



Veterinary Technician

Katelyn Stevens

PROFILE

Employer:
Charlottetown Veterinary Clinic

Location:
Charlottetown, PEI

Education/Training:
*Grade 12
Vet Tech Diploma NSAC*

Years Working in Agriculture:
2.5 years as vet tech, grew up on a beef farm

Nature of Work:
Full Time

Salary Range:
\$26,000 - \$35,000

Job History:
*Grew up on a beef farm
Waitress, Campground, Tim Hortons*

What I like best about the career:
"Being with the animals, the vet tells me what to do and I do it."

WHAT IS A VETRTINARY TECHNICIAN?

We have a saying at the office, the vet tech is an anesthesiologist, radiologist, mortician, helping hand, janitor, and more. We collect blood and samples, give reports to vets and maintain the facility and help where needed.

WHAT DOES A VET TECH DO?

A Veterinary Technician completes the following duties:

- Gives Meds
- Feeds the animals
- Cleans the facility and restrain animals

WHAT SKILLS ARE REQUIRED?

The following skills are required to be a Veterinary Technician:

- Diploma
- Some on the job training
- A strong stomach

HOW DID YOU BECOME AN VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

When I was growing up on the farm there was an emergency with one of the animals. When I saw what the vet did to help our cow I decided I wanted to be in the field and help veterinarians, but knew I didn't want to be a vet.

WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The pay is sort of low and there is a lack of knowledge about what a Vet Tech is. It is a new career and people need to recognize the credentials for the job, it is a lot like being a nurse for a veterinarian.

SUMMER OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

During the summer months there are various options for students including:

- Volunteering part time at clinics
- Look into working at farm, milkers are always wanted.
- Volunteer at the humane society

THE FUTURE (JOB OUTLOOK)

Vet Techs are hoping to form a union to regulate pay and become liscenced. If you are looking for work you may have to go elsewhere to look for opportunities where clinics are going up. There is minimal demand for large animal vet techs.

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