Veterinary Assistant (31-091-3)
Technical Diploma
Effective 2025/2026

The course sequence shown on this sheet is the recommended path to completion. Courses will be scheduled in the terms indicated here.
All courses should be taken in the order shown to help you stay on track and graduate according to your academic plan.
Courses in this program may be offered in a variety or combination of formats (for example: in-person, video conferencing, online, etc.).

E-D = Elkhorn/days, F=Fall, S=Spring, SU=Summer

Term	Course #	Cr.	Course Title	Requisites (prereq- before/ coreq-with)	E-D
1	890-155	1	⚲ Gateway to Success (G2S)		S/SU
1	806-105	4	☞ Principles of Animal Biology[13]		S/SU
1	809-198	3	Psychology, Introduction to[1,13]	Prereq: 838-105 OR 851-757	S/SU
2	*091-120	1	Animal Behavior	Prereq: Program Admission	SU/F
2	*091-123	2	☞ Veterinary Medical Terminology	Prereq: Program Admission	SU/F
2	801-196 OR 801-198	3	Oral/Interpersonal Communication OR Speech		SU/F
3	*091-101	3	☞ Animal Care and Management	Prereq: Instructor Consent Coreq: 806-105; 091-120	F/S
3	*091-102	3	Veterinary Business Practices	Coreq: 091-101	F/S
4	*091-103	4	Clinical Pathology I for Vet Sciences[11]	Prereq: 091-101; 091-102; 806-105	S/SU
4	*091-105	3	Surgical Procedures I for Vet Sciences	Coreq: 091-103	S/SU
4	*091-107	3	Imaging for Veterinary Sciences	Coreq: 091-103	S/SU
5	*091-108	3	Veterinary Pharmacology[1]	Prereq: 834-109; Coreq: 091-110	SU/F
5	*091-110	2	Clinical Skills I for Vet Sciences	Prereq: Instructor Consent	SU/F

Minimum Program Total Credits Required: 35

Notes associated with courses (identified by a superscript number at the end of the course title) are located on the back of the sheet.

⚲ Mastery of this course will put students on a path to achieve successful degree completion, on-time graduation, and enrich the college experience. Students are required to take this course in their first semester of enrollment. Please see an advisor for details.

☞ = Milestone Course. Faculty have identified this course as providing a strong foundation for success throughout the program.

(*) indicates students must achieve a minimum of 2.0 ("C") or above for these major courses to meet graduation requirements.

Veterinary Assistant (31-091-3)

In this program, students learn basic veterinary assistant skills including how to care for and handle animals, provide medical and surgical nursing, and perform radiography and clinical laboratory procedures. Applicable federal, state, and local law and ethical guidelines are presented to students throughout the program. Students complete clinical work under the direction of certified veterinary technicians and veterinarians. Upon completion of the program, graduates can provide professional support to veterinarians and veterinary technicians in veterinary clinics.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:
1. Manage daily veterinary business functions.
2. Develop basic animal handling skills and husbandry needs.
3. Explore the concepts of surgical room and pre-surgical patient preparation.
4. Examine legal issues and pharmacy skills for a Veterinary Assistant.
5. Investigate basic diagnostic laboratory and radiology skills.

Essential Career Competencies

Gateway's six essential career competencies are the general attitudes and skills promoted and assessed by all programs. All Gateway graduates will develop skills in:

- Communication Competence
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Professionalism and Career Management
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Cultural Competence
- Technology Competence

Admission Requirements

1. Students must submit an application and pay $30 fee.
2. Students must meet one of the following: minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.6 (unweighted); earned at least 12 college credits with a minimum GPA of 2.0; or complete valid reading, writing, and math placement assessments.
3. Students must complete a Background Disclosure form and must request and pay for a background check. Applicants for all health science programs are subject to a review of their criminal backgrounds. Positive background checks may negatively impact your ability to pursue a health career at Gateway Technical College. Each case will be individually evaluated based on all available evidence provided to the college.
4. Students must submit official high school, GED, or HSED transcript including a graduation or passing date.

Graduation Requirements

- Minimum 35 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above.
- *Minimum grade of 2.0 ("C") or above for these major courses.
- Complete 890-155 Gateway to Success (G2S) in the first semester.

For a complete list of Graduation Requirements, check the Student Handbook or [Graduation Requirements](#).

Notes

1. Satisfactory college placement results (through multiple measures or placement test scores) or successful remediation is required prior to enrollment. See an advisor for details.
2. It is preferred that students in this program complete 806-105 as the prereq for this course.
3. Students must maintain minimum course grades of "C" or better for all courses marked with an (*) to remain in the program.
4. A laptop computer, stethoscope, uniform, and other supplies will be needed.
5. Nearly daily exposure to latex and/or animal fur and dander will occur in this program. Those with sensitivities may find exposure impossible to avoid.
6. Immunocompromised individuals should consult their physician before enrollment.
7. Clinical sites are located throughout and potentially outside the district. Students are responsible for their own transportation.
8. Some clinical sites require TB testing and immunizations against tetanus and hepatitis B. Rabies immunization is required.
9. This program is full-time. Students should expect to be in class Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm.
10. Please note that your program may require additional fee(s) for: Criminal Background Check, Medical Document Manager, and/or Drug Testing.
11. Students must receive a "B" or better in 806-105 before they can enroll in this course.
12. A credit for prior learning assessment is available for this course. For more information, please contact cfpl@gtc.edu.
13. Students are selected for core courses based on completion of academic eligibility requirements and district residency. See gtc.edu/petitioning for additional information.
14. Students admitted to the program must complete a volunteer shadowing experience in an approved clinical setting prior to registering for a Veterinary Technician course. Documentation requirements will be included in the program admission packet. This is a high demand program with petitioning required. See the program adviser for details.

Gateway Technical College reserves the right to modify curriculum requirements for students who interrupt enrollment for one year or take over seven years to complete. Tuition and material fees are determined by the board of the Wisconsin Technical College System. Consult My Gateway for exact fee amounts. The District reserves the right to modify, cancel, or relocate course offerings in response to factors such as low enrollment, resource availability, or other relevant considerations to ensure high-quality educational experiences. Students will be notified in writing and are encouraged to meet with their Academic Advisor to adjust their academic plan.

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