

Faculty of Agriculture

Veterinary Technology Diploma



Start your career caring for animals.

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE AND AQUACULTURE

Agricultural Campus | PO Box 550 | Truro, NS B2N 5E3 Canada | 902.893.6600



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY

dal.ca/studyveterinarytechnology

IS VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY FOR ME?

This two-year diploma program is accredited by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and will prepare you for a career working with veterinarians, researchers and other professionals who work with animals. You will also gain the knowledge to provide critical care, including anesthesia. Program enrolment is limited to 40 students, so you will benefit from small classes and close interactions with your teachers. While our focus is on small animal private practice, you'll be exposed to a variety of species including livestock, equine, exotics and lab animal species while you study here. This will give you entry-level skills wherever your career takes you.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

You'll gain practical experience by learning hands-on at our dedicated small animal veterinary teaching hospital and our campus farm, where you'll have access to diverse animal units, excellent facilities and knowledgeable staff.

Students will complete four standard semesters, earning a diploma in as little as two years. After first year, students will complete a summer intersession, consisting of two externships and a fundamentals course. These learning experiences provide students with an exciting opportunity to work at the Atlantic Veterinary College in their final semester, an intense clinical experience at our Boulden Animal Centre and a real-world experience (six weeks) in a small, private practice of your choice.

Areas of focus include medicine, disease, clinical exercises, clinical pathology (diagnostics), radiology, veterinary dentistry, pharmacology, nutrition and many more.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTER GRADUATION?

In this career, you'll work closely with veterinarians and other hospital staff, including receptionists, kennel attendants and veterinary assistants. As a veterinary technician, you'll assist veterinarians in diagnoses by providing accurate diagnostics with radiographs and blood work. You'll also communicate with animals' families and caregivers to ensure the best outcome for your patients.

Exciting opportunities for veterinary technicians also exist in diverse fields such as sales and wildlife rehabilitation, as well as in zoos and research fields focusing on a wide variety of species.

WHAT SPECIALTIES CAN I PURSUE AFTER GRADUATION?

Upon completion of the Veterinary Technology Diploma program, you'll have a strong knowledge base in a variety of areas. You may choose to pursue the Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) and later, a Master of Science (MSc). You can also explore a variety of exciting continuing education specialties for veterinary technicians, including:

- Internal medicine: oncology, cardiology, neurology, small and large animal internal medicine
- Emergency and critical care technology
- Anaesthesiology
- Animal behaviour
- Dental or surgical technology
- Zoo medicine

WHY STUDY VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY AT DAL'S TRURO CAMPUS?

- **Employment opportunities:** Enjoy an exceptionally high employment rate as a graduate of this program, which gives you a chance to make a difference in the lives of animals.
- **Work experience:** Gain practical experience by completing an internship and two externships, ranging from private practice to specialty referral centres.
- **Hands-on:** Learn by working with a multitude of species, including our main focus on cats and dogs, but also horses, cows, sheep and lab animals.
- Students graduating from Dalhousie score some of the highest Veterinary Technician National Exam scores in the country, plus, students graduate with the namesake of a Dalhousie diploma, which has seen hundreds of graduates since its program inception in 1991.

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Dr. Lori Parsons, Program Coordinator
lori.parsons@dal.ca | 902.893.8055

dal.ca/studyveterinarytechnology



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF
AGRICULTURE