

## How to Become a Veterinary Technician

**Summary:** *Veterinary technicians have an excellent job outlook combined with a rewarding job for those that care about animals.*



The responsibilities of a veterinary technician include taking care of the well-being of animals under a veterinarian's care. They work hand-in-hand with a veterinarian to provide essential medical procedures to ensure animal health. They can perform laboratory tests, X-rays, and radiographs. Vet techs will assist the veterinarian in treatment and surgeries for animals. They can also treat injuries on farm animals.

The education needed to be a vet tech can be as minimal as a certificate from a technical college or an associate's or bachelor's degree in veterinary technology or animal science. The level of education you achieve will factor into the pay rate you receive. To get ahead, you can take classes during high school in agricultural education with a focus on science. You should also take other classes such as animal science, biology, and mathematics.

The typical employers of vet techs are veterinary clinics, diagnostic laboratories, zoos, university research farms, wildlife preserves, and animal control facilities.

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The average pay for a vet tech was \$30,290 per year in 2012. The pay may be low, but the job outlook is expected to grow 30 percent from 2011 to 2022, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This rate of growth is much faster than the average growth of other jobs, so you can feel assured that the investment you make in school for this job will pay off with plenty of job opportunities in the future.



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Photo: btc.edu

See the following articles for more information about similar careers:

- [Steps to Become a Veterinary Ultrasonographer!](#)
- [What Exactly is an Animal Biotechnologist?](#)