

How long is the Veterinary Assistant Course (VAC)?

The course is ten weeks, with an additional week added for students to complete their shadowing. For details, please see our class schedule: https://www.aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg-uploads/asna_vac_class_schedule.pdf

When are classes?

Classes are held Monday – Thursday, generally beginning at 5:30 pm and ending by 8:00 pm. Labs are on Fridays, beginning at 8:00 am and ending by 3:30 pm. For details, please see our class schedule: https://www.aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg-uploads/asna_vac_class_schedule.pdf

Where will classes be held?

The classes will be held in several locations: ASPCA Spay/Neuter Alliance, Asheville Humane Society, or A-B Tech (at the Buncombe County Animal Shelter). For more details, please see our class locations: https://www.aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg-uploads/asna_vac_class_locations.pdf

How much does it cost?

The course costs \$500, and fees are due by the first day of classes.

Am I required to purchase anything for the course?

Yes, students are required to obtain selected textbooks, solid-color scrub uniforms, and tennis shoes. Please see our supply list for more details: https://www.aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg-uploads/asna_vac_supply_list.pdf

After the VAC is complete, do you get a certificate or degree?

After completion of the ten-week course, and eight hours of shadowing at an approved veterinary facility, you will get a certificate from us confirming that you have successfully completed the program.

What is the difference between a veterinary technician and a veterinary assistant?

To become a Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), you must acquire a two-year degree (at minimum) and sit for a national examination after your schooling is completed. Much like a human nurse, you are licensed by your state's veterinary board, and must pay associated annual fees. *Veterinary Assistants* are often trained on the job. Some have completed some type of Veterinary Assistant program and gained a certification much like the one we offer.

Do you help VAC alumni with job placement?

We have a job connector section on our website, where we encourage clinics and veterinary facilities in the WNC area to post if they are hiring, and applicants to post if they are looking for positions: <https://www.aspcapro.org/spayneuter/spay-neuter-job-board>

Often, when you complete your shadowing hours, you make contacts that can help you find a job. The *Veterinary Assistant Course* also has an optional class that assists students with resume-building and interview skills.

Who can I contact if I have further questions that are not answered here?

You can contact vac@aspcapro.org with any other questions you may have.