** Veterinary Assisting Occupations**

**Labor Market Information Report**

**Foothill College**

Prepared by the San Francisco Bay Center of Excellence

for Labor Market Research

November 2019

# Recommendation

Based on all available data, there appears to be an undersupply of Veterinary Assisting workers compared to the demand for this cluster of occupations in the Bay region and in the Silicon Valley sub-region (Santa Clara County.) There is a projected annual gap of about 497 students in the Bay region and 119 students in the Silicon Valley Sub-Region.

This report also provides student outcomes data on employment and earnings for programs on TOP 0102.10 - Veterinary Technician in the state and region. It is recommended that these data be reviewed to better understand how outcomes for students taking courses on this TOP code compare to potentially similar programs at colleges in the state and region, as well as to outcomes across all CTE programs at Foothill College and in the region.

# Introduction

This report profiles Veterinary Assisting Occupations in the 12 county Bay region and in the Silicon Valley sub-region for a proposed new program at Foothill College.

|  |
| --- |
| * **Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers (SOC** **31-9096):** Feed, water, and examine pets and other nonfarm animals for signs of illness, disease, or injury in laboratories and animal hospitals and clinics. Clean and disinfect cages and work areas, and sterilize laboratory and surgical equipment. May provide routine post-operative care, administer medication orally or topically, or prepare samples for laboratory examination under the supervision of veterinary or laboratory animal technologists or technicians, veterinarians, or scientists. Excludes "Nonfarm Animal Caretakers" (39-2021). |
| Entry-Level Educational Requirement: High school *diploma or equivalent* |
| Training Requirement: Short-term *on-the-job training* |
| Percentage of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 42% |

# Occupational Demand

**Table 1. Employment Outlook for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Bay Region**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Occupation | 2018 Jobs | 2023 Jobs | 5-Yr Change | 5-Yr % Change | 5-Yr Open-ings | Average Annual Open-ings | 10% Hourly Wage | Median Hourly Wage |
| Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers | 3,011 | 3,365 | 355 | 12% | 2,758 | 552 | $11.97 | $16.55 |

*Source: EMSI 2019.2*

**Bay Region** includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano and Sonoma Counties

**Table 2. Employment Outlook for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Silicon Valley Sub-Region**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Occupation | 2018 Jobs | 2023 Jobs | 5-Yr Change | 5-Yr % Change | 5-Yr Open-ings | Average Annual Open-ings | 10% Hourly Wage | Median Hourly Wage |
| Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers | 861 | 942 | 81 | 9% | 761 | 152 | $13.23 | $19.51 |

*Source: EMSI 2019.2*

**Silicon Valley Sub-Region** includes Santa Clara County

### Job Postings in Bay Region and Silicon Valley Sub-Region

**Table 3. Number of Job Postings by Occupation for latest 12 months (November 2018 - October 2019)**

| Occupation | Bay Region | Silicon Valley |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers | 597 | 180 |

*Source: Burning Glass*

**Table 4a. Top Job Titles for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations for latest 12 months (November 2018 - October 2019) Bay Region**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Common Title | Bay | Common Title | Bay |
| Veterinary Assistant | 564 | Veterinary Criticalist | 1 |
| Veterinary Technician | 19 | Veterinarian | 1 |
| Administrative Assistant | 5 | Spa Reception In , | Careers At Ranch Wellness Retreat | 1 |
| Animal Caretaker | 4 | Client Care Team Member, Veterinary, Healthcare Industry | 1 |
| Veterinary-Relief | 1 |  |  |

**Table 4b. Top Job Titles for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations for latest 12 months (November 2018 - October 2019) Silicon Valley Sub-Region**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Common Title | Silicon Valley | Common Title | Silicon Valley |
| Veterinary Assistant | 169 | Veterinary-Relief | 1 |
| Veterinary Technician | 5 | Veterinary Criticalist | 1 |
| Animal Caretaker | 3 | Veterinarian | 1 |

*Source: Burning Glass*

# Industry Concentration

**Table 5. Industries hiring Veterinary Assisting** **Workers in Bay Region**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Industry – 6 Digit NAICS (No. American Industry Classification) Codes | Jobs in Industry (2018) | Jobs in Industry (2022) | % Change (2018-22) | % in Industry (2018) |
| Veterinary Services (541940) | 2,260 | 2,281 | 11% | 76% |
| Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools (611310) | 185 | 190 | 11% | 6% |
| Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology) (541715) | 165 | 169 | 8% | 6% |
| Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools (State Government) (902612) | 108 | 112 | 13% | 4% |
| Research and Development in Biotechnology (except Nanobiotechnology) (541714) | 83 | 86 | 34% | 3% |
| Environment, Conservation and Wildlife Organizations (813312) | 29 | 29 | 10% | 1% |

*Source: EMSI 2019.2*

**Table 6. Top Employers Posting Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Bay Region and Silicon Valley Sub-Region (November 2018 - October 2019)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Employer | Bay | Employer | Bay | Employer | Silicon Valley |
| Banfield Pet Hospital | 89 | Contra Costa County Animal Services | 4 | Banfield Pet Hospital | 23 |
| Vca Animal Hospitals | 47 | Alpine Veterinary Hospital | 4 | Adobe Animal Hospital | 19 |
| Vca Incorporated | 46 | Walnut Creek Veterinary Hospital | 3 | Vca Incorporated | 18 |
| Vca | 38 | Tama Veterinary Hospital | 3 | Vca Animal Hospitals | 17 |
| Sage Veterinary Centers | 24 | San Geronimo Valley Veterinary Clinic | 3 | Vca | 17 |
| Adobe Animal Hospital | 20 | Richmond Veterinary Hospital | 3 | Sage Veterinary Centers | 6 |
| Vca Antech Incorporated | 19 | Pets In Need | 3 | Reed Animal Hospital | 6 |
| Petco | 11 | Peninsula Humane Society & Spca | 3 | United Veterinary Specialty & Emergency | 4 |
| Reed Animal Hospital | 10 | Oasis Veterinary Hospital | 3 | Humane Society Silicon Valley | 4 |
| Petvet Care Centers | 9 | Medvet | 3 | Vetted Petcare | 3 |
| Vetted Petcare | 8 | Los Gatos Dog & Cat Hospital | 3 | Vca Antech Incorporated | 3 |
| Humane Society Silicon Valley | 7 | Holistic Veterinary Care | 3 | Tama Veterinary Hospital | 3 |
| Beacon Veterinary Specialists | 7 | Fuzzy Pet Health | 3 | Medvet | 3 |
| United Veterinary Specialty & Emergency | 5 | Evergreen Veterinary Clinic | 3 | Los Gatos Dog & Cat Hospital | 3 |
| San Francisco Spca | 5 | Especially Cats | 3 | Evergreen Veterinary Clinic | 3 |
| Vip Petcare | 4 | East Bay Spca | 3 | Wagly | 2 |
| Pathway Vet Alliance | 4 | Dogtor Calls | 3 | The Whole Pet Vet Hospital & Wellness Center | 2 |

*Source: Burning Glass*

# Educational Supply

There are two community colleges in the Bay Region issuing 55 awards on average annually (last 3 years) on TOP 0102.10 - Veterinary Technician. There is one college (Foothill College) in the Silicon Valley Sub-Region issuing 33 awards on average annually (last 3 years) on this TOP code.

**Table 7. Awards on TOP 0102.10 - Veterinary Technician in Bay Region**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| College | Sub-Region | Associates | Certificate 18+ units | Certificate Low unit | Total |
| Foothill College | Silicon Valley | 27 |  | 6 | 33 |
| Santa Rosa Junior College | North Bay |  | 22 |  | 22 |
| **Total Bay Region** | | **27** | **22** | **6** | **55** |
| **Total Silicon Valley Sub-Region** | | **27** |  | **6** | **33** |

# *Source: Data Mart*

Note: The annual average for awards is 2015-16 to 2017-18.

# Gap Analysis

Based on the data included in this report, there is a labor market gap in the Bay region with 552 annual openings for the Veterinary Assisting occupational cluster and 55 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 497 students. In the Silicon Valley Sub-Region, there is also a gap with 152 annual openings and 33 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 119 students.

# Student Outcomes

**Table 8. Four Employment Outcomes Metrics for Students Who Took Courses on TOP 0102.10 - Veterinary Technician**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2015-16 | Bay  (All CTE Programs) | Foothill College (All CTE Programs) | State (0102.10) | Bay (0102.10) | Silicon Valley (0102.10) | Foothill College (0102.10) |
| % Employed Four Quarters After Exit | 74% | 73% | 79% | 76% | 72% | 72% |
| Median Quarterly Earnings Two Quarters After Exit | $10,550 | $10,170 | $6,475 | $7,205 | $7,795 | $7,791 |
| Median % Change in Earnings | 46% | 50% | 108% | 80% | 133% | 133% |
| % of Students Earning a Living Wage | 63% | 55% | 45% | 48% | 65% | 65% |

*Source: Launchboard Pipeline (version available on 11/1/19)*

# Skills, Certifications and Education

**Table 9. Top Skills for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Bay Region (November 2018 - October 2019)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Skill | Postings | Skill | Postings | Skill | Postings |
| Veterinary Medicine | 162 | Anesthesiology | 46 | Invoicing | 15 |
| Prescription Filling | 145 | Calculation | 43 | Radiology | 15 |
| Medical Records Maintenance | 142 | Blood Draws | 40 | Customer Checkout | 14 |
| Diagnostic Imaging | 131 | Clinical Experience | 37 | Radiography | 14 |
| Medical Records Preparation | 120 | Venipuncture | 30 | Urgent Care | 14 |
| Preventive Care | 95 | Laundry | 28 | Basic Mathematics | 13 |
| Cleaning | 86 | Veterinary Industry Knowledge | 27 | Data Entry | 13 |
| Surgery | 73 | Injections | 26 | Laboratory Testing | 13 |
| Administrative Support | 62 | Record Keeping | 25 | Oncology | 13 |
| Customer Service | 61 | Lifting Ability | 24 | Sample Collection | 13 |
| Patient Care | 56 | Customer Contact | 23 | Ultrasound | 13 |
| Vaccines | 50 | General Practice | 19 | Anatomy | 12 |
| Scheduling | 49 | Phlebotomy | 18 | Animal Husbandry | 12 |
| Appointment Setting | 48 | Patient Restraint | 17 | Medical Triage | 12 |
| X-Rays | 47 | Critical Care | 15 | Practice Management Software | 12 |

*Source: Burning Glass*

**Table 10. Certifications for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Bay Region (November 2018 - October 2019)**

Note: 85% of records have been excluded because they do not include a certification. As a result, the chart below may not be representative of the full sample.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Certification | Postings | Certification | Postings |
| Certified Veterinary Technician | 46 | First Aid CPR AED | 1 |
| Driver's License | 19 | Certified Veterinary Assistant | 1 |
| Veterinarian License | 10 | Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA) | 1 |
| Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) | 5 | Cash Handling Certification | 1 |
| Certified Euthanasia Technician | 4 |  |  |
| Board Certified/Board Eligible | 4 |  |  |
| Laboratory Animal Technician | 2 |  |  |

*Source: Burning Glass*

**Table 11. Education Requirements for Veterinary Assisting** **Occupations in Bay Region**

Note: 33% of records have been excluded because they do not include a degree level. As a result, the chart below may not be representative of the full sample.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Education (minimum advertised) | Latest 12 Mos. Postings | Percent 12 Mos. Postings |
| High school or vocational training | 194 | 98% |
| Associate Degree | 1 | 1% |
| Bachelor’s Degree or Higher | 1 | 1% |

*Source: Burning Glass*

# Methodology

Occupations for this report were identified by use of skills listed in O\*Net descriptions and job descriptions in Burning Glass. Labor demand data is sourced from Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) occupation data and Burning Glass job postings data. Educational supply and student outcomes data is retrieved from multiple sources, including CTE Launchboard and CCCCO Data Mart.

# Sources

O\*Net Online

Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

CTE LaunchBoard [www.calpassplus.org/Launchboard/](http://www.calpassplus.org/Launchboard/)

Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey

Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development

Chancellor’s Office MIS system

# Contacts

For more information, please contact:

* Doreen O’Donovan, Research Analyst, for Bay Area Community College Consortium (BACCC) and Centers of Excellence (CoE), [doreen@baccc.net](mailto:doreen@baccc.net) or (831) 479-6481
* John Carrese, Director, San Francisco Bay Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research, [jcarrese@ccsf.edu](mailto:jcarrese@ccsf.edu) or (415) 267-6544