Veterinary Technician

Department: Agricultural Sciences
Degree: Associate of Applied Science
Entry time: Summer
Length: 2 years (4 semesters, 2 summers)

- One of the largest schools in the nation for number of Ag program graduates.
- Small class sizes with hands-on learning labs.
- 13 agriculture-related student organizations among the 80+ clubs on campus.
- Required internship opportunities providing great industry contacts, which could lead to a full-time position after graduation.

Program Description
Prepare for a career that provides professional technical support to veterinarians, biomedical researchers and other scientists. Technicians in this field will care for hospitalized patients; assist the doctor in surgery; perform physical exams, labwork and technical procedures (blood draws, IV placement); take health histories and X-rays; induce and monitor anesthesia; provide client education; and perform reception duties.

As a Veterinary Technician student you’ll work with a variety of animals including dogs, cats, horses, cows, pigs, sheep, birds, snakes, guinea pigs, hamsters and rats. A strong background in biological sciences is needed for this program.

Career Opportunities
Veterinary practice
Biological research lab
Animal shelters
Pet shops
State and federal agencies

Accreditations
This program is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA). For more information, go to www.avma.org.

Internships
As a Veterinary Technician student, you will complete a 300-hour internship at a veterinary hospital or research institute during the summer between your first and second year allowing you to apply your lab and classroom skills in an actual work environment.

Scholarships
Kirkwood will help you pay for college! Kirkwood awards more scholarships than any other community college in Iowa. For more information and to apply, visit www.kirkwood.edu/scholarships.

Sample Classes
Veterinary Medical Terminology
Animal Anatomy and Physiology
Veterinary Computer Applications
Animal Behavior/Kennel Management
Veterinary Pharmacology
Large Animal Care
Animal Nursing
Fundamentals in Small Animal Nutrition
Large Animal and Poultry Medicine
Laboratory Animal Medicine
Kirkwood Community College declares and affirms that it values and respects diversity and inclusion in all College-sponsored events, all employment practices, and all educational programs and activities. The College will not tolerate unlawful discrimination or harassment of persons on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, national origin, age, religion, or disability.

Anyone who has questions or complaints should contact the Vice President of Human Resources at Kirkwood Community College, 313 Kirkwood Hall, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd., SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, or by phone at 319-398-5572, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison St., Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-7204, Telephone: 312-730-1560, Fax: 312-730-1576, Email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.