



Metropolitan Veterinary Academy

Student Catalog

January 1 - December 31, 2026

734 Alpha Drive
Highland Heights, Ohio 44143
metrovetacademy.com
(216) 523 - 4600
Registration Number: 2238

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Institution Overview

INSTITUTIONAL MISSION

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's mission is to build essential skills, knowledge, and professionalism to prepare graduates for a career in the veterinary field. Through a comprehensive learning experience, MVA exposes students to a variety of real-world cases in a working specialty hospital, providing opportunities to gain hands-on experience and insight into diverse veterinary practices. The combination of practical and professional skills gained by students enables graduates to enter the workforce with the confidence necessary to contribute to the veterinary field, the well-being of animals, and the advancement of veterinary care.

HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTION

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy (MVA) was established in September 2022, following its approval by the Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. In December of 2025, MVA received a grant of accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET). The academy operates within Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital's facilities in Highland Heights, Ohio. The Metropolitan Veterinary Hospitals, founded in 1968 and expanded in early 2022, provide advanced care and 24-hour emergency services across eight specialty departments: cardiology, critical care, oncology, neurology, surgery, ophthalmology, internal medicine, and exotics.

With the vision of providing high-quality education and training for veterinary professionals, promoting animal welfare, and advancing veterinary science through research and innovation, MVA promotes the following beliefs.

1. Education and Training: Offering comprehensive programs that equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in various veterinary fields.
2. Research and Innovation: Encouraging research that contributes to advancements in veterinary medicine and animal care.
3. Community Engagement: Providing services and outreach to promote animal health and welfare within the community.
4. Professional Development: Supporting continuous learning and professional growth for veterinary practitioners through workshops, seminars, and networking opportunities.
5. Collaboration: Building partnerships with other educational institutions, veterinary organizations, and industry leaders to enhance educational offerings and research initiatives.
6. Continuous Improvement: The academy aims to address the growing demand for skilled veterinary professionals and to improve the standards of animal care.

OWNERSHIP & BOARD MEMBERS

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is a subsidiary of NVA Metropolitan Veterinary Management Group, LLC.

This Academy has a governing body responsible for oversight of its operations. This governing body is led by Chief Executive Officer, Hal Bond.

LICENSING & ACCREDITATION

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is licensed by the Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (OSBCCS), registration number 2238.



Accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training. ACCET is listed by the U.S. Department of Education as a nationally recognized accrediting agency.

MVA does not participate in federal Student Financial Aid.

LOCATION & HOURS OF OPERATION

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is open Monday - Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Any changes to this schedule are made available through the school website and Notice Board located in the Academy reception area.

The campus is located at
734 Alpha Drive
Highland Heights, Ohio 44143
Registration Number: 2238

All theory and lab hours are held at the main campus. Externship hours are held at affiliated hospital locations.

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy covers approximately 1925 square feet, including two classrooms, one laboratory procedures room, and one mock surgical suite. There are three administrative offices, a vestibule with ten lockers, a reception area, and a designated employee lounge. Students have access to the hospital's employee breakroom and vending.

All areas of the academy are safe, well-lit, and in compliance with all building maintenance codes. The campus is fully handicap accessible. Annual fire safety systems inspections and testing are performed by the Highland Heights Fire Department.

The classrooms are comfortable and conducive to student learning. There are tables and chairs providing ample space for students. There is a large screen at the front of the room for presentations. Free wifi is available throughout the school and plenty of places for students to plug in laptops or devices to take notes and access class resources.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy has ample parking spaces for students and employees, including handicap-accessible spaces and one designated EV (Electric Vehicle) charging station. The parking lot is well-lit by LED lights and monitored by security cameras. During the winter months, snow and ice removal services are provided.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Name	Title
Jeanette M. Fessler, RVT, MA	Campus Director (<i>OSBCCS Licensed Director</i>) Program Chair Dean of Academics Admissions (<i>OSBCCS Licensed Agent</i>) Student and Career Services Coordinator
Matthew J. Ehresman, DVM	Academy Veterinarian Faculty
Vanessa Guarnera	Operations Coordinator Student and Career Services Coordinator

COHORT START & PROJECTED GRADUATION DATES

Cohort	Start Date	End Date
1	January 5, 2026	December 18, 2026
2	March 23, 2026	March 5, 2027
3	June 1, 2026	May 21, 2027
4	August 10, 2026	July 30, 2027
5	October 19, 2026	October 8, 2027

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Term	Start Date	End Date
Term 1	January 5, 2026	March 6, 2026
<i>Term Break</i>	<i>March 9, 2026</i>	<i>March 13, 2026</i>
<i>Spring Break</i>	<i>March 16, 2026</i>	<i>March 20, 2026</i>
Term 2	March 23, 2026	May 22, 2026
<i>Term Break</i>	<i>May 25, 2026</i>	<i>May 29, 2026</i>
Term 3	June 1, 2026	July 31, 2026
<i>Term Break</i>	<i>August 3, 2026</i>	<i>August 7, 2026</i>
Term 4	August 10, 2026	October 9, 2026
<i>Term Break</i>	<i>October 12, 2026</i>	<i>October 16, 2026</i>
Term 5	October 19, 2026	December 18, 2026
<i>Winter Break</i>	<i>December 21, 2026</i>	<i>January 1, 2027</i>

HOLIDAYS

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy observes the following holidays. On these days, no classes are held and the administrative office is closed:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 19, 2026
- President's Day: February 16, 2026
- Memorial Day: May 25, 2026
- Juneteenth: June 19, 2026
- Independence Day: July 3, 2026
- Labor Day: September 7, 2026
- Thanksgiving Holiday: November 26 - November 27, 2026
- Christmas Eve & Christmas Day: December 24 - December 25, 2026
 - *Students are on Winter Break*
- New Year's Eve & New Year's Day: December 31, 2026 - January 1, 2027
 - *Students are on Winter Break*

Any classes missed due to a Holiday falling on Monday-Thursday will be made up on the Friday after the Holiday. Holidays occurring on a Friday do not need to be made up as there are no classes scheduled on Fridays.

Academic Policies

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS AND ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy accepts applications year-round. A prospective student may apply at any time, but may start class only on a start date as listed on the Academic Calendar. Enrollments are accepted any time prior to the start date on the Academic Calendar, provided space is available.

Admissions Requirements

Prospective students applying for admission to the institution must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 18 years of age; or
- Be at least 17 years of age at the time of admission, with proof of turning 18 before the start of the second term (based on program start date and academic calendar) and a parent's or guardian's permission.
- Be a high school graduate, have obtained a General Education Development (GED) certificate or the equivalent, or have obtained an equivalent home school credential.
 - Proof of documentation may include an official transcript that shows the date of high school graduation or a copy of a standard high school diploma or a GED.
 - All foreign transcripts must be translated and evaluated for a U.S. High school diploma equivalency by an approved agency, and any costs incurred in connection thereof must be paid by the applicant. Many options can be found on the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) [website](#).
 - Applicants who were homeschooled must provide a transcript. All home school study credentials will be evaluated by the Dean of Academics prior to final acceptance to the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy.
 - Any high school diploma or transcript that Metropolitan Veterinary Academy deems questionable or not obtained from an entity that provides secondary school education will be evaluated to determine validity. Upon formal review, the Campus Director will make the final decision regarding the validity of the diploma or transcripts. If the diploma or transcripts are deemed invalid, the student will not be admitted to the school. Student self-certification is not sufficient documentation, and there is no appeal process if Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is unable to validate the high school diploma or transcripts.

Prospective students complete an online application and upload proof of age and date of birth and HS completion. Once the prospective student has submitted all application requirements, the application will be evaluated for acceptance into the school.

Acceptance and Enrollment

Once the application has been submitted, the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy reviews the application. Then the applicant must complete an interview. During the interview, the Admissions Agent asks any questions regarding information submitted in the application. The Agent also discusses the financial requirements with the applicant and answers any questions the applicant has about the school and program.

Prospective students who meet all admissions requirements are accepted into the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. If the prospective student does not meet the admissions requirements, they are not accepted for admission into the program. Applicants are notified of the decision either in-person or via email.

Accepted applicants make financial arrangements through TFC to pay for their training program. The Admissions Agent then provides a copy of the Student Catalog for review and the enrollment agreement for signature. Once the enrollment agreement has been signed by the applicant and accepted by a school official, the student is provided with a fully executed copy.

All students complete an orientation which includes the Ohio Student Disclosure Course. Once the orientation is complete, students are ready to begin their program of enrollment.

Admissions Appeals

Appealing an admissions decision must be completed within seven (7) calendar days of the initial admissions decision. If a prospective student feels that he or she has received a denial of admission in error, the prospective student may appeal the decision by submitting a written appeal. The Campus Director (and/or designated staff member) will review the material and notify the prospective student of their decision in writing.

Reentry

Re-entry students who are returning to finish their program must meet the admissions requirements at the time of re-entry.

BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy (MVA) is committed to ensuring that all prospective students are fully informed as they make decisions about their education and career path. While there is no certification or licensure requirement to work as a Veterinary Assistant in the state of Ohio, certain personal circumstances may affect a graduate's ability to secure employment in the field.

These barriers may include, but are not limited to:

- Felony convictions or other criminal history,
- Physical or mental health conditions that may interfere with essential job duties,
- Inability to meet health or vaccination requirements commonly expected by externship sites or employers,
- Past or ongoing substance use issues,
- The potential inability to pass a background check or drug screening, which many employers require as a condition of hiring.

These factors do not prevent a student from enrolling at MVA. However, prospective students should understand that such circumstances may limit their externship placement options or their competitiveness in the job market after graduation.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, non-disqualifying disability, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, or veteran status in the recruitment of students, or in the implementation of its policies, procedures, and activities.

Information pertaining to an applicant's disability is voluntary and confidential. Information obtained that includes disclosure of a disability will be used to overcome the effects of conditions that limit the participation of qualified disabled students. If you believe that you have been discriminated against, please promptly notify the Campus Director.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy recognizes the Americans with Disabilities Act. The school is responsible for ensuring that students with disabilities are provided Reasonable Accommodations that meet their corresponding needs (academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, and services). Student requests for accommodation will be considered under the Reasonable Accommodation Policy and in Compliance with the ADA, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 without discrimination. The need for Reasonable Accommodations depends upon the student's disability and is determined by the needs of the student, documentation from the student, and documentation from appropriate professionals. The determination of what specific accommodations will be provided is based upon evaluation of the individual student's documentation, personal needs, and academic requirements. A student's Reasonable Accommodation may be subject to review and adjustment from time to time.

Any qualified individual with a disability requesting an accommodation or auxiliary aid or service should follow the procedure below:

- Notify the Campus Director in writing of the type of accommodation needed, the date needed, documentation of the nature and extent of the disability, and the need for the accommodation or auxiliary aid.
 - Acceptable documentation includes, but is not limited to, past IEPs, current IEPs, a Physician or licensed medical professional's diagnosis with recommendations, etc.
- Please contact the Campus Director by emailing j.fessler@metrovetacademy.com. The request should be given at least two weeks in advance of the date requested, if possible.
- The Campus Director will respond within one week of receiving the request.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Transfer into Metropolitan Veterinary Academy

The acceptance of transfer credits between institutions lies within the discretion of the receiving institution. Credits earned at other institutions may or may not be accepted by Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. Likewise, coursework completed at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy may or may not be accepted by another institution depending upon its programs, policies, and regulations.

Transfer credits will be evaluated using the following guidelines:

- Only credits earned at an institution that is accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and/or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) will be considered. Any credits earned at a foreign institution must have a credential evaluation completed, indicating equivalency with Metropolitan Veterinary Academy courses. The potential

student is responsible for paying the cost of the evaluation. The student may use any reputable evaluation service. Many options can be found on the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) [website](#).

- An official transcript of the student's coursework must be furnished directly by the institution where the coursework was completed before any application for transfer credits can be evaluated.
- A copy of the catalog or course syllabi from the institution at which the coursework was completed, at the time that the coursework was completed, must be furnished before any application for transfer credits can be evaluated.
- A minimum grade of "B" or "3.0" must have been awarded for each course completed to be eligible for transfer. Only courses in which grades were assigned will be considered. Credits earned as a result of a "pass/fail" option are not eligible for transfer.
- Sit for and pass a written and/or practical exam related to the transfer credit curriculum, if applicable.
- Coursework completed more than three years ago is not eligible for transfer of credit.
- Transfer of credit must be completed before enrollment. Submitting an official transcript in a timely manner is the sole responsibility of the student.
- The Campus Director shall make the final determination on the acceptability of transfer credits. The above guidelines shall be used in evaluating all applications for transfer of credit; however, the institution reserves the right to accept or reject any or all transfer credits at its discretion.

Up to 20% of a program can be completed via transfer of credit. Students wishing to receive credit for courses taken at other institutions will need to provide all required documents as part of the application process.

The tuition reduction will be pro-rated based upon the current hourly rate for any transfer credit hours accepted into a program at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. The hourly rate is determined by dividing the total tuition amount by the total clock hours in a program. No additional fees are charged for evaluation or granting transfer of credit.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not accept advanced placement or credit for experiential learning.

Appeals

Students who believe that their transfer credits were incorrectly evaluated or denied by Metropolitan Veterinary Academy may file an appeal. Appeals must be based on one or more of the following grounds:

- New or additional information that was not included in the initial evaluation.
- Errors in the evaluation of submitted documents, including transcripts or course equivalency.
- Discrepancies in the application of the Transfer of Credit Policy.

The student must submit a written appeal to the Campus Director within 7 days of receiving the transfer credit evaluation decision. The appeal must include a detailed explanation of the grounds for appeal, along with any supporting documentation (e.g., additional transcripts, course syllabi, or credential evaluations).

The Campus Director will provide a copy of the appeal to the Academy Veterinarian. Both the Campus Director and Academy Veterinarian will review the appeal independently and consult with faculty members or external evaluators as necessary to ensure a thorough reassessment of the transfer credits. The Campus Director and Academy Veterinarian will meet to discuss their evaluation of the appeal and together, make a final determination. A final determination on the appeal will be jointly issued by the Campus Director and Academy Veterinarian within 7 days of receiving the appeal.

The student will be notified in writing of the decision. The decision will include an explanation for the outcome, whether the appeal is approved or denied. All decisions made by the Campus Director and Academy Veterinarian regarding transfer credit appeals are final. There is no further appeal process beyond this stage.

Transfer out of Metropolitan Veterinary Academy

Transferability of coursework completed at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is always up to the discretion of the receiving institution. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not in any way imply or guarantee the transferability of credit (clock hours) into any other institution. Once the student of the receiving institution provides notification, an official transcript and a certified copy of the catalog will be issued at no cost to the student or the receiving institution.

STUDENT PRIVACY POLICY/FERPA

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's student privacy and confidentiality policy follows the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#) guidelines.

FERPA was designed to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the rights of students to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading information through informal and formal hearings.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy will not disclose a student's education records without obtaining prior written consent, except in certain instances where a student's educational records may be disclosed to school administrators with a legitimate interest. These individuals may include persons whom Metropolitan Veterinary Academy has employed or contracted with, whose responsibility justifies access to all or part of an educational record for legal, educational, or administrative functions.

Students may inspect and review their own records pertaining to academic standing and other information at any time. Students may also seek amendment of inaccurate or misleading information in their education records.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy depends on the accuracy of the records submitted by its students. False information on an application as well as any act to intentionally mislead or misinform instructional personnel or administrators is grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal from the school.

Students seeking access or amendment to their educational records should contact the Campus Director.

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT POLICY

Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA)

Individuals using computers and networks at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy are responsible for complying with copyright laws and Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's policy and procedures for computer use. The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of 1998 amends the federal copyright law to provide certain liability protections for online service providers when their computer systems or networks carry material that violates (infringes) copyright law.

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act specifies that all infringement claims must be in writing (either by electronic mail or paper letter) and must include all of the following elements:

- A physical or electronic signature.
- Identification of the infringed work.
- Identification of the infringed material.
- Contact information for the complainant, e.g. address, telephone number, electronic mail address.
- A statement that the complaining party has a good faith belief that the use of the material in the manner complained of is not authorized by the copyright owner or the law.
- A statement that the information contained in the notification is accurate, and under penalty of perjury, that the complaining party is authorized to act on behalf of the copyright owner.

Infringement claims should be sent to Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's Designated Agent: *Jeanette Fessler, Campus Director*.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's users should not download, upload, transmit, make available, or otherwise distribute copyrighted material without authorization using Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's computer systems, networks, and internet access or storage media. This is inclusive of utilizing unlicensed/unauthorized peer-to-peer file services that would promote copyright infringement. Users who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action as appropriate under the circumstances. Such disciplinary action may include suspension, dismissal, and other legal actions.

In addition to the complaint being handled by the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy, copyright owners may also take direct legal action against alleged infringers, and subpoena the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy for information about people sharing files. The No Electronic Theft (NET) Act provides for serious criminal penalties, including a fine of up to \$250,000 and a potential jail sentence. A lack of knowledge about copyright infringement laws will not excuse one from legal consequences, or action by Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. It is your responsibility to be aware of the legality of your actions.

Copying Materials

Students, instructional staff, and administrative staff are not allowed to make copies of their textbooks or exams for themselves or their peers. Copying textbooks and other copyrighted material is against the law. Any student caught copying material (or in possession of copied material) will be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct and will be subjected to the full range of consequences.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy requires compliance with applicable copyright laws in the use of instructional materials. The Copyright Act protects all types of expression or authorship fixed in any

tangible medium, including such as written works, paintings, sculptures, photographs, videos, recorded music, sheet music, computer programs, video games, architectural design, and choreography. It is important to note, however, that the Act does not protect the underlying facts or ideas in a copyrighted work -- only the "expression" of those facts or ideas.

During the applicable term of protection, the author of the work possesses certain exclusive rights (which may be assigned to another party such as the publisher or distributor). These exclusive rights include (1) the right to copy the work; (2) the right to create derivative works; (3) the right to distribute the work; and (4) the right to display, perform, or broadcast the work. Therefore, before exercising any of these rights with respect to a given work, individuals must obtain permission from the copyright holder unless a statutory exception such as "fair use" applies, or the work is in the public domain.

The Public Domain and Other "Free" Works

Copyright protection does not extend to works in the public domain, which include: (1) works for which the applicable term of protection has expired; (2) works published by the federal government (e.g., published by the Centers for Disease Control or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association); (3) works that lack sufficient originality or expression to qualify for copyright protection (e.g., unadorned calendars, indices, phonebooks, databases); and (4) works expressly donated to the public domain. Such works may be copied and used without the permission of the author or publisher.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's students/instructors/staff who violate this policy are subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Serious violations of this policy may result in expulsion or discharge from the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. Individuals who violate state or federal copyright laws may also be subject to criminal/civil action by the appropriate agency or by the owner of the copyright.

DEFINITION OF CLOCK HOURS

The program is measured in clock hours. A period consisting of a 50 to 60-minute class, lecture, or recitation in a 60-minute period. A 50 to 60-minute faculty-supervised laboratory, training, or externship in a 60-minute period. A clock hour is based on an actual hour of attendance, though each hour may include a 10-minute break.

ATTENDANCE

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy emphasizes the need for all students to attend classes consistently to develop the skills and attitude necessary to be successful in today's competitive job market. The classroom is designed to emulate a work environment and arriving on time every day is essential to maintaining employment. Therefore, attendance is critical for success at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be in class on time every day to achieve the learning goals for their program. Students, whether present or absent from class, are responsible for knowing all that is announced, discussed, and/or lectured upon in class or laboratory. In addition, students are responsible for submitting all assignments on time, as well as completing examinations and assessments as required.

Students must have a cumulative attendance rate of 80% or higher at each evaluation point to remain in good standing. (See Satisfactory Academic Program policy.)

Students can view their attendance rates in Edlumina (the Student Information System) at any time. If a student's attendance rate is under 80% at the end of a course, the student will complete an advising session with the Campus Director or staff member to create a plan to improve attendance.

Tardiness and Early Departures

Any student arriving up to 15 minutes after the start of class will be considered tardy. Additionally, any student who leaves class up to 15 minutes before the scheduled end will be considered an early departure.

Students who are more than 15 minutes late will be marked absent for one (1) full class hour. Students who depart more than 15 minutes before the end of class will be marked absent for one (1) entire class hour.

Attendance Monitoring

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class by the instructor. The instructor records attendance in the student information system, including tardiness and early departures.

Make-Up Time & Work

Make-up time must be arranged with the instructor and completed outside of scheduled class hours. For any make-up hours, the instructor will assign make-up work/time that is educationally sound and equivalent to the classes missed in content, time (clock hours), and delivery method.

To earn make-up hours, students must complete the assigned make-up work/time on campus under the direct supervision of a qualified faculty or staff member, as designated by the instructor. Make-up hours/work must be completed within three (3) class days of the absence.

If circumstances prevent completion within three class days, the student may submit a written appeal to the Dean of Academics within two (2) class day of returning, including the reason for the request and supporting documentation, as applicable. The Dean's decision will be communicated in writing.

All make-up hours completed will be documented on the official attendance record. There is no additional charge for make-up hours/work.

Administrative Attendance Withdrawal

Any student who is absent for fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days without an approved Leave of Absence, will be terminated from his or her program. After notifying the student of the administrative withdrawal for violation of the attendance policy, a refund calculation is completed. Any money due back to the student, or to a third-party funding source, is returned per the refund policy. A student dismissed for attendance-related reasons may only apply for re-admittance after discussing plans for successful attendance with the Campus Director and receiving written permission to re-apply. All current admissions requirements at the time of re-application must also be met.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There may be legitimate reasons such as extended illness, extended illness of close family members, or military service, in which a student needs an interruption in their training program. In such cases due to specified and approved reasons and with appropriate documentation, the student may request a leave of absence. The leave of absence is considered a temporary break in a student's attendance during which they are considered to be continuously enrolled. In order to attain a Leave of Absence (LOA), the following policy must be adhered to prior to approval of the leave:

- The Leave of Absence is limited to **180 calendar days in any 12-month period or one-half of the published program length**, whichever is **shorter**. Multiple leaves of absence may be permitted provided the total of the leaves does not exceed this limit.
- The leave of absence must be requested in writing in advance of the beginning date of the leave unless circumstances prevent the student from doing so. If the student does not request a leave of absence within a timeframe consistent with the 14-day consecutive absence policy, the student will be withdrawn.
 - If a student is unable to make the request in writing, over the phone is acceptable. The request can also be submitted by a relative or legal guardian.
- The student must sign and date the leave-of-absence request and specify a reason for the leave, providing supporting documentation, as necessary. The request must specify the specific date of return following the leave, and the student must attest to understanding the consequences of not returning from an approved leave on the date specified.
- The Leave of Absence request must be approved and signed by the Campus Director.
- Failure to return from the approved leave of absence on the exact return date as shown on the Leave of Absence written request will result in termination from the program of study.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy will document its decision relative to each LOA request in accordance with this policy. Documentation of each request and the related decision will be maintained in the student's file.

No additional charges will be assessed as a result of an approved LOA.

GRADING

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy issues grades at the end of each course using the following grading scale.

GRADE DEFINITIONS	GRADE	GRADE PERCENTAGE	GPA
High Achievement	A	93% - 100%	4.0
Good Achievement	B	85% - 92%	3.0
Satisfactory	C	77% - 84%	2.0
Failing	F	0% - 76%	0.0
Passed (Externship Only)	P	N/A	N/A
Not Passed (Externship Only)	NP	N/A	N/A
Incomplete	I	N/A	N/A
Transfer Credit	TC	N/A	N/A

Withdraw	W	N/A	N/A
Repeat	R	N/A	N/A

I: Incomplete. A grade of “I” will be given if the student does not complete the required class work, assignments, and tests by the end of the course or program. Incomplete coursework must be completed within three (3) days of the scheduled end date of the course. If the coursework is not completed by the deadline, the student will receive the grade earned for the class with the missing work recorded as zeros.

TC: Transfer credit. A grade of “TC” will be given for coursework accepted for transfer credit per the Transfer of Credit policy.

W: Withdraw. A grade of “W” will be given if the student withdraws from a course or is administratively withdrawn from a course.

R: Repeat. A grade of “R” will be given if the student repeats a course to achieve a passing grade. The failing grade will be changed to an “R” and removed from the GPA calculation.

P: Passed (Externship only). A grade of “P” will be given if the student has successfully met the requirements for the externship assessment. “P” implies the student has demonstrated sufficient knowledge and skills to pass.

NP: Not Passed (Externship only): A grade of “NP” will be given when the student has not met the necessary requirements for the externship. “NP” means that the student will need to take additional steps to meet the criteria for a passing grade.

Grade Appeals

Students may appeal their final grades if they believe there has been an error in calculation or an issue of fairness in grading. Students must appeal the grade within two (2) business days of receiving the final grade by contacting the instructor to discuss the grade and seek clarification. If the issue is resolved during this meeting, no further action is required.

If the issue is not resolved, the student may submit a written appeal to the Dean of Academics within five (5) business days of receiving the final grade. The appeal must include a detailed explanation of why the grade is being appealed, along with any supporting documentation (e.g., graded assignments, exam scores, or correspondence with the instructor). The Dean of Academics will review the appeal, consult with the instructor, and may request additional information or clarification from the student. A written decision will be provided to the student within five (5) business days of receiving the appeal.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy is applied consistently to all students. Satisfactory Academic Progress is measured in two ways:

- **Qualitatively:** The Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is reviewed to ensure that the student is meeting a minimum 2.0 (C or 77%) average at the conclusion of each evaluation period.

- **Quantitatively:** The student must attend at least 80% of the scheduled clock hours cumulatively for each evaluation period, enabling completion within the maximum time frame of the program.*

**Depending on the course, students may be required to complete up to 100% of the clock hours in order to successfully complete. Course-specific attendance policies are provided in each syllabus.*

A student must be meeting these standards to be considered meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress and in 'Good Standing.' Any student who has not achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C or 77%) or who has not successfully achieved a cumulative rate of attendance of at least 80% at each required evaluation period is not considered in 'Good Standing' and is subject to the consequences outlined in this policy.

Maximum Time Frame

Students must complete their program within 150% of the normal program length. This length of time is considered the Maximum Time Frame. Students who have attempted over 150% of the total program clock hours and have not met the graduation requirements will be withdrawn from the program.

Evaluation Periods

Formal Satisfactory Academic Progress evaluations occur at the midpoint, end of program, and, if needed, at the Maximum Time Frame based on scheduled hours. Consistent with SAP measurements, the evaluations assess each student's progress against the qualitative and quantitative standards previously identified.

Warning Period

If a student fails to meet the cumulative 80% attendance, and/or the cumulative 2.0 (C or 77%) grade average for any evaluation period, he or she will be placed on 'Warning' for the next evaluation period.

Students will be notified in writing when placed on 'Warning.' The notification will include the steps necessary to be removed from 'Warning' status. In addition, students will receive attendance and/or academic advising from the Dean of Academics. During this time, an academic improvement plan will be created to assist the student in achieving 'Good Standing' by the end of the 'Warning' period. If the student achieves 'Good Standing' by the end of the 'Warning' period, he or she will be removed from 'Warning' status.

If the student fails to achieve 'Good Standing' and meet satisfactory academic progress requirements at the end of the 'Warning' period, the student will be terminated from Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. The institution will notify the student in writing if he or she is being terminated for unsatisfactory academic progress. The student has the option to appeal termination by following the appeal process.

Appeal Process

The student may submit a written appeal of his/her termination within five calendar days of their receipt of the notice of termination. The appeal must be accompanied by documentation of mitigating circumstances that have prevented the student from obtaining 'Good Standing' and evidence that changes have occurred to allow the student to now meet standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress. Only extraordinary circumstances will be considered, such as, but not limited to, death or severe illness

in the immediate family. Supporting documentation such as a physician's statement, accident report, or other such statements must be included as part of the appeal.

The Dean of Academics will assess all appeals and determine whether the student may be permitted to continue in the school on a 'Probationary' status despite not meeting the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements. The student will be sent a written decision within ten days of the receipt of the appeal. The decision of the Dean of Academics is final.

In cases where an appeal is accepted, the student is placed on 'Probation' status through the next evaluation period. During this time, an academic improvement plan will be created to assist the student in achieving 'Good Standing' by the end of the 'Probation' period.

Probation Period/Reinstatement

Students who successfully appeal their termination are reinstated in a 'Probation' status.

The 'Probation' status extends through the next evaluation period, during which time the student must meet the terms and conditions set out in the letter granting the appeal. In addition, students will receive attendance and/or academic advising from the Dean of Academics. An academic improvement plan will be created to assist the student in achieving 'Good Standing' by the end of the 'Probation' period.

At the end of the evaluation period, and then at the end of every evaluation period thereafter, the student's academic status will be reviewed. If the student fails to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements at the end of the 'Probation' period, the student will be terminated from the school.

Transfer and Readmitted Students

Transfer students from outside the institution will be evaluated qualitatively only on the work completed at the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. The maximum time frame is reduced for transfer students based on the remaining length of the program in which they enroll.

Incomplete Courses

A grade of Incomplete is not included in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average. However, the final grade issued three (3) days after the end of the course, whether or not the incomplete coursework was completed, is calculated in the cumulative grade point average. The course hours count as hours attempted for the purpose of calculating progress toward the maximum time frame.

Remedial Courses

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not offer any remedial courses.

Course Repeat Policy

A failed course may be repeated in an attempt to earn a passing grade. Each attempt counts as scheduled hours toward the Maximum Time Frame. Only the highest grade earned will be included in the computation of the cumulative grade point average. The student transcript will list each course in which a student has enrolled and earned a grade. The failing grade will be changed to a grade of R on the transcript indicating that a particular course has been repeated.

Satisfactory Progress for Academic Purposes

Students can view their grades in Edlumina (the Student Information System) at any time. At the end of each term, a progress evaluation for academic purposes is completed. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy pulls the transcript to document the student's academic standing, including course grades, GPA, and attendance rate, at that time. If any student is not meeting the academic progress requirements, the Dean of Academics is notified and works with the student to make improvements. However, a student is not placed on Warning as a consequence of a progress evaluation for academic purposes.

READMISSION AFTER VOLUNTARY OR ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL

Any student who has voluntarily withdrawn may apply for readmission. Students who were administratively withdrawn from their program for academic performance issues, attendance issues, or school policy violations may also reapply for readmission.

Students who successfully apply for readmission within 180 days of their last date of attendance will receive academic credit for all previously completed courses. Students who successfully apply for readmission after more than 180 days from their last date of attendance **may** be eligible for transfer credit from the previous enrollment. Retaking assessments and/or demonstrating lab skills for those courses may be required to ensure the student has retained the foundational knowledge to make proceeding in the program educationally sound.

Any student applying for readmission must meet all admission requirements effective at the time of readmission. Readmission will be subject to demonstration that the conditions that caused the dismissal or withdrawal have been rectified. Depending on the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal, Metropolitan Veterinary Academy may require the student meet with the Campus Director and get written permission to reapply and/or may be required to wait for up to 6 months so that the school can be sure the conditions have been rectified.

In some cases, readmission may be denied. For example, if a student was dismissed for drug or alcohol use on the school premises, harassment, or threats of violence against the school, employees, or other students. Each readmission application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy and receive a diploma, students must achieve the following standards.

- Earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher;
- Pass each course with a score of 77% or higher;
- Complete all externship hours; and
- Successfully demonstrate all required clinical skills.

Additionally, students must have paid, or have approved arrangements to pay, any balance due to the school.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy's Code of Conduct applies to all school activities, communication methods (in-person, texting, messaging, email, digital meetings, etc.), and in any environment where a student is representing MVA:

To create a professional learning environment, Metropolitan Veterinary Academy (MVA) expects students to:

- Treat everyone with respect and dignity.
- Listen to others' views.
- Function as a positive role model.
- Respect each other's right to privacy – for example, do not share photos and people's names on social media without their permission.
- Help create an environment that encourages everyone to feel comfortable and confident.
- Be aware that others may misunderstand your behavior and actions, even if you did not mean it that way. So, act quickly to correct this if it happens.
- Be tolerant, you may be misunderstanding someone's behavior because they have a particular lived experience.
- Report any behavior that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Always be on time.
- Dress professionally.

Additionally, in classes, Metropolitan Veterinary Academy (MVA) expects students to:

- Attend every class session and be ready to start on time.
- Be prepared and ready to learn for each class.
- Respect others and embrace diversity.
- Participate and stay alert in class.
- Be respectful of the instructors and school staff.
- Study and complete assignments on time.
- Follow directions, policies, and procedures during classroom and clinical time.
- Conduct themselves with appropriate behavior.
- Maintain a harassment-free, violence-free, and substance abuse-free classroom environment.
- Refrain from eating or drinking during instruction. This should be done during break time(s).

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Students are held accountable throughout the program for fulfilling program requirements and abiding by Metropolitan Veterinary Academy policies. The student, upon enrollment in their program, recognizes and accepts this responsibility. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy administration has the right to discipline any student whose behavior violates the student code of conduct. Student infractions are subject to the following disciplinary actions:

1. Issuing a verbal warning to the student.
2. Issuing a written warning to the student if the behavior continues. The warning will be placed in the student record and be referenced should any further violations occur.
3. Placing the student on Conduct Probation. The terms of the probation will be discussed and agreed to by the student and Campus Director.
4. Administratively withdrawing the student if the terms of the Conduct Probation are violated.

The following will result in automatic expulsion without any warning:

1. Possession of drugs or alcohol on the school premises.
2. Fighting.
3. Threatening physical harm.
4. Stealing.
5. Destroying property.
6. Harassment of any kind.
7. Violation of the Communications Policy.

Students who are dismissed due to a violation of the Code of Conduct are prohibited from being on Metropolitan Veterinary Academy property.

SAFETY & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy places the safety and security of its students, faculty members and staff as a top priority. If a problem could cause immediate damage to the property or appears to be life threatening, please contact 911 immediately and report the incident to a faculty or staff member. In the event of an emergency, students are expected to fully cooperate with faculty and staff.

In the event of inclement weather, a notice will be sent out to students via email or text message regarding a school closure or late start. If classes are canceled, faculty will schedule a make up day on an upcoming Friday.

Students are asked not to leave personal belongings in an unsecured place. Keep all valuables safely locked in the trunk of your car or out of sight in the locked car. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is not responsible for theft or damage to vehicles or their contents.

In the event of any accident, theft, or injury, a student is required to complete an incident report. Please see a Metropolitan Veterinary Academy staff member to complete an incident report.

STUDENT INJURY OR ILLNESS

If a student becomes ill while on the Metropolitan Veterinary Academy campus and the instructor determines that it is not in the best interest of the student to remain in the classroom, they will be authorized to leave the class session, and, if needed, seek medical treatment. Early departure will be recorded per the attendance policy, and work missed will need to be made up.

In case of injury, the student must follow school protocols. If medical treatment is required, the student may elect to go to the emergency room for treatment, urgent care, or to their own healthcare provider. An incident report must be completed as close to the injury occurring as possible, but after any initial medical treatment necessary is completed.

COMPLAINTS & GRIEVANCES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is dedicated to the fair treatment of and professional conduct with students. Should any student have a complaint, the student is asked to discuss the matter directly with

their instructor if it is an academic issue or a staff member if it is an administrative issue. The instructor or administrator will engage in an informal process to settle the dispute in good faith. That informal process will involve three steps:

1. An effort to define the problem.
2. An effort to identify acceptable options for resolution; and
3. An attempt to resolve the conflict through the application of one or more of those options for resolution.

Most student complaints can be handled through this process. However, if the student believes that the complaint has not been properly handled, the student should use the following procedure to register a formal grievance.

Steps in Grievance Procedure:

- The student should submit a written grievance to the Campus Director including a description of the specific allegations and the desired remedy, accompanied by any available documentation within seven (7) calendar days.
- The Campus Director will investigate all formal (written) grievances, including speaking with the individuals involved, in an attempt to resolve the complaints.
- After investigation, the Campus Director will make a determination and provide written notification of the decision within seven (7) calendar days of receiving the complaint.
- All written grievances and final decision notifications will be added to the student's records.
- Whether or not the problem or complaint has been resolved to his/her satisfaction by the school, the student may direct any problem or complaint to the Executive Director, State Board of Career Colleges and Schools, 30 East Broad Street, Suite 2481, Columbus, Ohio, 43215, Phone 614-466-2752; toll free 877-275-4219.

Notice to Students: ACCET Complaint Procedure

This institution is recognized by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET) as meeting and maintaining certain standards of quality. It is the mutual goal of ACCET and the institution to ensure that quality educational training programs are provided. When issues arise, students should make every attempt to find a fair and reasonable solution through the institution's internal complaint procedure. This is required by ACCET and frequently requires the submission of a written complaint. Refer to the institution's written complaint procedure published in the institution's catalog or otherwise available from the institution, upon request. Note that ACCET will process complaints that involve ACCET standards and policies and, therefore, are within the scope of the accrediting agency.

If a student has used the institution's formal student complaint procedure, and the issue has not been resolved, the student has the right and is encouraged to submit a complaint to ACCET in writing via the online form on the ACCET website (<https://accet.org/about-us/contact-us>). The online form will require the following information:

1. Name and location of the ACCET institution
2. A detailed description of the alleged problem(s)
3. The approximate date(s) that the problem(s) occurred

4. The names and titles/positions of all persons involved in the problem(s), including faculty, staff, and/or other students
5. What was previously done to resolve the complaint, along with evidence demonstrating that the institution's complaint procedure was followed prior to contacting ACCET
6. The name, email address, telephone number, and mailing address of the complainant. If the complainant specifically requests that anonymity be maintained, ACCET will not reveal his or her name to the institution involved
7. The status of the complainant with the institution (e.g., current student, former student)

Please include copies of any relevant supporting documentation (e.g., student's enrollment agreement, syllabus or course outline, correspondence between the student and the institution).

Note: Complainants will receive an acknowledgment of receipt within 15 business days.

Online Complaint Submission Form



Student Services Information

STUDENT SERVICES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy offers a variety of support services to students. These include:

- Academic Advising
- Disability Services/Accommodations
- Reference Books
- Orientation
- Career Services
- Discounted fees on Veterinary Services

Student Services are reviewed during new student orientation so students are aware of the types of support available to them from day one. Students may contact the Student and Career Services Coordinator at any time to get additional information or assistance.

CAREER SERVICES

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is dedicated to assisting students in developing the necessary skills to obtain employment after graduation. To support this effort, Career Services is offered to all students and graduates. The services provided include the fundamentals for a successful job search: cover letter creation, resume development, and interviewing tips. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy also maintains a job board with training-related employment opportunities and is aligned with the program outcomes, education level, and the skill level learned at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy. Students and graduates may reach out to the Student and Career Services Coordinator for assistance.

After students graduate, Metropolitan Veterinary Academy follows up to verify job placement. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is required to report placement outcomes to regulatory agencies in order to continue providing training. Cooperation from graduates in providing employment information when contacted is greatly appreciated as it makes it possible for Metropolitan Veterinary Academy to help students achieve their career goals and support high-quality veterinary teams in the community.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not guarantee employment.

POSSIBLE JOB TITLES

- Veterinary Assistant
- Kennel Assistant
- Animal Care Attendant/Specialist
- Pet Resort Manager
- Boarding Facility Assistant
- Adoption Counselor/Intake Coordinator
- Client Service Representative
- Dog Daycare and Walking Services

Academic Information

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Program Title: Veterinary Assistant

Length: 12 months (including scheduled breaks)

Clock Hours: 600 (370 Theory | 100 Lab | 130 Externship)

Delivery: In-Person

Award: Diploma

Prerequisites: None beyond admission to the institution

Maximum Student to Teach Ratio - Theory: 25 to 1

Maximum Student to Teacher Ratio - Lab & Externship: 8 to 1

Description: Metropolitan Veterinary Academy offers a Veterinary Assistant diploma program. The Veterinary Assistant classrooms are located inside Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital's Cleveland location. Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital is modeled after the human medical concept, providing advanced care and a 24-hour emergency department. The hospital houses eight specialty departments, including neurology, surgery, ophthalmology, internal medicine, and exotics. Veterinary Assistant students have the unique opportunity to apply their knowledge from the classroom directly into the 24-hour hospital facility.

Students will learn to be effective veterinary assistants through the study of office procedures, animal handling and restraint, medical terminology, radiology, and ultrasound imaging. During the externship, students will assist veterinary technicians and veterinarians with emergency cases while they work in a modern veterinary hospital using current industry standard equipment. Upon completion of the program, graduates are prepared for entry-level employment as veterinary assistants.

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Utilize knowledge and interpersonal skills to educate clients and communicate with colleagues.
2. Operate and maintain veterinary equipment and facilities.
3. Provide appropriate restraint for examination and other diagnostic procedures.
4. Maintain inventory and order processing of medications and other hospital supplies.
5. Provide support for pre- and post-operative patients.
6. Properly collect and package laboratory samples.
7. Provide medical treatments to animals under veterinary care with supervision.
8. Prepare the patient and maintain sterility for common surgical procedures.
9. Assist with taking diagnostic radiographs.
10. Manage the grieving process, stress, and use resilient behaviors.
11. Develop a comprehensive care plan that ensures the well-being, enrichment, and proper husbandry of companion animals.

Course Name	Theory Hours	Lab Hours	Externship Hours
VA-100 Veterinary Medicine Principles & Practice	36	0	0
VA-101 Veterinary Front Office	36	0	0
VA-102 Veterinary Medical Terminology	24	0	0
VA-103 Laboratory Animals & Exotics	18	18	0
VA-104 Animal Restraint & Handling	24	26	0
VA-105 Veterinary Pharmacology	36	0	0
VA-106 Common Diseases and Medical Conditions of SA	36	0	0
VA-107 Veterinary Laboratory Procedures	24	16	0
VA-108 Anatomy & Physiology I	36	0	0
VA-109 Anatomy & Physiology II	36	0	0
VA-110 Radiology	32	16	0
VA-111 Surgical Preparation & Assisting	32	24	0
VA-400 Externship	0	0	130
Totals	370.00	100.00	130.00

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

VA-100 - Veterinary Medicine Principles & Practice

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course provides an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of veterinary assistants, including basic nursing skills, veterinary ethics and laws, animal behavior, physical examinations, medical records, and medication administrations. Students will also explore the human-animal bond, covering topics such as grief, compassion fatigue, and euthanasia.

VA-101 - Veterinary Front Office

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course will help students develop the skills needed to perform essential administrative tasks and front office procedures. Students will be introduced to core competencies required to schedule appointments, communicate with clients, and manage medical records. They will also use software to assist with inventory management, billing, and creating go-home instructions. Communication skills will be reinforced through role-playing and practical scenarios.

VA-102 - Veterinary Medical Terminology

Clock Hours: 24 (Theory)

This course covers the basic structure of veterinary medical terminology, focusing on the examination of prefixes, suffixes, root words, and combining forms. It includes pronunciation, spelling, and definitions of

medical terms related to veterinary practice, as well as an introduction to common medical abbreviations.

VA-103 - Laboratory Animals & Exotics

Clock Hours: 36 (18 Theory, 18 Lab)

This course provides the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver basic care to laboratory animals, birds, and reptiles. Topics include breed recognition, restraint, basic husbandry, reproduction, diseases, and veterinary procedures specific to these animals. Students will also learn about animal research and general veterinary medicine.

VA-104 - Animal Restraint & Handling

Clock Hours: 50 (24 Theory, 26 Lab)

This course will provide an understanding of proper restraint and handling techniques for patients in veterinary practice. It will cover a wide range of physical and chemical restraint options available to the veterinary community, as well as how to appropriately choose between the two. Additionally, the course will explore animal behavior and how environmental stressors can impact the relationships with patients. Finally, students will learn to apply proper restraint techniques for critically ill and injured patients.

VA-105 - Veterinary Pharmacology

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to follow prescribed orders for preparing, dispensing, and administering drugs, providing appropriate client education, and monitoring therapeutic responses in a veterinary setting. Instructions will also include discussions on drug classification, toxicology, and alternative therapeutic methods.

VA-106 - Common Disease and Medical Conditions of Small Animals

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge of common small animal diseases, including an overview of their etiology, symptoms, transmission, basic treatment, and control through preventative care. Instruction will also cover kennel sanitation, nutrition, immunology, vaccinations, and nursing skills. Additionally, students will study critical patient care, first aid, administration and maintenance of fluid therapy, dental prophylaxis, and procedures related to small animal reproduction.

VA-107 - Veterinary Laboratory Procedures

Clock Hours: 40 (24 Theory, 16 Lab)

This course provides an introduction to laboratory concepts and procedures commonly performed in the veterinary clinical setting. Students will perform urinary and hematologic laboratory procedures on a variety of species. Instruction will cover laboratory safety, quality control, specimen collection and handling, as well as basic clinical chemistry, serology, cytology, and hematology.

VA-108 - Anatomy & Physiology I

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course provides students with a fundamental comparative overview of the anatomy and physiology of various species. Instruction will cover the basics of anatomy and physiology, the chemical basis for life,

nutrients, cell biology, tissues, integument and related structures, the skeletal system, the muscular system, the digestive system, blood, lymph, and immunity. Students will demonstrate their understanding of course concepts through applied lab activities, which may include the dissection and study of animal cadavers and tissue specimens.

VA-109 - Anatomy & Physiology II

Clock Hours: 36 (Theory)

This course is a continuation of VA-108 (Anatomy and Physiology I) and provides students with a comparative overview of the anatomy and physiology of a variety of species. Instruction will focus on the cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, and endocrine system; sensory organs, urinary and reproductive system; pregnancy, development, and lactation; and the anatomy and physiology of avian, amphibian, and reptilian species. Students will demonstrate their understanding of course concepts through applied lab activities, which may include the dissection and study of animal cadavers and tissue specimens.

VA-110 – Radiology

Clock Hours: 48 (32 Theory, 16 Lab)

This course provides the instruction necessary to produce quality radiographs for diagnostic purposes in a veterinary setting, including the use of proper safety measures. Topics will include radiographic theory, x-ray equipment, patient positioning, film exposure and processing, radiographic evaluation and troubleshooting, safety regulations, and an introduction to ultrasonography.

VA-111 - Surgical Preparation & Assisting

Clock Hours: 56 (32 Theory, 24 Lab)

This course provides the knowledge and skills necessary to assist in surgical procedures and aseptic techniques in a clinical setting. Instruction covers basic drug administration, recognition of anesthetic emergencies, surgical preparation and assistance for routine surgeries using aseptic techniques, pre- and postoperative care, and maintenance of the operating room and surgical supplies.

VA-400 – Externship

Clock Hours: 130 (Externship)

The Externship course provides students with valuable real-world experience in a veterinary setting (hospital, clinic, etc.) allowing them to apply classroom knowledge and refine hands-on practical skills over a period of 130 hours. Students will demonstrate proficiency in program-specific competencies while gaining hands-on experience aligned with employer expectations for a veterinary assistant. This training bridges the gap between theory and practice, preparing students for a successful career.

ESSENTIAL STANDARDS

Physical Essential Standards

Physical essential standards listed below, including, but not limited to:	Context and reasoning behind Physical essential standards
General Physical Ability and Mobility	Requires motor skills, manual dexterity, and eye-hand coordination for safe patient restraint and care, including walking, stooping, twisting, squatting, bending, climbing stairs, and ability to lift to 50 pounds per OSHA standards.
Fine Motor Skills	Must perform venipunctures, capillary punctures, CPR, and safe patient restraint with coordinated dexterity to prevent patient injury.

Sensory & Observational Essential Standards

Sensory/observational essential standards including, but not limited to:	Context and reasoning behind sensory/observational essential standards
Visual Ability	Must be able to work at a computer or microscope for extended periods and distinguish colors and contrast. Peripheral vision and depth perception are required for safety of personnel and for safe animal restraint.
Auditory	Must be able to discern auscultatory sounds and audible signals to coordinate safe animal handling and work in high-noise environments, such as around barking dogs.
Touch	Must be able to discern tissues and organs by palpation.
Smell	Must be able to discern odors associated with patient discharges and bacterial cultures.

Cognitive Essential Standards

Cognitive essential skills including, but not limited to:	Context and reasoning behind cognitive essential skills
Critical Thinking	Students must have the critical thinking skills necessary to assess, analyze, interpret, solve problems, recognize cause-effect relationships, calculate dosages, and accurately assess patient conditions.
Acquisition and Application of Knowledge/Skills	Ability to actively gather, review, and apply relevant information and skills to complete the AVMA-CVTEA essential skills checklists.
Document/Record Information	Students must accurately enter, transcribe, record and store patient information in a written or electronic format.

Communication Essential Standards

Communication Essential Standards including, but not limited to:	Context and reasoning behind communication essential standards
Speaking	Communicate professionally and effectively with supervisors, co-workers, and patient owners in clear, concise written and/or spoken English.
Writing	Students must read and write fluent English with correct grammar, style, vocabulary, spelling, and with proper veterinary medical terminology.
Interpersonal Skills	Must interact positively and provide unbiased care to patients and owners from diverse backgrounds. Students must actively listen, understand instructions, ask questions appropriately, avoid interrupting, assume responsibility for actions, and maintain professionalism during conflict situations and/or emergencies.

FACULTY

Name	Position	Qualifications	Program Taught
Matthew J. Ehresman	Academy Veterinarian	DVM	Veterinary Assistant
Katie Curby	Instructor	RVT	Veterinary Assistant
Shannon Rozar	Instructor	RVT	Veterinary Assistant
Alyssa Pope	Instructor	RVT	Veterinary Assistant

Please note: The Dean of Academics (RVT) may act as a substitute instructor as needed.

Financial Information

TUITION AND FEES AND OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Veterinary Assistant

Registration Fee (non-refundable):	\$25.00
Tuition:	\$950.00
Graduation Fee:	\$75.00
Total Program Cost:	\$1050.00

Payment Obligation Period 1: Tuition & Fees \$500.00 (Includes Registration Fee)

Payment Obligation Period 2: Tuition \$550.00 (Includes Graduation Fee)

Additional Estimated Program Costs

Uniforms: \$60.00 (per pair)

- Students are responsible for purchasing gray scrubs to wear for all class, lab, and externship sessions.

Textbooks/Materials: \$600.00-\$700.00.

- Students can purchase the required textbooks and materials through their preferred vendor. A list of required textbooks and materials is provided to enrolled students who are expected to have the materials available for the first day of class.

The total projected tuition and fees due to Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is \$1050.00. The total projected cost of the program, including fees payable to third parties, is \$1770.00

Scholarships & Grants

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy does not offer grants or scholarships. State and federal financial aid is not available.

Payment Information

All Metropolitan Veterinary Academy payments are made through TFC Tuition. Accepted applicants and students must have a TFC payment plan in place to cover the tuition and fees due to the school (\$1050.00) on or before the first day of class. The monthly payments are broken down over the length of the program. Students wishing to make one payment, or larger payments, rather than the scheduled monthly amount may not pay more than the amount due for Payment Obligation 1 before the start of Payment Obligation Period 2.

Students make payments through TFC using one of their accepted payment options. Students can view their TFC account details and balance online at any time or get details by calling TFC customer service.

Late Fees

Student accounts are subject to late fees charged per TFC Tuition policy. Students who are late on a payment are encouraged to contact TFC Tuition customer service to discuss options and determine if a payment arrangement can be made.

TFC Tuition notifies Metropolitan Veterinary Academy when a student's payment is past due. Metropolitan Veterinary Academy checks to see that the past due payment and any late fees have been paid to TFC Tuition or an alternative arrangement accepted within 14 days. If not, the student will not be permitted to attend class and will start accruing absences. After 14 days of consecutive absences, the student will be administratively withdrawn for failure to meet the attendance policy. This is considered to be a Financial Withdrawal.

If the student makes the past due payment along with any late fees, or makes other approved arrangements with TFC Tuition before 14 days of consecutive absences occur, he or she will be readmitted to class. The student is responsible for completing any missed work per the make-up policy.

Collections

Student accounts are subject to the collections policy of TFC Tuition, including any fees and reporting to credit bureaus. Any questions about the policy should be directed to TFC Tuition customer service.

Students whose accounts have been sent to collections are not eligible to apply for re-enrollment at Metropolitan Veterinary Academy until the prior debt has been paid in full. Additionally, if accepted for re-entry, all tuition and fees must be paid in full to TFC Tuition prior to the first scheduled class day.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

Student's Right To Cancel

Rejection: If the student is not accepted into the training program, all monies paid by the student shall be refunded.

Program Cancellation: If the program is cancelled by the school after the student's enrollment, all monies paid by the student shall be refunded.

No-Show: An applicant who does not show up for the first day of class is entitled to a refund of all monies paid, less the non-refundable registration fee.

Five-Day Cancellation: An enrollment agreement or school application may be canceled within five calendar days after the date of signing, provided the school is notified of the cancellation in writing. The school shall promptly refund in full all tuition and fees paid pursuant to the enrollment agreement or school application. Such refund shall be made no later than thirty days after cancellation. This provision shall not apply where a student has already started classes.

Cancellation Prior to the Start of Class and Other Cancellations: An applicant requesting cancellation more than five (5) days after executing the enrollment agreement and making an initial payment, but prior to the first day of class, is entitled to a refund of all monies paid, less the non-refundable registration fee.

Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools Refund Policy

Refunds for books, supplies, and consumable fees shall be made in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code section 3332-1-10.1. Refunds for tuition and refundable fees shall be made in accordance with the following provisions as established by Ohio Administrative Code section 3332-1-10:

- (1) A student who withdraws before the first class and after the 5-day cancellation period shall be obligated for the registration fee.
- (2) A student who starts class and withdraws before the academic term* is 15% completed will be obligated for 25% of the tuition and refundable fees plus the registration fee.
- (3) A student who starts class and withdraws after the academic term* is 15% but before the academic term is 25% completed will be obligated for 50% of the tuition and refundable fees plus the registration fee.
- (4) A student who starts class and withdraws after the academic term* is 25% complete but before the academic term is 40% completed will be obligated for 75% of the tuition and refundable fees plus the registration fee.
- (5) A student who starts class and withdraws after the academic term* is 40% completed will not be entitled to a refund of the tuition and fees.

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy shall make the appropriate refund within thirty days of the date the school is able to determine that a student has withdrawn or has been terminated from a program. Refunds shall be based upon the last date of a student's attendance or participation in an academic school activity.

** The Academic Term referenced in the refund policy is either the first or second Payment Obligation Period identified on the Enrollment Agreement, not the course terms listed on the academic calendar in the Student Catalog.*

ACCET Refund Policy

Metropolitan Veterinary Academy is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET). For any institutional withdrawal or voluntary withdrawal both the institution's (Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools) policy and ACCET policy are applied and the amount that is more favorable to the individual student is refunded.

- A. The institution may retain an administrative fee associated with withdrawal or termination not to exceed \$100.
- B. During the first week of classes, tuition charges withheld will not exceed 10 percent (10%) of the stated tuition up to a maximum of \$1,000. When determining the number of weeks completed by the student, the institution will consider a partial week the same as if a whole week were completed, provided the student was present at least one day during the scheduled week.

- C. After the first week and through fifty percent (50%) of the period of financial obligation, tuition charges retained will not exceed a pro rata portion of tuition for the training period completed, plus ten percent (10%) of the unearned tuition for the period of training that was not completed.
- D. After fifty percent (50%) of the period of financial obligation is completed, the institution may retain the full tuition.

Cancellations and withdrawals are preferred in writing through one of the following means:

- Attention: Campus Director
- Mail: 734 Alpha Drive, Highland Heights, Ohio 44143
- Email: J.Fessler@metrovetacademy.com