

How to Become a Registered Veterinary Technician

3 routes:

1. Graduate from AVMA-accredited and CVB approved program
 - a. Can be 2-4 years long
 - b. Includes hands-on training as well as classroom coursework
 - c. Usually will graduate with an Associate's degree
2. Alternative route
 - a. Complete 20 semester units or 30 quarter units or 300 hours of specific education
 - b. Plus 4,416 hours of direct clinical experience over the course of at least 24 months under supervision of California licensed veterinarian
 - c. Designed for individuals already working in a vet practice
3. Already licensed in a different state
 - a. Must show proof of completed requirements and pass the VTNE

Licensing exam:

- Veterinary Technician National Examination
 - \$310 fee to take computerized exam
 - Offered during 3 1-month periods each year
 - Have to apply and be eligible to take the test

Where to go to take courses:

- In California:
 - Northern CA: Carrington College (multiple locations across northern California), Cosumnes River College, Yuba College
 - Central CA: San Joaquin Valley College
 - Southern CA: many locations in Orange County, LA County, and San Diego County
- Distance Learning (online accredited courses):
 - Discounts offered for employees of CVMA members: Cedar Valley, Penn Foster
 - Others: Jefferson State, Northern Virginia Community College, Purdue, St. Petersburg College, San Juan College