

# Veterinary Assistant 2

| Exam Information                                                                                                                                                                  | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Exam number</b><br><b>125</b><br><br><b>Items</b><br><b>48</b><br><br><b>National Career Cluster</b><br><b>Agriculture</b><br><br><b>Certification available</b><br><b>Yes</b> | <p>The Veterinary Assistant 2 industry certification exam assesses learners who have previously taken Veterinary Assistant 1 and wish to further their education and training in the veterinary field. The exam evaluates learners' expanded knowledge and reinforced skills in highly scientific areas such as pharmacology, anesthesiology, radiology and imaging, fluid therapy, and critical care nursing.</p> |

## Exam Blueprint and Performance Skills

| Standard                       | Percentage of exam score |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Leadership Development*     | 2%                       |
| 2. Work-Based Learning*        | 4%                       |
| 3. Animal Care*                | 4%                       |
| 4. Pharmacology*               | 21%                      |
| 5. Surgical Procedures         | 15%                      |
| 6. Anesthesiology*             | 8%                       |
| 7. Radiology and Imaging       | 10%                      |
| 8. Fluid Therapy*              | 17%                      |
| 9. Critical Care Nursing*      | 13%                      |
| 10. Veterinary Laws and Ethics | 6%                       |

\*Includes performance skill evaluation

## **Standard 1 - Leadership Development (2% of exam score)**

Candidates will participate in personal and leadership development activities through the FFA.

**Objective 1** Candidates will use communication skills to effectively communicate with others.

1. Understand when it is appropriate to listen and to speak.
2. Understand and follow verbal and written instructions for classroom and laboratory activities.
3. Will practice communication skills through public speaking using one or more of the following activities: memorized speech, prepared speech, extemporaneous speech, parliamentary practice, group presentation, or serving in a leadership capacity.

**Objective 2** Candidates will effectively use teamwork to respectfully work with others.

1. Identify and understand different roles in working with a team.
2. Lead a group discussion or serve in a leadership capacity.

**Objective 3** Candidates will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

1. Analyze the cause of the problem.
2. Develop a solution to address the problem.
3. Implement the plan.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of the plan.

**Objective 4** Candidates will be dependable, reliable, steady, trustworthy and consistent in performance and behavior.

1. Set and meet goals on attendance and punctuality.
2. Prioritize, plan and manage work to complete assignments and projects on time.

**Objective 5** Candidates will be accountable for results.

1. Use an achievement chart for activities and behaviors in class that encourages a personal evaluation of classroom performance.
2. Use reflection to describe what was learned, what went well, what could have been improved, and what are the implications to the learning process.
3. Track and communicate progress toward completion of assignments and projects.

**Objective 6** Be familiar with the legal requirements and expectations of the course

1. Be familiar with the course disclosure statement and all requirements for successful completion of the course.
2. Demonstrate workplace ethics, e.g. fair, honest, disciplined.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 2 - Work-Based Learning (4%)**

Candidates will participate in work-based learning activities through the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate employability skills.

1. Use a career search network to find career choices.
2. Identify the appropriate CTE Pathway for selected career choice.
3. Prepare for entry into the workforce by completing one of the following: list of required skills needed for a career choice, a resume including a list of demonstrated skills, a cover letter or letter of application, a job application, or participating in an actual or simulated job interview.

**Objective 2** Candidates will participate in a work-based learning experience outside the classroom.

1. Candidates will plan and implement a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program:
  - a. Foundational SAE: Career exploration and planning, employability skills for college and career readiness, personal financial management and planning, workplace safety, and agricultural literacy.
  - b. Immersion SAE: Ownership/entrepreneurship, placement/internship, research, school-based enterprise, and/or service-learning experiences.

**Objective 3** Candidates will develop a job portfolio specific to their selected SAE/WBL experience.

1. Candidates will keep a personal record/journal/log of their SAE/WBL experience; including pictures, financial records, or log of their hours, skills learned, goals, reflection, etc.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 3 - Animal Care (4%)**

Candidates will demonstrate the ability to provide safe and appropriate care of animals, including small, large, exotic, and laboratory animals.

**Objective 1** Candidates will further develop and refine animal-care skills that were taught during the Veterinary Assisting I course.

**Objective 2** Candidates will further develop assessment skills and be able to demonstrate the ability to evaluate patient needs and develop a safe, effective plan of care.

**Objective 3** Advanced candidates will demonstrate their technical and clinical skills, as well as their communication and leadership abilities, as they assist in teaching veterinary assisting skills to first-year candidates.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 4 - Pharmacology (21%)**

Candidates will exhibit an understanding of pharmacological principles as they demonstrate the ability to calculate dosages, safely administer medications, and monitor patient outcomes.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of and ability to follow safe practices related to medication administration and the ability to recognize adverse effects.

**Objective 2** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to interpret medication orders and follow them as ordered.

**Objective 3** Candidates will become familiar with the generic and brand names of various drugs.

**Objective 4** Candidates will know the drug categories and what drugs are commonly found in those categories.

**Objective 5** Candidates will be able to accurately calculate dosages and know how to administer medications by parenteral, enteral, topical, and other routes.

**Objective 6** Candidates will apply their knowledge of anatomy and physiology principles as they evaluate how medications will affect various body systems.

**Objective 7** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to properly educate clients about medications.

**Objective 8** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of the regulations governing the use of 2 controlled substances.

**Objective 9** Candidates will demonstrate compliance with all regulatory guidelines related to drug purchase, storage, administration, disposal, and inventory control.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 5 - Surgical Procedures (15%)**

Candidates will assist with surgical procedures, further developing the skills gained during the Veterinary Assisting I course.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of surgical and aseptic principles.

**Objective 2** Candidates will be skilled in passing and utilizing surgical instruments.

**Objective 3** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to assist with surgical procedures, from the pre-operative through the post-operative stage.

## **Standard 6 - Anesthesiology (8%)**

Candidates will demonstrate the ability to manage patients safely and effectively from pre-anesthesia to anesthesia recovery.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to follow safe practices related to anesthesia administration.

**Objective 2** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of the use and maintenance of anesthesia machines.

**Objective 3** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to calculate dosages of appropriate anesthetic-related drugs.

**Objective 4** Candidates will be able to utilize their knowledge of anatomy and physiology to evaluate the possible effects of anesthesia on the patient.

**Objective 5** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to administer anesthetic-related drugs by injection and inhalation techniques.

**Objective 6** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to monitor patients under anesthesia.

**Objective 7** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to provide post-operative patient care.

**Objective 8** Candidates will demonstrate effective troubleshooting skills, for both machine and patient problems that may arise.

**Objective 9** Candidates will be able to compare anesthesia requirements and concerns in various species of animals.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 7 - Radiology and Imaging (10%)**

Candidates will be able to produce radiographs and alternative images safely and effectively.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of and ability to follow safe practices related to radiology and imaging procedures.

**Objective 2** Candidates will implement radiographic quality control measures.

**Objective 3** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to correctly position animals for imaging procedures.

**Objective 4** Candidates will exhibit an understanding of animal anatomy as they implement radiographic and imaging procedures.

**Objective 5** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to accurately utilize ultrasonography, digital, and endoscopic equipment.

**Objective 6** Candidates will accurately demonstrate developing techniques for both manual and processors.

**Objective 7** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to utilize tabletop and portable radiography machines.

**Objective 8** Candidates will demonstrate the ability to troubleshoot as problems arise.

## **Standard 8 - Fluid Therapy (17%)**

Candidates will demonstrate the ability to provide fluid therapy safely and effectively.

**Objective 1** Candidates will demonstrate the correct placement of peripheral and central line IV catheters.

**Objective 2** Candidates will properly maintain and care for IV catheters.

**Objective 3** Candidates will be able to correctly calculate fluid needs and drip rates based on dehydration status.

**Objective 4** Candidates will be able to describe the use of the various fluids used for fluid therapy and delivery systems.

**Objective 5** Candidates will correctly demonstrate how to administer fluids.

**Objective 6** Candidates will identify the clinical symptoms of fluid overload and know the proper treatment for this condition.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 9 - Critical Care Nursing (13%)**

Candidates will demonstrate an ability to evaluate the patient's condition and provide critical care nursing, as needed.

**Objective 1** Candidates will apply acquired knowledge of anatomy and physiology as they evaluate patient conditions.

**Objective 2** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of medical terminology relating to medical records.

**Objective 3** Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of emergency protocols and implement them, as needed.

**Objective 4** Candidates will demonstrate proficiency at performing triage, CPR, and first aid.

**Objective 5** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of concepts and the ability to perform skills related to the following types of emergencies:

1. Respiratory Emergencies
2. Gastrointestinal Emergencies
3. Musculoskeletal Emergencies
4. Metabolic and Endocrine Emergencies
5. Neurological Emergencies
6. Toxicological Emergencies
7. Cardiology Emergencies (ECGs)

**Objective 6** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of appropriate nutritional needs for the critical patient.

**Objective 7** Candidates will maintain emergency supplies.

**Objective 8** Candidates will understand the physical therapy techniques used in neurological and musculoskeletal disorders.

**Objective 9** Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of appropriate critical care nursing by analyzing case studies and identifying the appropriate treatment.

**Optional: Standard performance evaluations on the final page of this document**

## **Standard 10 - Veterinary Laws and Ethics (6%)**

Candidates will express an understanding of veterinary laws and ethics.

**Objective 1** Candidates will understand the laws that govern veterinary medicine.

**Objective 2** Candidates will recognize the legality of the veterinary-client-patient relationship.

**Objective 3** Candidates will be able to identify the various associations available in the veterinary field.

# Performance Skills Evaluation

Exam name: **Veterinary Assistant 2**

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Performance assessments may be completed and evaluated any time before the certification is issued. The following performance skills can be used in connection with the associated standards and exam. The evaluator will function as the subject matter expert to determine if the candidate meets the skills requirements with a Yes/No for passing.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Standard 1 - Leadership Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will attend an FFA meeting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 2 - Work-Based Learning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                          | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 3 - Animal Care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will demonstrate the ability to evaluate a patient.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 4 - Pharmacology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will be able to accurately calculate dosages.</li> <li>The candidate will be able to correctly interpret medication orders and correctly administer medication.</li> </ul>                                         | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 6 - Anesthesiology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will demonstrate safe practices related to anesthesia administration.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                 | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 8 - Fluid Therapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will be able to correctly calculate fluid needs and drip rates based on dehydration status.</li> <li>The candidate will correctly demonstrate how to administer fluids.</li> </ul>                                | <b>Pass:</b> |
| <b>Standard 9 - Critical Care Nursing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate will demonstrate the ability to appropriately respond to respiratory and cardiology emergencies.</li> <li>The candidate will demonstrate proficiency at performing triage, CPR, and first aid.</li> </ul> | <b>Pass:</b> |

Evaluator Name:

Date:

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