

Dear vet tech students,

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the announcement of a shift to fully remote learning, the following information has been compiled to answer your many questions. The information below includes *frequently asked questions* specific to veterinary technology students for the fall semester.

FAQ for Vet Tech students

Q: The last FAQ said that being on campus for vet tech students was still the best option, but now students do not have this option. How will I complete my hands-on skills?

A: Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic will prevent a safe return to the Becker campus for students, faculty and staff this fall. This creates additional challenges for completing AVMA required essential hands-on skill for vet tech students. We will work closely with students to find opportunities that are safe. If you live far from campus it is unlikely that the college has relationships with clinics/shelters/farms close to your home, but we will be providing information for students to present to outside facilities in the very near future to assist you. Essential skills need to be completed prior to graduation, but are not needed to receive a grade for all courses.

Q: Will vet tech courses that require hands-on essential skills still be offered this fall?

A: Yes. There is an abundance of knowledge-based information that students must acquire as part of the AVMA program which is required for graduation. Lecture-based courses will not be effected by this change. Labs will still run and provide the background and knowledge-base for performing these skills. Labs will be offered online-only and contain rich content, as well as opportunities to submit skills performed at off-site locations where this is possible. Student's grades will not be penalized if they are unable to find a safe off-site location during the pandemic. Safety is our number one priority.

Q: Will the Becker Veterinary Clinic be open in the spring?

A: The clinic closure plan is only for the fall 2020 semester at this time due to COVID-19. The plan is to re-open the clinic when it is safe to do so.

Q: Can I perform my hands-on skills once the clinic re-opens?

A: We hope to welcome students back to the clinic to perform skills and gain valuable hands-on experience when it is safe to do so.

Q: I am a vet tech student entering as a freshman in the fall. What if I can't find a site for essential hands-on skills?

A: Essential hands-on skills do not need to be completed in order to receive a grade for all courses. Some skills will be needed to progress in the program, but will not prevent you from completing the

knowledge-based learning. We plan to work to provide as many opportunities for students that can be done safely. You can still take the freshman courses even if you cannot complete all skills at this time.

Q: If I find an off-site opportunity to complete hands-on skills, who will grade me?

A: You will need to have a CVT (credentialed veterinary technician) or DVM (doctor of veterinary medicine) observe your skills at the off-site location, but a Becker College clinical instructor will provide the summative assessment for grading the skills. There will be additional details available soon on how to go about the process of off-site skills acquisition.

Q: I found a site that is willing to work with me. When will additional information and a list of skills be available?

A: We are working on creating the documents needed to submit to off-site locations. This information will be available soon. Please be patient as we compile this important information for our students. We will keep you updated as to when we will have documents available for you.

Q: I have read all the information here and I still have questions. Who should I reach out to?

A: You can reach out your advisors, vet tech course instructors or the Director of the Veterinary Technology Programs @ roda.motta@becker.edu. We will continue to provide information about off-site skills acquisition once it is available. Please be patient as we compile this important information for our students.

We are sorry that we will not see you in person this fall. We look forward to seeing you virtually and supporting you in every way we can until we can all be back on campus safely!

Veterinary Technology Department