

WI Employment Information

- Number Employed in 2010: 1,530
- Expected Employment in 2020: 1,690
- Percent Expected Employment Growth, 10 years: 10%
- Expected Annual Openings, Growth and Turnover: 50



Employers

- COMMUNITY PET HOSPITAL - Amery
- JOSEPH J GOLDSMITH DVM - Amery
- MIDWEST EMBRYO TRANSFER LLC - Amery
- NORTHWEST WISCONSIN VETERINARY - Amery
- ASHLAND AREA VETERINARY CLINIC SC - Ashland
- BAY AREA ANIMAL HOSPITAL INC - Ashland

Salary/Wages

Wisconsin

Entry \$21,830/year and \$10.50/hour
Median \$31,440/year and \$15.12/hour
Experienced \$47,739/year and \$22.95/hour

National

Entry \$20,500/year and \$9.86/hour
Median \$29,710/year and \$14.28/hour
Experienced \$44,030/year and \$21.17/hour

Salary Notes

An individual employee's position within this salary range is affected by the following factors:

- * size and location of the facility
- * the individual employee's training and experience.

Most employers offer standard fringe benefits such as paid vacation and sick leave, health insurance, and retirement plans. The self-employed determine their own benefits.

Career Clusters and Pathways

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster
- Animal Systems Pathway

7th Grade Career Exploration Brochure

Veterinarian Technician



Ms. Shew



Description of Career

Veterinary technicians assist veterinarians as they examine and treat animals. They often administer anesthetics to animals and assist veterinarians as they perform surgical procedures. They also sterilize instruments and clean operating and examining rooms. They lift and handle animals and give them medication as prescribed by the veterinarian. They clean the animal cages and prepare food for each animal as instructed. They note the condition and behavior of the animals and report these observations to the veterinarian. They may do laboratory tests to identify diseases or parasites. Some specialize in caring for small animals and work in veterinary clinics that care for dogs and/or cats. Others assist veterinarians who care for large animals such as cattle or endangered species housed in zoos.



Related Occupations /Other Job Titles for this Career

Related occupations and other job titles for this career include Vet Technician, Vet Assistant, or a Vet Associate.

At a Glance

- Requires an Associates Degree
- Beginning salary of \$24,789
- Mostly works days but may need to work nights and weekends

Hours and Conditions of Career

Veterinary technicians generally work more than 40 hours per week. Technicians who work in small animal clinics may work evening and weekend hours.

Technicians who work with farm animals often work irregular hours, including weekends, evenings, and holidays. These technicians may drive to farms or ranches to assist veterinarians with animal care.



Work Locations

Veterinary technicians work for veterinarians, animal shelters, university veterinary colleges, and research laboratories

Pros and Cons of Career

Pros

- Work with animals during the day
- Mostly work day time shifts
- Usually work 40 hours per week

Cons

- Make \$23,579 at entry level
- Unpleasant working conditions
- May need to work nights and weekends or be on call

Helpful High School Courses

Students should take courses that meet college entrance requirements. Helpful high school courses would include Animal Science, Biology, Business and Personal Law, Chemistry, and Geometry.

Method of Entry

Veterinarians prefer to hire veterinary technicians who have graduated from a technical college with an associate degree in animal health technology.

Job Outlook

Wisconsin—Job seekers will find excellent employment opportunities.
National- Job seekers will find excellent employment opportunities.



Factors Affecting Employment

Employment is affected by the need for technical assistance in animal disease control, advances in biotechnology, and increases in pet ownership.

Veterinarian Technician