

IN-DEMAND CAREERS

BE A VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

by Cynthia Kennedy Henzel



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AT A GLANCE

- Veterinary technicians (vet techs) help veterinarians (vets) care for animals in many settings. Some work with small pets in clinics.
- Vet techs may work with large animals. This includes farm animals.
- Vet techs are not allowed to diagnose an injury or disease without the supervision of a vet.
- Vet techs perform any tests the vet calls for. They may review blood or tissue samples.
- Vet techs help with surgery. They give anesthesia to the animal.
- Training to become a vet tech varies by states but often takes 2 years of post-secondary education.



- A vet tech specialist (VTS) has additional training in their field of work. Specialists tend to earn higher pay.
- The number of vet tech jobs is expected to grow.