



# Career Profile for Veterinary Technology / Animal Health

[www.mc.maricopa.edu](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu)

**General Program Description:** The **Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Veterinary Technology/Animal Health** program prepares students for careers in veterinary technology which require knowledge and skills involving basic medical sciences, animal care and management, veterinary medical care, and client communications and service. Veterinary technicians function as the paraprofessional assistants to veterinarians, biomedical researchers, other scientists, and animal control and humane organizations. Instruction includes practical clinical internship experience in veterinary emergency, large animal, small animal, and specialty practices, as well as in zoos, laboratories, humane societies, and other facilities.

**State and National Certification:** In approximately 40 states, veterinary technicians are certified, registered, or licensed. Candidates are tested for competency through an examination which may include oral, written, and practical portions.

**Advancement options:** Veterinary technologists and technicians can advance in expertise and special knowledge of species. As they acquire advanced expertise, they can take on more tasks helping veterinarians. Experienced technologists and technicians may become supervisors. They can advance to managing animal shelters, veterinary hospitals, and humane societies.

**Projected Job Growth:** The number of pets owned is expected to grow. In addition, pet owners are expected to increase their use of veterinary services. This will increase the work for veterinary technologists and technicians because they will do more procedures to treat pets. Graduates of training programs in veterinary technology have the best prospects for a job.

Location	Pay Period	Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2006 Salaries*		
		Entry-level	Median	Experienced
United States	Hourly	\$8.79	\$12.88	\$18.68
	Yearly	\$18,300	\$26,800	\$38,900
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$9.54	\$12.62	\$19.55
	Yearly	\$19,800	\$26,300	\$40,700
Arizona	Hourly	\$9.31	\$12.17	\$18.88
	Yearly	\$19,400	\$25,300	\$39,300

For more career information for Veterinary Technicians and Technologists, visit:  
[www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco), [www.maricopa.edu/workforce](http://www.maricopa.edu/workforce),  
<http://www.acinet.org/>, or  
[www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/)

For MCC program information, contact  
**Dr. Jill Sheport, 480-461-7488,**  
**Veterinary Technology Program Director, or visit**  
<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept2/veterinary/>

\*Labor market information provided by AZ Dept of Economic Security in cooperation with the U.S. Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages will vary depending on the employer, location, hours worked, experience, responsibility and other factors. Career and Re-Entry Services will collaborate with academic and occupational program departments to develop internship and career experience opportunities.

**Sample Job Titles:** Veterinary Technician, Zoo/Wildlife Medicine, Veterinary Supplies Sales, Herd Health Manager

**Types of Employers:**  
 Private Practice Veterinarians, Humane Society, Military, Diagnostic Laboratories, Zoos

**Local Employers who posted related jobs on the Maricopa Career Network:** Caring Hearts Animal Clinic, Maricopa County, University Animal Hospital & Pet Resort, Southwest Veterinary Oncology

**Professional Associations**  
**American Veterinary Medical Association**  
<http://www.avma.org/>

**For current job openings, go to Maricopa Career Network**  
<http://mcmaricopa.jobing.com/>.

**National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America**  
<http://navta.net/>

### Veterinary Technician Overview At-A-Glance

- Work under the supervision of veterinarians
- May work part or full time
- Most work 40 hours a week
- Some work for research labs
- Most train through two-year programs
- Need a license

[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)

**For additional information on Veterinary Technology careers or to watch occupational videos, visit:**

Arizona Career Information Systems (AzCIS)  
[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)  
 User name: mesacc; Password: 4azcis02

Career Voyages  
[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)

**Internships** are supervised practical training in a short-term or temporary position with an emphasis placed on instruction, training, mentoring, networking and gaining applied work experience. These positions may be paid or unpaid. Contact Career and Re-Entry Services for internship information: 480-461-7430.

Internship Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service-Learning** is a teaching and learning method that connects meaningful community service with academic learning through guided reflection. Contact the Center for Service- Learning for more information: 480-461-7393.

Service-Learning Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Transfer Options:** Contact Transfer Services for more transfer information: 480-461-7452.

**Career Assessments Completed:**

Career Assessment / Results	Date Completed	Reviewed by

**Career Readiness Workshops / Activities Completed:**

Workshop Name / Activity	Date Completed	Follow Up Contact (s)
Resume Writing Workshop		
Resume completed and reviewed by:		
Participate in Mock Interview		
How To Prepare for a Career Fair		
Attend Career Fair / Job Expo Location:		
Joined Professional Association:		

**MCC Career and Re-Entry Services**  
**Providing Guidance for Career and Workplace Success**

For more Career Profiles, visit

<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/careerprofiles.html>

Meet with a Career Advisor in Bldg #36, Room SS5N - adjacent to the Kirk Student Center, 480-461-7430

