

What Can I Do With a Major in...

ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY

The Animal Health Technology field provides specialized employment in animal health care such as an assistant to a veterinarian in private veterinary facilities, biomedical research institutions, regulatory agencies, and zoological parks. As a member of a veterinary health-care team, you may be responsible for providing animal handling, restraint and examination, first-aid, emergency and dental procedures as well as medical procedures and radiography.

What type of career can I have with this major?

Since this major is so practical and comprehensive, you will have a variety of excellent employment opportunities.

- Animal Care Aide
- Animal Control Officer
- Animal Health Technician
- Animal-Nursery Worker
- Animal Trainer
- Conservation Worker
- Farm and Ranch Attendants
- Farm Manager
- Laboratory Animal Technician
- Senior Animal Keeper
- Veterinarian Assistant
- Zookeeper

Where can I work?

This profession provides you with a choice of various work environments including veterinarian hospitals.

- Aquariums
- Animal Hospitals
- Armed Forces
- Biomedical Research Institutions
- Diagnostic Laboratories
- Federal and State Agencies
- Humane Societies
- Large Farms or Ranches
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Private Veterinarian Hospitals
- Regulatory Agencies
- Specialty Veterinarian Practices
- Teaching Facilities
- Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities
- Zoological Parks

What type of professional organizations and resources are available in this industry?

There are many professional organizations that offer resources, articles, job opportunities, training and conference information. We suggest you visit each organization's website to gather more information and contacts in your field.

- American Association for Laboratory Animal Science
- American Boarding Kennels Association
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- California Veterinary Medical Board
- Humane Society of the United States
- National Animal Control Association
- National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
- United States Animal Health Association

What type of Animal Health Technology program does Mesa offer?

The program at San Diego Mesa College focuses on animal care and management, laboratory procedures, anatomy and physiology, office procedures and client relations, laboratory animal medicine, radiography, diseases, pharmacology, surgical, and medical nursing. Graduates of this program may become Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVT) upon passing an examination offered by the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

- Associate in Science: Animal Health Technology

See college catalog for program descriptions, course titles, and areas of emphasis.

Getting a Degree/Certificate/License in...

ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY

Associates Degrees/Certificates

Getting Started

- Step 1: [Application](#) - Start by completing the online application for admission
Step 2: [Program Specific Application](#) – Complete the program specific Animal Health Technology program application
Step 3: [Orientation](#) - Complete the online New Student Orientation (Flash player required)
Step 4: [Assessment](#) - Visit the Assessment office to learn about English and math testing
Step 5: [Advisement](#) - Complete the online First Semester Planning Workshop
Step 6: [Registration](#) - Register for classes

While You're Taking Classes

- | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Update your resume and craft a cover letter | Attend job fairs | Conduct industry research |
| Look into volunteer/internship opportunities | Perform job searches | Think about transfer options |
- See the Transfer or Career Center for assistance*

Transfer Options

Getting Started

- 1) Join a professional animal health technology association as a student member
- 2) Map out where you want to transfer for your animal health technology Bachelor's degree

Education Planning

Fall semester 1st year (1-15 units):

- 1) Attend transfer workshops
- 2) Review articulation agreements
- 3) Map general education (GE) requirements
- 4) Identify regionally accredited 4-year institutions to apply
- 5) Attend a Transfer Fair
- 6) Meet with a counselor

Spring semester 1st year (16-30 units):

- 1) Continue to attend transfer workshops
- 2) Check-in with a counselor to make sure your educational plan is on track
- 3) Seeking tutoring assistance in the academic skills center to keep your grades competitive

Fall semester 2nd year (31-45 units):

- 1) Submit admissions applications to 4-year institutions: Fall for CSU/UC; Early spring for private and out-of-state institutions
- 2) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents

Spring semester 2nd year (46-60 units):

- 1) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents
- 2) Submit your FAFSA between January 1st-March 1st.
- 3) Turn in your deposit and registration forms to the institution you decide to attend.
- 4) Attend the transfer orientation event(s) at your new campus
- 5) Complete academic coursework and transfer!

While You're Taking Classes

- Update your resume
- Prepare a cover letter
- Complete an internship in animal health technology
- Build your network
- Maintain a strong GPA
- Hold a leadership position in an animal health technology club/society
- Find a mentor
- Visit your Career Center as much as possible!

Registered Veterinary Technician Licensing

