



CAREER PATH

# Natural Resources Agriculture

CAREER CLUSTER

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

CAREER PATHWAY

Animal Systems



## VETERINARY TECHNOLOGIST AND TECHNICIAN

Perform medical tests in a laboratory environment for use in the treatment and diagnosis of diseases in animals. Prepare vaccines and serums for prevention of diseases. Prepare tissue samples, take blood samples, and execute laboratory tests, such as urinalysis and blood counts. Clean and sterilize instruments and materials and maintain equipment and machines.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a veterinary technologist and technician are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Veterinary technologists and technicians	27.0%	57.0%	16.0%
Health technologists and technicians	20.1%	57.1%	22.7%
Healthcare practitioners and technical	9.9%	31%	59.1%

Most Common Educational Level: Associate degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit [www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm](http://www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm)

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$10.88	\$13.45	\$16.39
	Yearly	\$22,600	\$28,000	\$34,100
Missouri	Hourly	\$8.96	\$11.83	\$15.04
	Yearly	\$18,600	\$24,600	\$31,300

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Veterinary Technologist and Technician	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	71,200	100,400	+ 41 %	5,090
Missouri	890	1,110	+ 25 %	30

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

#### Jefferson College

Hillsboro, MO  
(636) 797-3000  
[www.jeffco.edu](http://www.jeffco.edu)

#### Metropolitan Community College - Maple Woods

Kansas City, MO  
(816) 437-3000  
[www.mccckc.edu](http://www.mccckc.edu)

#### Midwest Institute

Kirkwood, MO  
(314) 965-8363  
[www.midwestinstitute.com](http://www.midwestinstitute.com)



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