



Vet Assistant Certificate

Course Guide



Vet Assistant Certificate

Turn your love of animals into a successful career as a veterinary assistant

Have you always wanted to work in animal healthcare and taking care of pets and wildlife? This certificate is a great first step into the veterinary sector and will allow you to get firsthand experience of working in a vet clinic.

Veterinary assistants help vets and vet nurses in the day-to-day running of the clinic with tasks ranging from administration to assisting pet owners and their pets before, during and after their visit.

Many graduates use this course to gain an entry-level position in a veterinary surgery and improve their employment prospects. This is also a great course to see if you would enjoy working in this industry before going on to do further study to become a vet nurse, technician or practicing vet.

This course has been developed for students who have had no previous experience working with animals and are looking to find work looking after and caring for pets and wildlife.

Perfect for animal lovers who love looking after and caring for animals





About us

Careers Collectiv is about practical education with a focus on providing courses relevant to real life.

We help you gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to try a new career path, broaden your professional development, start a new business or explore a passion and deepen your understanding in a special interest.

Careers Collectiv was founded by a family who are passionate about providing quality education, accessibility for everyone and the flexibility to work at your own pace and in your own time. They have over a decade of experience in the online education sector after establishing a college specialising in the beauty industry.

Our teachers

We only use teachers who are active in their specialised industry. Learn from people who have first-hand experience in their subject matter and current industry expertise. Staff come from varied backgrounds with teaching and vocational experience from universities and vocational colleges.

Courses provide flexible options for different career pathways, self-improvement, professional development and general adult education.

We give our students the skills, tools and structure to learn in real life situations without compromising on academic excellence.



Recognition



All Careers Collectiv courses come with a certificate of attainment upon completion.

Our courses are accredited with the International Approval and Registration Centre (IARC), a non-profit association providing a quality control system for education programs and courses in international education.



Vet Assistant Certificate

Learn how to work in a professional vet clinic

Study the healthcare procedures, management and behaviours of animals and understand the scope of services offered by vet clinics in order to become a veterinary assistant.

Topics covered include: vet services, vet facilities, animal welfare and control, common animal health problems, routine health treatments, animal first aid, animal safety procedures and many more.

Who is the course for?

This course is appropriate for anyone interested in working with and looking after the health and wellbeing of animals as a veterinary assistant. This is also a great introductory course for students looking to become a vet or vet nurse to get a sense of the work and study before committing to further tertiary study.



2 modules



200 hours

This course has 2 main core modules

- Animal Health Care
- Animal Behaviour





Learn from experts in their field who guide you to see, do, think and experience learning on your own terms and at your own pace.

A well rounded learning experience

The Vet Assistant Certificate introduces students to the terminology, practices and workings of a veterinary clinic or surgery and basic animal healthcare procedures, problems and treatments.

The course provides you with a great foundation in Animal Behaviour, giving you an insight into the psychological conditions of the animals you'll encounter, so you can properly care for and look after their needs.

Assignments

Each lesson in your course modules culminate in an assignment which is submitted online, marked by the tutors and returned to you with suggestions and feedback.

Career prospects

This course opens up different opportunities for a career in caring for animals including:

- Veterinary clinic worker
- Pet supplies shop
- Pet groomer
- Animal shelter worker
- Dog walking
- Animal day care worker
- Animal hospital worker
- Animal hotel worker
- Wildlife reserves, parks and zoo worker



Course modules

Animal Health Care

1 Introduction to animal health care

- Nature and scope of veterinary services
- Private veterinary practices
- Other veterinary services; laboratories, quarantine, agriculture departments, pharmaceutical companies, educational etc.
- Animal services; breeders, holiday care etc.
- Animal welfare and control
- Veterinary services
- Code of practice
- Terminology
- Transporting animals

2 Common health problems in farm animals and pets

- Causes of ill health, injury, conditions
- Nutritional problems
- Living organisms and parasites
- Family pets common conditions
- Dogs, cats, caged birds, aquarium fish, mice
- Wild animals common conditions
- Reptiles

3 Animal behaviour

- Communication in dogs: scent, barking, body language
- Handling cats
- Bird language
- Types of behavior
- Time and space orientation
- Territorial behavior and aggression
- Horse psychology

4 Signs of ill health

- The healthy animal
- Vital signs and symptoms of diseases
- Recognising ill health and disease diagnosis
- Taking smears and tissue samples
- Diagnosis and control of different types of diseases including: viruses, bacteria, protozoa, parasites, mites, fleas

5 Veterinary facilities

- Types of facilities; clinic, hospital, mobile facility, emergency facility, etc
- First aid kit; aids for diagnosis, instruments, medicines, preparations, record management
- Enclosure for animals
- Environmental requirements

6 Safety procedures

- Duty of care
- Lifting heavy weights and reducing back injury
- Protective equipment
- Dealing with chemicals and skin injuries
- Risk categories
- Separating animals
- Disposal of dead/infected tissues
- Dangerous non-animal wastes
- Storage and handling of medicines
- Handling larger animals

Animal Health Care (continued)

7 Administration of animal health

- Animal insurance
- Quarantine and importing animals
- Managing a veterinary office, telephone •
- usage, record keeping and filing information

8 Animal first aid

- Types of wounds, cuts, punctures and tears
- Treating and cleaning wounds
- Granulating and stitching a wound
- Bone and joint problems, broken bones, tendon injuries and poisoning
- Restraining animals during first aid

9 Preventative health care

- Preventing ill health, balanced diet insect control, dip, vaccination
- Comparing natural active immunity, artificial active immunity, natural passive immunity, and artificial active immunity
- Tetanus antiserum, types of vaccines, alternatives to vaccination
- Avoiding stressing livestock

10 Routine health treatments

- Desexing, castration, vasectomy, spaying, tubal ligation and castration of cats and dogs

- Pregnancy and gestation periods
- Euthanasia
- Anesthesia and analgesia
- Preparing an animal for surgery
- Sterilising equipment
- Castrating a colt

11 Health problems in domestic pets

- Burns
- Urinary tract infections;
- Shock
- Electrolytes
- Ticks
- Reptiles
- Fish problems

12 Rehabilitation care

- Scope of rehabilitation
- Planning a recovery
- Animal nursing
- The hospital pen
- Monitoring temperature, pulse, respiration
- Enclosures





Animal Behaviour

1 Introduction: Influences and Motivation

- What is behaviour
- Causes of behaviour (eg. genetics, learning, external and internal influences)
- Reactive, active and cognitive behaviour
- Conditioning

2 Genetics and Behaviour

- Understanding biology
- Natural selection
- Genetic variation
- Development of behaviour
- Behavioural genetics

3 Animal Perception and Behaviour

- How animals perceive things
- What stimulates them and how do those stimuli function
- Instinct
- Neural control
- Sensory processes, sight, sound, hearing etc

4 Behaviour and the Environment

- Coordination
- Orientation
- Homeostasis
- Acclimatisation
- Circadian rhythms
- Biological clocks
- Reproductive cycles etc

5 Social Behaviour

- Animal societies
- Aggression
- Social constraints and social order
- Play
- Biological clocks
- Communication

6 Learning

- Instinct and learning
- Conditioning and learning
- Extinction and habituation
- Instrumental learning
- Reinforcement
- Operant behaviour
- Biological and cognitive aspects of learning

7 Handling Animals

- Psychological affects of different handling techniques
- Training animals (horses, cats, dogs, etc)
- The student has a choice of which types of animals to focus on, though a variety will still be covered

8 Behavioural Problems

- Abnormal behaviour (eg. psychotic, neurotic)
- Domestication of animals
- Reducing human contact
- Reducing human dependence



Course overview



Course duration

This course is made up of 2 in-depth modules made up of 20 lessons. The amount of study time required to complete this course is approximately 200 hours of study.

There are options to reduce the modules from this program. Just speak to one of our team members for more information.



Supporting you in your studies

With our courses you are not on your own. Careers Collectiv provides the highest level of support possible.

Your tutor will provide you with their email and contact number to ensure you always have support throughout your course. Our tutor support service is available to you 24 hours, 7 days a week.



24/7 Access

Online 24/7 access to your course allowing you to fit your study in with your schedule.



Certification

A certificate of attainment will be issued upon completion of your course.

Careers Collectiv benefits

- Study from anywhere, anytime
 - No experience required
 - No set deadlines
 - Lifetime access to your course
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Flexible payment options

This course can be paid off through an interest free payment plan for \$25 per week.

The overall price will vary depending on the options you select. We also offer a discount for upfront payments.

To find out more about the course that best suits your needs, talk to one of our career advisors on **1300 001 703**.

Call our career advisors for payment options on **1300 001 703**

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