



# Explore a Career as a **VETERINARY TECHNOLOGIST/ TECHNICIAN**

## **What do Veterinary Techs do?**

Veterinary technicians and technologists (vet techs) are educated in the care and handling of animals, the basic principles of normal and abnormal life processes, and in many laboratory and clinical procedures. All vet techs work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. Some decide to specialize in a certain area. The recognized academies include specialties in dental technology, anesthesia, internal medicine, emergency and critical care, behavior, zoological medicine, and equine veterinary nursing. Veterinary technologists and technicians most often work with small-animal practitioners who care for cats and dogs, but they may also perform a variety of tasks involving mice, rats, sheep, pigs, cattle, birds, or other animals.

## **Training & Educational Opportunities**

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a veterinary technologist or technician, but first you will need to earn an associate degree. Coursework includes basic animal nursing care, biochemistry, vet anatomy and physiology, animal diseases, surgical nursing for animals, and pharmaceutical training.

## **As a Veterinary Technologist or Technician you will:**

- Administer anesthesia to animals and monitor their responses
- Bathe animals, clip nails or claws, and brush or cut animals' hair
- Collect laboratory samples, such as blood, urine, or tissue for testing
- Observe the behavior and condition of animals
- Provide nursing care or emergency first aid

## **Vet Techs are in demand in Kankakee County!**

Kankakee County employment of veterinary technicians is expected to increase through 2020. The U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics recognizes the job outlook for this field as growing much faster than average.

# Veterinary Technologist/Technician

## Training Providers

The following certified training provider offers programs and certifications to train for a career as a veterinary technologist or technician:

- Joliet Junior College
- Parkland College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



## Types of Employers

There are many types of employers looking to hire veterinary technologists and technicians in Kankakee County, including:

- Animal hospitals
- Colleges and universities
- Laboratories
- Private clinics
- Rescue leagues

## Wages & Openings

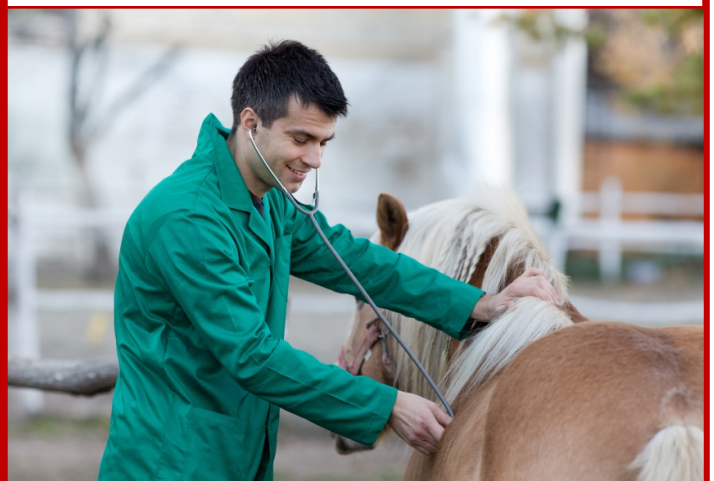
### Veterinary Technologist/Technician Employment Data for Kankakee County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$15.87
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$21.62
Average Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	~10
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	67

## Opportunities

After earning your veterinary technologist or technician degree, you will have many opportunities for specialization. Some opportunities include:

- Animal Behaviorist
- Emergency and Critical Care Technician
- Parasitology Lab Technician



**Kankakee Workforce Services**  
[www.kcc.edu/wioa](http://www.kcc.edu/wioa)  
815.802.8963

