program by learning about patient care, clinical procedures, and treatment. Additional topics include anesthesia, surgery, emergency medicine and care, and animal CPR.

Veterinary assistant students are required to attend all classes. To register for the certificate program, students need to take the Accuplacer math and English placement tests. To be accepted into the program students must place into MAT 100 and ENG 099 or higher. (Note: Students do not have to take the MAT 100 and ENG 099 courses, but must receive a score indicating that they qualify for both courses.) If students received a "C" or higher in a college-level English and math class, then they are exempt from taking the Accuplacer placement tests.

### How do I register?

Students can register online or by phone, fax, or mail. To learn more, call 240-500-2236 or go to [www.hagerstowncc.edu/coned/register](http://www.hagerstowncc.edu/coned/register).