



VETERINARY ASSISTING

Christine Smith R.V.T., Instructor

TRAINING STUDENTS FOR ENTRY-LEVEL POSITIONS SUCH AS:

- Veterinary Assistant
- Groomer's Assistant
- Kennel Assistant
- Animal Caretaker
- Laboratory Assistant
- Pet Store Animal Handler
- Veterinary Receptionist's Assistant

BENEFITS OF THIS CLASS:

- Gain valuable knowledge about veterinary health, science, and nutrition
- Work with people from all walks of life
- Study about veterinary medical career options
- 30 high school credits earned per year
- Equivalency credits in English, math, or science may be available
- Students who complete the required theory and related lab practice with a "B" may participate in community classroom/internship during the second semester
- Earn college credits at Foothill Community College with a B or better.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

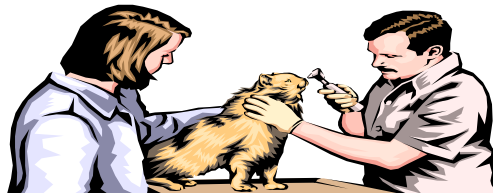
Basic Biology is suggested

Students must:

- Purchase a uniform and shoes
- Provide their own transportation to community classroom/cooperative vocational education sites

IN THIS CLASS, STUDENTS LEARN:

- Introductory skills for the veterinary clinic front office
- General workplace (Employability) skills
- Veterinary Assistant Career Orientation
- Communication skills for the Veterinary Clinic/Hospital or Animal Shelter
- Veterinary Medical Terminology
- Introduction to Companion Animal body systems
- About state and federal regulations pertaining to veterinary care
- Medical/Surgical Asepsis
- Animal Nutrition
- About major and minor veterinary surgical procedures
- Basic Animal Nursing Protocols
- Basic laboratory and diagnostic testing
- Basic Pharmacology and administration of medication to animals



UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CLASS, STUDENTS RECEIVE:

- 10 High School Science credits
- Certificate of Achievement
- Letter of Competency listing skills learned and the level of master achieved
- Assistance in job search in the area of training
- Foothill Community College credit / 4.5 units

JOB MARKET INFORMATION:

Becoming a Veterinary Assistant is an entry-level position in the career path to a wide variety of professions in the animal industry. Some examples are a Registered Veterinary Technician, Groomer, Veterinary Hospital Manager, Veterinarian, Wildlife Manager, and an Animal Behaviorist.

Salaries begin between \$8 and \$10 per hour. Salaries go up with experience and the advancement of skills.

Being a Veterinary Assistant requires good health, strength, and a positive attitude about caring for healthy and/or ill animals and communicating with their owners, and the ability to be a dependable and responsible employee.



ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Christine Smith has been working in the field of veterinary medicine since 1978 and in 1985 become a Registered Veterinary Technician. She has a BA in Biology from San Jose State University and in 2006 graduated from the Kranert's School of Business Veterinary Managers Institute at Purdue University. Mrs. Smith has worked extensively as a veterinary technician in Internal and Emergency Medicine as well as managing a local internal medicine specialty practice and is pleased to be part of this exciting program at CCOC.



School-to-Career Pathway

