

About This Program

Veterinary assistants typically work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian doing clinical work, such as performing various diagnostic tests and medical treatments. They also assist with dental care, prepare tissue samples and assist veterinarians in a variety of exams and procedures. Veterinary assistants work in all phases of animal care, including hospital sanitation and equipment maintenance, medical and surgical assisting, laboratory diagnostics, and office administration. Employment opportunities include positions in veterinary clinics or hospitals.

Careers in Veterinary Assisting

Employment positions determined to be in field, to calculate the graduate employment rates required by the State of California, for graduates of the Veterinary Assisting program are: Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers (31-9096.00), Office Clerks, General (in a medical/veterinary setting) (43-9061.00, and Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants (in a medical/veterinary setting) (43-6013.00).

More information on these careers may be found at onetonline.org/crosswalk/ using the career title or the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) number.

Knowledge and Skills

Upon completion of the Veterinary Assisting program, graduates will be able to:

- Complete appropriate veterinary assisting procedures related to animal husbandry, diagnostics, equipment maintenance and client care in a variety of settings
- Apply basic knowledge of animal anatomy and physiology of multiple species in relation to animal care
- Maintain a professional and safe work environment

*Your Path to
the Career
You're Made For*

Technical Coursework

The curriculum, which is delivered in a blended format, provides students with education in the clinical, laboratory, and administrative duties of a veterinary assistant. Courses cover animal anatomy and physiology, nursing skills, animal surgical assisting, pharmaceutical chemistry and application, animal restraint and patient services, and front office skills, such as computer basics, telephone communication requirements, and appointment scheduling. The program includes an externship that allows students to practice skills in an actual veterinary healthcare setting.

Carrington College's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.

The program
culminates in
a Certificate of
Achievement.



Blended: Mesa, Phoenix, Spokane, and Tucson

Veterinary Assisting Blended Certificate Program Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
VAC111T.5	Introduction to the Veterinary Hospital	45	0	0	3
VAC111L.5	Hospital Practices	0	60	0	2
VAC112T.5	The Veterinary Laboratory	45	0	0	3
VAC112L.5	Laboratory Procedures	0	60	0	2
VAC113T.5	Animal Nursing and Care	45	0	0	3
VAC113L.5	Veterinary Assisting Techniques	0	60	0	2
VAC114T.5	Surgical Nursing and Specialty Care	45	0	0	3
VAC114L.5	Surgical and Specialty Procedures	0	60	0	2
VAC115T.5	Pharmacy and Pharmacology Calculations	45	0	0	3
VAC115L.5	Pharmacy Practice	0	60	0	2
VAC161.5	Veterinary Practice Fundamentals	60	30	0	5
CDV198.2 ¹	Career Development Seminar	30	0	0	2
VAC180	Veterinary Assisting Externship	0	0	180	4
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		315	330	180	36

¹Online general education course

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)

Accreditation and Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, 428 J Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814, (415) 506-0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

For comprehensive information on Carrington College's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation. Visit carrington.edu/sci for important information on program outcomes.

Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.