



MANOR
COLLEGE

Program of Veterinary Technology

Technical Ability Standards

Introduction

The abilities and skills required to successfully complete the Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College are known as the Technical Ability Standards. These required standards include essential physical and cognitive skills, and the mental and emotional qualities needed to meet the challenges of veterinary medical practice. Admission to the Program of Veterinary Technology is contingent upon the ability of the applicant to satisfy the required technical standards described in this document.

Instructions

Applicants to the Program of Veterinary Technology must read each statement below and sign their name to acknowledge that the applicant possesses each of the required technical ability standards set forth below.

Technical Standard I: Observation

Individuals applying to the Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College must be able to use all senses to accurately observe and effectively interact with instructors, animal patients and fellow students.

Vision

An individual must be able to...

1. Observe movement at a distance ranging from 30-45 centimeters to 15-20 meters at a discrimination level that permits detection of subtle differences in movement of the limbs in animals. Examples: ability to
2. observe a slight front leg lameness in a horse, abnormal head posture in a parakeet, monitor respiratory rate during anesthesia; and read anesthesia monitoring equipment.
3. Discriminate shades of black and white patterns in which the band is no more than 0.5 mm in width.
4. Examples: bacterial hemolysis on a blood agar plate, density patterns on a radiograph, and ability to see EKG tracings.
5. Perceive depth perception to allow for the detection of a 0.5 cm elevation which is no more than 1 cm in diameter on a slightly curved surface. Examples: tissue swelling on the hip of a smooth-haired dog, suturing tissues.

Hearing

An individual must be able to...

1. Perceive the natural or amplified human voice without lip reading. Examples: oral communication in a surgery room with all occupants wearing surgical masks.
2. Perceive the origin of sound. Examples: Movement of large animals in a pen or corral; monitoring multiple patients in an ICU.

Proprioception

An individual must be able to...

1. Determine the position of one hand extended from the body within +/- 10 degrees when the arm is extended in any direction, the eyes are closed, and the individual is standing. Application: Rectal palpation on both large and small animals, endotracheal intubation, intravenous injection.
2. Differentiate between four round semisolid objects having diameters of 0.5, 1, 1.5, and 2 cm and judge the shape and consistency of objects when the arm is extended and the eyes are closed. Application: Determining size of the follicle or corpus luteum on the bovine ovary by rectal palpation, assisting in surgery, rectal palpation in dogs, lymph node and tracheal palpation.

Technical Standard II: Communication

1. Communicate effectively and sensitively with animal patients, their owners, and members of the veterinary healthcare team.
2. Limit extraneous body movements that may intimidate animal patients.
3. Decrease patient stress by moving slowly and methodically when working with patients, keeping voice low when speaking.
4. Accurately interpret animal body language and non-verbal communications.
5. Communicate effectively with the client owner from different social and cultural backgrounds, as well as develop effective professional rapport with client owner, coworkers and veterinarians.
6. Record examination and diagnostic results clearly, accurately and efficiently.
7. Communicate effectively in English with client/owner, and other veterinary health care professionals.

Technical Standard III: Body Function

Speech

An individual must be able to...

1. Speak English and be understood by others who cannot see the lips or facial expressions of the individual. Example: Oral communications in a surgery room where all occupants are wearing surgical masks; managing a patient with cardiac arrest.

Coordinated Movement

An individual must be able to...

1. Communicate with other individuals by speech, either in person or by telephone, an applicant must be able to make legible written notes in English within the margins and space provided on the appropriate forms. Example: completing medical records and charts; completing anesthesia records.
2. Hold surgical instruments in one hand and perform fine movements with such instruments. Example: induce and monitor general anesthesia in an animal patient; place intravenous catheters.
3. Hold, manipulate, or tie materials ranging from a cloth patch to a very fine string. Example: hold and manipulate a surgical sponge; tie a 00- silk suture; complete endotracheal intubation; intravenous injection; catheterize animals to obtain sample of urine; apply bandages.
4. Move his/her entire body a distance of no less than three meters within two seconds of a signal to do so. Example: movement from danger while handling animals in confined spaces.

Strength and Stamina

An individual must be able to...

1. Lift objects and/or animals weighing 0-5 pounds constantly, 5-20 pounds frequently, 20-50 pounds occasionally.
2. Lift all of the above objects or animals to a height of one meter and carry the object or animal for a distance of two meters. Examples: placing a dog on a surgery table; lifting the leg of an adult horse to conduct a physical examination of the foot; lifting and carrying a bag weighing approximately 35 pounds of drugs, equipment and supplies from an ambulatory service vehicle to an animal patient in a nearby barn or lot.

Allergy and/or Fear

An individual must be able to...

1. Have sustained contact with multiple species of animals and the environments in which they are housed and treated.
2. Carry out routine medical care on multiple animal species.

Technical Standard IV: Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities

An individual must be able to...

1. Learn through a variety of modalities including, but not limited to classroom instruction; small group, team and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; and use computer technology.
2. Organize study materials, maintain a calendar of academic events, complete assignments on time, including satisfactory preparation for examinations.
3. Memorize a large amount of information in a relatively short period of time.
4. Memorize information during a period of stress.
5. Integrate information presented in a variety of courses given at different times.
6. Remain attentive for extended periods of time.
7. Possesses the mental capacity to assimilate and learn a large amount of complex, technical and detailed information.
8. Possess the intellectual and personal confidence to ask questions when needed.
9. Learn how to perform mathematical calculations within a reasonable period of time and retain the ability to perform the calculations over time.
10. Look up information independently.
11. Take responsibility for own learning (able to teach self).

Technical Standard V: Behavioral and Social Attributes

An individual must..

1. Possess the emotional stability to function effectively under stress and to adapt to an environment that may change rapidly, without warning.
2. Be able to control own emotions and maintain a professional comporment at all times.
3. Be attentive and empathic to others.
4. Be respectful of classmates, instructors and other college community members.
5. Support the development of one's own professional image via social media, phone messages, e-mail and other forms of communication.

Technical Standard VI: Ethical and Legal Standards

An individual must possess the...

1. Ability to understand and uphold veterinary medical ethics.
2. Ability to maintain personal integrity and comply with academic honesty policies.
3. Ability to comply with the College's and Program's honor codes.

Be aware that...

1. Students whose performance is impaired by substance abuse and dependency are not suitable candidates for admission, promotion, or graduation.
2. A student convicted of any felony offense while enrolled in the Program of Veterinary Technology should notify the Program Director. Licensure in the State of Pennsylvania may be adversely affected by a criminal record.

Signature of Applicant

Date