

Veterinary Assistant

INDUSTRY FACTS



What do veterinary assistants do?

The best veterinary assistants have the uncanny ability to relate to animals in surprising ways. They're calming. They're practical. And they're incredibly empathetic. Veterinary assistants mostly work in private practices, animal hospitals, after-hours facilities, and labs. A snapshot of daily life varies, and the hours can take a toll—both physically and emotionally. But it's rewarding, essential work that anyone with a soft spot for our furry friends will enjoy.

- Feeding, bathing, and exercising animals
- Cleaning and disinfecting cages, kennels, and examination and operation rooms
- Restraining animals during examination and laboratory procedures
- Maintaining and sterilizing surgical instruments and equipment
- Monitoring and caring for animals after surgery
- Helping to provide emergency first aid to sick and injured animals

Where do veterinary assistants work?

Veterinary assistants are found in veterinary practices and clinics nationwide. As many clinics and animal hospitals are open 24/7, night and weekend schedules are often available.



How much do they earn?

It pays to be a vet assistant. You'll be happy to learn that this specific career path allows you to do meaningful work, caring for animals, while also earning a good salary. Pay rates for veterinary assistants vary by employer, geographic location, and experience. The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics reports that the median annual wage for veterinary assistants is \$29,930.

How's the job outlook?

Veterinary assistants are part of the rapidly growing pet industry—and that growth doesn't seem to be impacted by recent world events. Pet owners in the U.S. spent nearly \$100 billion on their pets in 2019 with an expected 4% increase in 2020, ensuring ongoing need for well-trained veterinary assistants. In fact, The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics estimates the demand for veterinary assistants will grow by 14% through 2030.

*U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

"Not only did I learn something from this online course, I now have a jumpstart on the career field I want to work in. The counselors have been so helpful with anything I needed, too. I highly recommend this program if college is hard to commit to."

ANITA, CAREERSTEP LEARNER

Veterinary Assistant

PROGRAM DETAILS

Improve Your Life

When it comes to career training, you'll find a lot of sub-par providers out there. Salespeople that'll try to impress you with fancy hyperbole. But through all the noise, the distinct sound of success can be heard. Your success. All it takes is a little push. A nudge in the right direction—and your whole life could change. New doors opened. New worlds discovered. New opportunities explored.

Prepare For A Better Job

Our training is developed by industry professionals with years of real-world experience. Visually rich course materials include guest lectures, webinars, and practical exercises to help you learn new concepts and gain the knowledge and skills needed to work alongside veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from sign-up through course completion. Plus, you'll learn from industry professionals with first-hand knowledge of what it takes to be a successful veterinary assistant.

- Learner support
- Technical support
- Career support

Program Outline

Courses

Program Orientation

Veterinary Office Procedures and Medical Record Keeping

Computer Fundamentals

Microsoft Office Training Orientation

Animal Behavior and Restraint

Animal Anatomy and Disease

Introduction to Veterinary Pharmacology

Introduction to Animal Nursing

Introduction to Veterinary Surgical Assisting

Euthanasia, Grief, and Pet Loss

Veterinary Radiology

Veterinary Laboratory Procedures

Introduction to Large & Exotic Animal Assisting

Veterinary Emergency Care and Triage

Final Exam Preparation

Program Completion

TOTAL = 188

Online Coursework, Simulations, and Experiential