

# VERMONT TECH

Dear Accepted Vet Tech Student,

Congratulations on your acceptance to the VTC Veterinary Technology Program. Admissions standards are high and acceptance shows that we have confidence in your ability to complete the program and ultimately pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to be a valued member of the veterinary health care team

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and a few animal friends here at the college. My name is Dr. Amy St. Denis, and I am the Director of the Veterinary Technology Program. In addition to our normal population of cats, dogs, cattle, horses, rabbits and rodents, we have: a Ball Python, one very chatty cockatiel, and Rocky, a box turtle.

Our student population is a range from recent high school graduates to non-traditional students seeking a career change. Many of our graduates do go directly from school to work in a clinical practice or related fields, while others decide to continue their education. One opportunity here at Vermont Tech for a Veterinary Technology student, is to stay an additional two years and earn a Bachelors degree in Business Technology and Management. Students, who complete this degree, would have additional marketable skills in the area of practice management.

We are also in the process of planning orientation sessions. A separate mailing will follow with the pertinent details of these mandatory meetings. At these sessions important topics will be discussed, including human rabies prophylactic vaccination and other expectations outlined in the Veterinary Technology Student Handbook. The handbook is full of very useful information on all program requirements. Our goal in providing all this information is to assist students in making a successful transition into the program. The Orientation Program will also be an excellent opportunity to explore our facilities, in addition to getting all of your important questions answered.

Before enrolling, it is important that each student consider the following regarding the academic and physical demands of the Veterinary Technology program. Academically, students are enrolled in a very challenging curriculum that is heavily science based, in as many as 18 credit hours per semester. During their two year program of study, students are expected to complete over 300 tasks required by the American Veterinary Medical Association accreditation

standards, many of which are performed on live animals. In addition, other physical challenges include hands on care of the program owned animals, for at least 4 weeks each semester in the first year. This is accomplished through enrollment in VET 1051 and 1052, Animal Care 1 and 2. Students are partnered with a classmate and are supervised by second year students. Morning Animal care shifts begin at 6:00 a.m. and evening shifts start at 5:00 pm, with each shift lasting approximately 2 hours. Students are scheduled with only one shift per day when they are on the schedule. Thus the program is challenging in many ways. If a student is unsure about whether or not they have chosen the appropriate degree program, I strongly recommend that each student shadow a veterinary technician in a veterinary practice as a means of deciding on this as a career path. Most veterinary practices are very amenable to students coming in and the insight gained can be very valuable.

I hope that you will take some time to think about all of the information I have provided and use it to help make a good decision about your academic future. I look forward to meeting you at orientation. If you have any questions at any time regarding the program curriculum or requirements, please feel free to contact me at any time. I can be reached via email, [ASt.Denis@vtc.edu](mailto:ASt.Denis@vtc.edu), or by phone, 802-728-1229.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy H. St. Denis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Amy H. St. Denis  
Program Director  
Veterinary Technology