

**This technical certificate is a two-semester program designed to prepare students to enter the workforce as animal handlers/veterinary assistants or laboratory animal caregivers. This certificate is the first step for many students to become Certified Assistant Laboratory Animal Technicians (ALAT) or Certified Veterinary Practice Managers (CVPM).**



**Upon completion of this program, the graduate will have developed the skills, knowledge and abilities to accomplish the following:**

1. Demonstrate interpersonal and interprofessional communication skills with the clients and veterinary team.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of office and hospital procedures appropriate to the veterinary assistant.
3. Properly assess and evaluate needs of patients as they relate to animal care.
4. Demonstrate ability to assist with common veterinary procedures involving companion animals.

<b>Recommended Semester</b>	<b>Class</b>
Fall, Junior Year	ENGL 1010 - English Composition I
Fall, Junior Year	PSYC 1030 - Introduction to Psychology
Spring, Junior Year	ENGL 1020 - English Composition II
Spring, Junior Year	COMM 2045 – Public Speaking
Fall, Senior Year	INFS 1010 – Computer Applications OR BUSN 1305 Intro to Business
Spring, Senior Year	AHC 115 – Medical Terminology

**The remaining course requirements can be completed within one academic year at Vol State!**

# Beginning Your Career Pathway!



## To Do List:

- Discuss your Vol State Vet Assistant goals with your high school counselor.
- Apply to Vol State at [Apply for Admission | Volunteer State Community College](https://www.volstate.edu/admission) ([volstate.edu](https://www.volstate.edu))
- Apply for the TSAC Grant at [TSAC Student Portal \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/tsac)
- Schedule a tour with Vol State at [Campus Tour | Volunteer State Community College](https://www.volstate.edu/campus-tour) ([volstate.edu](https://www.volstate.edu))

Quick Facts: Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	
2020 Median Pay	\$36,260 per year \$17.43 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education	Associate's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	None
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2020	114,400
Job Outlook, 2020-30	15% (Faster than average)
Employment Change, 2020-30	17,100

For more information, please visit Bureau of Labor Statistics, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/veterinary-assistants-and-laboratory-animal-caretakers.htm>