



# Veterinary Science

Wilbur H. Palmer  
Career and Technical  
Education Center

The Veterinary Science program prepares you for further education or employment in the animal care field. Explore both large and small animal practices in this two year program. Gain firsthand experience in safety, animal behavior, handling and restraint techniques, grooming, medical terminology, kennel skills, animal health and disease, and record keeping by working with animals in the small animal facility and large animals on the school farm. Practice advanced skills in areas such as vaccination, deworming, physical exams, nutrition and feed analysis, first aid and veterinary laboratories.



**Sample Occupations for Vet Science Graduates (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics- Occupational Outlook Handbook)**

Job Title	Projected Openings Through 2026	Average Salary
Vet Assistants & Lab Animal Caretakers	16,300	\$26,140
Vet Technologists/Technicians	20,400	\$33,400
Veterinarians	15,000	\$90,420
Animal Care & Service Workers	64,600	\$23,160

For More information: Contact your Local School Counselor OR

Wilbur H. Palmer CTE Center  
@Alvirne High School

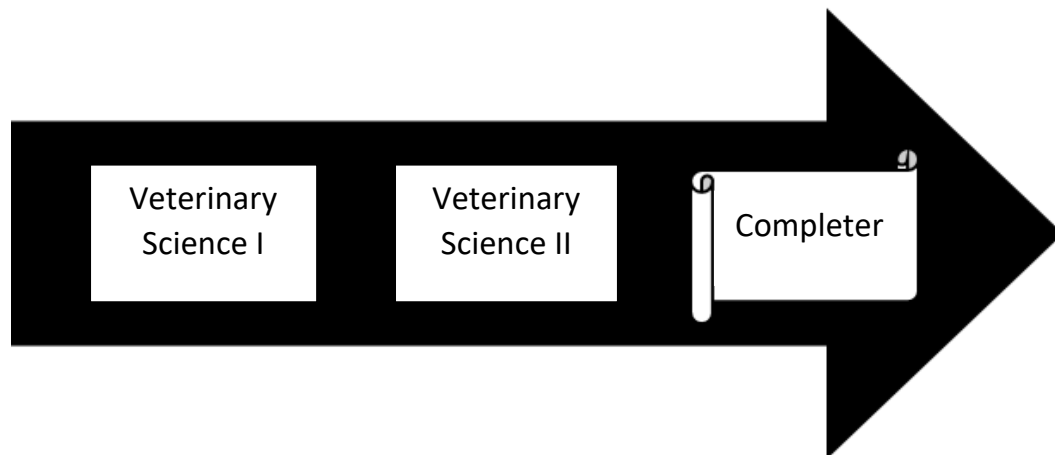
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# Veterinary Science Program Path



## Course Descriptions

### **Veterinary Science I:** *Grades 10-11; year-long course; CTE822*

The first year of this two-year program introduces students to the applied principles and practices used in small and large animal related business with a special emphasis on veterinary medicine. Students will explore concepts through hands-on experiences working with Alvirne's kennel animals such as chinchillas, rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, rodents, and birds along with our large animal species including donkeys, dairy cattle, and horses. Topics will also include safety, animal behavior, breed and species identification, animal health, welfare and client relations. Through continuous exposure to animals on the school farm and small animal facility, students will develop hands on skills in handling, restraint, grooming, feeding, cleaning/ disinfection, training, and record keeping. Students will develop skills in professional telephone etiquette and customer service. Students will also be required to complete 12 hours of community service in an animal related service project. Students enrolled in Alvirne's Veterinary Science Program will have the opportunity to earn both high school credits and college credits simultaneously with a partnership with Great Bay Community College and SUNY at Cobleskill. The Veterinary Science curriculum will also enable students to develop their leadership skills and veterinary skills and opportunities through their involvement in the State and National Youth FFA organization including participation the Veterinary Science Career Development Event (Competition). This course will provide students with entry levels skills and knowledge for employment as veterinary assistants, pet shop workers, humane society assistants or assistant groomers.

**\*Prerequisites-** A Biology course taken previously or concurrently is strongly recommended for Veterinary Science I. Students MUST successfully complete all first-year competencies to advance to the second year of this program.

**\*Enrollment in a Chemistry course is strongly recommended to be taken either before or concurrently for Veterinary Science II.**

### **Veterinary Science II:** *Grades 11-12; year-long course; CTE824*

In the second year of the Veterinary Science program, students will continue to build on their knowledge and skills gained in the first year. Using the kennel's small animals and large animal species, advanced topics in veterinary science II will include nutrition and anatomy, health and disease and veterinary medical terminology and entrepreneurship. Hands-on skills will be developed in feed selection, laboratory procedures (i.e. fecal analysis, blood and urine analysis), animal health and disease prevention, such as vaccinations, deworming, grooming, physical exams, office skills, equipment identification and business management. Students will also be required to complete 12 hours of community service in an animal related service project. With the completion of this program, a student's potential for success in post-secondary education /an entry level job and/or in an animal science field is greatly enhanced.

**\*Students successfully completing Veterinary Science I and II with a C+ or better can earn 2 college credits at Great Bay Community College through Project Running Start or may earn articulation credits toward SUNY at Cobleskill.**

**\*Students who complete both years of the Veterinary Science program with a C+ or better can choose to fulfill either a life science credit OR a fourth-year math requirement (but not both).**