The veterinary Technology Department at Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC) provides students with a high quality, fundamental and practical education. The NTCC Veterinary Technology Program utilizes several modalities to interact, teach and engage students, making the program a “hybrid” combination of on-line learning and hands on instruction. Students, are able to access lecture material in an on-line setting using canvas. Laboratory classes are held in a traditional face to face setting at our Florida Parishes Campus, as well as at local bovine farms and horse stables. This variability in lab/field class locations allows for a practical, well rounded, real world learning experience for students.

In addition to online and laboratory learning students are required to do clinical rotations in veterinary clinics of their choice as long as they meet certain criteria. The clinical experience rotation class offers students a variety of veterinary practice settings to work in, as well as other facilities that work with animals such as zoos, animal shelters and research facilities. Each semester the clinical experience class gives the students an opportunity to apply their acquired clinical knowledge and skills.

The NTCC Veterinary Technology Department offers a Certificate of Technical Studies in Veterinary Assisting upon completion of the first year of the program and an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology after completion of the second year. Accreditation by the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) grants a graduate of the program eligibility to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and become a Licensed Veterinary Technician.
The Veterinary Technology Program at NTCC is a full time, 6 semester Associate of Applied Science (AAS) program. Students are required to take a minimum of 72 credit hours in order to graduate with the AAS degree. The Program allows students the opportunity to gain the knowledge and perform the essential skills necessary to be proficient for an entry level position in the field of Veterinary Technology. The program admits in the Fall Semester and the deadline for application is July 31st in order to be accepted for Fall Semester. We also offer some veterinary technology classes every semester to Pre-Veterinary Technology Students. Included in the 72 credit hours of the program are 15 credit hours of general education classes: MATH 1015, ENGL 1015, Natural Science Course, Social Science Course, and Humanities Course. The general education classes can be taken before application to the program or within the first year of the program. It is strongly recommended to take at least the Math, English, & Biology before applying to this program.

The remaining 57 credits are all Veterinary Technology classes including: Animal Anatomy and Physiology, Animal Nursing, Pharmacology, Clinical Pathology, and Surgical Nursing and Anesthesia to name a few. The program is set up as a block system or cohort where everyone moves through the program together with the exception of the general education classes. Students must maintain a “C” in all classes to obtain credit of successful completion within the program.

Northshore Technical Community College is open admission; however, acceptance into the Veterinary Technology Program is by qualification/selection. To be eligible to apply for admission to the program students must:

- Provide evidence of high school diploma or equivalent
- Meet the required entrance scores for the ACT or Compass Tests (see curriculum information sheet)
- Have established a working or volunteer position at a veterinary hospital (clinic)
- Submit a recommendation letter from the veterinarian by July 31st. (Email to: dainapowers@northshorecollege.edu)
The admissions committee reviews and evaluates each applicant on an impartial basis. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the program. You can contact the department directly by contacting:

Program Director: Daina Powers, RVT
Email: dainapowers@northshorecollege.edu

Student Affairs: Ginny McElveen
Phone: 225-345-1703

Career Opportunities:
Veterinary Private Practice (small/large/mixed/exotic)
Humane Societies and Shelters
Specialty Veterinary Medical Facilities
Zoo and Wildlife Medicine
Agriculture or Biomedical Research
Teaching

Benefits of becoming a Licensed/Registered Veterinary Technician:
Credentialing elevates the role and responsibilities of the Veterinary Technician in every setting. According to the October 2008 Veterinary Technician Journal,

   Education + Certification = Higher Pay

Credentialed veterinary technicians surveyed by MediMedia Research made roughly 35% more than noncredentialed/licensed veterinary assistants.

   It pays to be licensed!!
Mission Statement:

The mission of the Veterinary Technology Program at NTCC is to provide exceptional education and training in order to foster high professional standards in all aspects of veterinary care.