

VETERINARY MEDICINE

CAREER CLUSTER: AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES

STATEWIDE PROGRAM OF STUDY: ANIMAL SCIENCE

Course	Credits	Class Periods	Grade	Location
Principles of Agriculture*†	1.0	1	9-10	Home Campus
Equine Science*† <u>AND</u> Small Animal Management*†	.5 .5	1	10-12	Home Campus
Veterinary Medical Applications <i>Prerequisites: Principles of Agriculture*† and Equine Science*† and Small Animal Management*†</i> <i>*Students in the Class of 2026 need only ONE of the following: Equine Science or Small Animal Management or Livestock Production.</i> <i>†Students in the Class of 2027 and beyond who have only taken one or two of the three prerequisites may be considered on a deferred basis. Students who have all prerequisites will be considered first.</i>	2.0	2	11-12	MCTC
Veterinary Assisting <i>Prerequisite: Veterinary Medical Applications</i>	2.0	2	12	MCTC



CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Elanco Fundamentals of Veterinary Medicine
- Certified Veterinary Assistant (CVA) offered by the Texas Veterinary Medical Association

8147V VETERINARY MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Grades: 11-12 2 Credits

Prerequisite: Principles of Agriculture† and Equine Science*† and Small Animal Management*†*

**Students in the Class of 2026 need only ONE of the following: Equine Science or Small Animal Management or Livestock Production*

†Students in the Class of 2027 and beyond who have only taken one or two of the three prerequisites may be considered on a deferred basis. Students who have all prerequisites will be considered first.

This course provides an introduction to animal care, including handling, health, safety, sanitation, surgical preparation, anatomy and physiology, and medical terminology. Students learn basic skills necessary to begin work in a veterinary clinic. They will interact with live animals, with the intent to analyze behavior and apply proper restraint and handling techniques.

8148V VETERINARY ASSISTING

Grade: 12 2 Credits

Prerequisite: Veterinary Medical Applications

Students must have a valid driver's license and obtain a Miller parking permit by the third day of school to remain eligible.

This course provides advanced application of previously learned knowledge and skills from Veterinary Medical Applications. Students participate in an internship at a veterinary clinic, animal shelter, or other animal facility where they will gain further industry experience. Students may acquire hours needed to obtain CVA certification. The additional 300 hours must be supervised by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT) and completed within one calendar year of taking the CVA exam.

PROGRAM EXPERIENCES

Students interested in the animal science field have the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience caring for a variety of animal breeds. They will learn proper medical terminology and safety and sanitation standards.

During lab time, students practice various handling and restraint techniques on real animals, as well as how to take vitals, and grooming procedures. Lab activities also include dissecting and labeling organs and how to take and analyze fecal, urine and blood samples. During their 2nd year, students have the opportunity to participate in a nonpaid internship at either a vet clinic or animal shelter.

On Fridays, the Dog Wash at Miller is open to the public to bring in their dogs to be groomed by both 1st and 2nd year students for a small fee. This gives all of our students another chance at hands-on experience.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Animal Trainer
- Breed Analyst
- Companion Animal Therapy Specialist
- Veterinarian
- Veterinary Assistant
- Veterinary Technician
- Zoologist

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

- Motivated to learn scientific view of animals from both the laboratory and veterinary assistant perspective
- Willing to work with all types of animals
- Willingness to handle live animals, blood, feces, and urine
- A desire to learn technical information for assisting veterinarians
- Demonstrate professionalism while at internship site

