

Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technology Student Health and Performance Standards:

Students are responsible for their own medical care and health insurance throughout the Veterinary Technology Program. Neither the college nor the Veterinary Technology Program is responsible for needed medical care. The student is responsible for any costs that may be incurred as it relates to personal injuries the student may acquire while participating in the program. Muscatine Community College and/or field trip sites cannot be held liable for such injuries. Students are strongly advised to make arrangements for their own health insurance coverage.

INJURY: Students who are injured in a laboratory/class situation must report the injury immediately to the supervising instructor/faculty member. Students attend laboratory sessions at their own risk and are responsible for any medical costs incurred due to an injury. To help prevent injury no open toed shoes are allowed in the labs. Any jewelry should be removed. An instructor may request that you remove your jewelry for your own safety. Please comply with such requests.

Veterinary Technology students are expected to inform faculty of any health conditions that interfere with clinical laboratory or kennel duty functions. Students may be asked to refrain from certain clinical laboratory procedures if the instructors feel that the student's health may be compromised. A physician's note may be required to verify any condition. Regardless, inability to perform assigned functions can affect your grades. As soon as pregnancy or any medical problems are diagnosed, the student is encouraged to bring a written statement from their physician permitting them to continue in the Veterinary Technology Program and/or perform safely in the clinical setting.

Students should be aware of zoonotic disease risks (rabies, ringworm, brucellosis, intestinal parasites, toxoplasmosis, etc) that are associated with participation in the program and this profession.

Students should also be aware that practicing venipuncture on each other is prohibited. Students should be aware that Hepatitis, AIDS, and other diseases can be transmitted by contact with infected blood and should handle and dispose of all venipuncture supplies and sharps in an appropriate manner. Students should also be aware of the risks of blood-borne diseases when aiding another injured student.

Students are strongly encouraged to have prophylactic rabies inoculations. Students bitten by animals while in the program are strongly encouraged to visit their physician at the earliest possible time even if he/she is vaccinated for rabies. Because of the natural risks associated with programs such as ours, Muscatine Community College is in no way liable for students being bitten or any injury (physical or emotional) while handling and working with animals within the program.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: Although precautions are taken by instructors to prevent or minimize the potential for student injury; no guarantee is made or implied regarding student safety due to the unpredictable behavior of animals. All teaching animals and patients are potentially capable of inflicting serious injury even when appropriate restraint and safety precautions are used, but use of these precautions is essential to reduce the risk of injury. Prior to the beginning of each laboratory session, students should review all safety and restraint

information contained in the current and previous course materials, reading and objectives. If students are unsure of the correct restraint or safety protocol to follow they should seek immediate supervision prior to initiating any animal contact.

Do not fear an animal, but respect what they can do.

Performance Standards:

Performance standards are necessary in a competent veterinary technician. These standards are necessary to protect the technician, other members of the health care team and the animal patients.

1. PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS
 - a. Ability to tolerate walking and standing for sustained periods of time.
 - b. Capable of lifting and/or carrying up to 50 pounds from floor to waist level frequently.
 - c. Capable of using hands and arms to handle, install, position and move materials.
 - d. Capable of handling, positioning and restraining live animals of various sizes.
2. SENSORY ABILITIES
 - a. Visual ability to see details at a close range and to make observations and assessments necessary in animal care. Be able to use diagnostic equipment i.e. microscope, thermometer, refractometer, etc. . .
 - b. Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. Hear auscultatory sounds, monitor alarms, emergency and cries for help. Hear warning sounds from animals and humans of impending danger / injury.
 - c. Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and to perform nursing duties. Perform palpation during physical exams. Administer oral, intramuscular, subcutaneous, and intravenous medications. Insert and remove tubes and perform wound care management. Collect organic samples for live animals.
3. MENTAL
 - a. Amenable to learning the safe handling, restraining and working with any species of domestic or exotic animals without fear. These animals may be sick, injured, fractious, or aggressive without fear.
 - b. Willingness to assist with or perform a wide variety of routine medical surgical and diagnostic procedures common to the veterinary setting; including humane euthanasia.
 - c. Capacities to read and hear, understand, and quickly execute complex verbal and written instructions given in English.
 - d. Ability to differentiate between classroom instruction or assessment and personal critique.

- e. Possess emotional stability when performing duties in animal life and death situations or other stressful situations.
- f. During emergencies, being able to respond promptly and appropriately.

Student Name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

If the student is under 18 years of age

Parent or guardian name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

**Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technology
Rabies Waiver:**

Since rabies is endemic to this area and (you) as a student will be utilizing animals without normal vaccine histories. The program has the responsibility to provide the following waiver.

The program recommends and encourages each student to obtain the rabies immunization. It is the responsibility of the student to cover the cost of this immunization procedure.

Since this is an expensive procedure and may not be readily available to all students, you are being given the opportunity to sign a waiver indicating that you have been informed of the risk.

Your signature on this waiver indicates your understanding of the risk and that you agree to provide insurance coverage sufficient to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Muscatine Community College and contracted parties from any and all claims by or injuries related to rabies.

I certify that the risks associated with rabies as they relate to the Veterinary Technology Program have been explained to me and I understand these risks. I will not hold Muscatine Community College or the Veterinary Technology Program responsible should I contract rabies.

Student Name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

If the student is under 18 years of age

Parent or guardian name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technology Pregnancy Policy Waiver

I certify that I have been informed of the risk that may be associated with a pregnancy as a student within the Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technology Program.

I have been advised of the following risk that may be included in the routine instructional needs of the program.

Exposure to the following situations:

- Biohazards
- Teratogens
- Cytotoxic compounds
- Ionizing radiation
- Anesthetic gases
- Hormonal agents
- Physical injuries

I understand that I am not obligated to inform Muscatine Community College or the Veterinary Technology Program faculty of my pregnancy status and assume all responsibility to avoid these hazards should I be pregnant. I will not hold Muscatine Community College or the Veterinary Technology Program responsible should any complications to my pregnancy occur.

Student Name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

If the student is under 18 years of age

Parent or guardian name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____

Muscatine Community College Veterinary Technology

COMMISSION OF A FELONY MAY PREVENT YOU FROM OBTAINING REGISTRATION AS A VETERINARY TECHNICIAN IN THE STATE OF IOWA.

Please read the following:

The State Board of Veterinary Medicine shall have the authority to refuse to grant, to revoke, or to discipline the registrations of any veterinary technician if such person has any of the following:

1. A felony conviction;
2. A conviction for any crime involving moral turpitude;
3. An arrest, charge, or sentence for any felony or crime involving moral turpitude where
 - a. A plea of no contest was entered,
 - b. First offender treatment granted, or
 - c. The adjudication was otherwise withheld.

A felony includes any offense which, if committed in the state of Iowa would be deemed a felony. A conviction includes either a verdict of guilty or a plea of guilty.

I have read the above statement and recognize that commission of a felony or any other crime of moral turpitude may prevent me from obtaining a registration as a veterinary technician in the State of Iowa upon completion of the program.

Student Name (printed) _____

(Signature) _____ Date _____