MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM STUDENTS

Technical Standards for the Veterinary Technology Program at Massasoit Community College are abilities and skills which students must possess in order to successfully complete the training related to this Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program. These technical standards describe the non-academic competencies required for entrance into and successful completion of this program, and as outlined in the accreditation requirements established by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Candidates must be able to meet these minimum standards with or without reasonable accommodation. Acceptance to the program is contingent upon medical verification that the student can meet the technical standards. Failure to submit medical verification to the program director prior the first day of classes may result in withdrawal of acceptance to the program. Confirmation that the students continues to meet the technical standards must be submitted each semester.

Physical Standards – Strength and mobility sufficient to perform patient care activities
The physical ability to be able to transfer 50 pounds individually, such as moving and positioning a dog onto an exam table for a procedure.
Performing CPR, which may involve kneeling or other strenuous positions.
The physical ability to move, traverse, and position self without assistance for prolonged periods of time, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, transfer, move, and reposition patients, and move from room to room or maneuver in limited spaces.
The fine motor skills to move hands to prepare, inspect, and place using sterile techniques to insert catheter, perform venipuncture, and prepare medications / administer medications (oral and parenteral routes).
Reach independently
Grasp independently
Push / Pull independently
Stand / Walk for extended periods of time and the ability to withstand drastic temperature variations within reasonable time lengths, for example performing procedures on large animals in the field or performing procedures on small reptiles housed in climate-controlled rooms.
Sensory Skills and Observation – Functional use of senses for patient assessment
The tactile ability to palpate pulses, determine warmth and coolness, detect enlarged nodes and lumps.
The ability to assess, detect, or identify with or without auditory aids to: the normal animal sounds without viewing the animal's body; monitor alarms without observing the monitors and emergency signals; blood pressure, heart, lung, vascular, and abdominal sounds with stethoscope.
The ability to observe or identify with or without corrective lenses: cyanosis, absence of respiratory movement in patients; small print on medication containers, veterinarians' orders, monitors, and equipment calibrations.
Communication – Interactions with college personnel, peers, staff, and clients
Effective communication to clearly explain treatment procedures to the patient's owners, describing patient's conditions, and implementing health teaching. Document correctly in patient's chart for local documentation.
Read independently
Write independently

Exhibit social skills necessary to interact effectively with patients, clients, supervisors, and co-workers of the same or different cultures such as respect, politeness, tact, collaboration, teamwork, discretion
Cognitive Ability & Behavioral Attributes – Critical thinking and decision making skills
The ability to function safely under stressful conditions and the ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment inherent in clinical situations involving patient care.
Maintain composure while managing multiple tasks simultaneously
Display attitudes/actions consistent with the ethical standards of the profession

Students must verify that they meet these technical standards prior to entrance into the program and must maintain them throughout their training. Students are obligated to notify the Veterinary Technology Program administration of any change in their ability to fulfill these technical standards.

Reasonable Disability Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a disability as a substantial limitation of a major life function. A temporary medical condition does not qualify as a disability and is not covered under the ADA of 1990 or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act because the extent, duration, and impact of the condition are not permanent. Accommodations may not provide an unfair advantage to the students, fundamentally alter the nature and substance of the curriculum, present an undue hardship for the institution, pose a direct threat to the safety of patients, or compromise the academic integrity of the program. Students receiving accommodations should be aware that these may not be available from a prospective employer and potential employers may not be amenable to use of accommodations that result in undue hardship to the employer. Veterinary practices with small numbers of employees may be exempt from the requirements of the ADA.

Request for reasonable accommodations must be initiated by the student. If you are a qualified individual with a disability who seeks reasonable accommodation(s), you must contact the Office of Access and Disability Services for determination of eligibility for such accommodation(s). Students may be required to re-submit documentation each semester to allow for review of continuing eligibility for accommodations.

I acknowledge that I have reviewed and understand the Technical Standards/Essential Functions as outlined above.

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Prospective Student Signature Date

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Print - Prospective Student Full Name