Mt. San Antonio College
Natural Sciences Division

REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATE in SCIENCE DEGREE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Registered Veterinary Technology (RVT) Program at Mt. San Antonio College prepares students for careers as Registered Veterinary Technicians working under the supervision of licensed veterinarians in private practice, specialty hospitals, research facilities, shelters, and other animal care agencies.

Graduates earn an Associate in Science Degree in Registered Veterinary Technology and are eligible to sit for the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) and the California state examination for licensure.

The Program emphasizes hands-on clinical skills, technical competence, and professional readiness consistent with industry standards.

ACCREDITATION

The RVT Program at Mt. San Antonio College is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA).

PROGRAM STRUCTURE & ADMISSIONS

The RVT Program is currently transitioning to a Limited Admissions model beginning Fall 2026. Please review the section below that applies to your intended start term.

SECTION I

CURRENT PROGRAM MODEL (Through Summer 2026)

Open Enrollment Structure

The RVT Program currently operates under an open enrollment model.

There is no separate application process to enter the Program. Students may enroll in RVT courses once prerequisites and course requirements are met.

However, the Program is impacted, and course availability may affect a student's ability to complete the Program within a specific timeframe.

Completion within two to three years is not guaranteed under the current model.

Steps to Begin (Current Model)

- Apply to Mt. San Antonio College.
- Complete required prerequisite coursework (some prerequisites may also fulfill General Education requirements).
- Submit Rabies Immunization Clearance prior to enrolling in animal handling and clinical courses.
- Register for RVT courses once eligibility requirements are met.

Rabies Immunization Clearance

Documentation of the 2-dose pre-exposure rabies vaccination series or an acceptable rabies titer is required prior to enrolling in designated RVT courses involving animal handling and clinical procedures.

Approved documentation instructions are available at the RVT Program website: Rabies Immunization Requirements

Degree Requirements

Students must complete the following:

- All required major coursework with a grade of “C” or better.
- All Associate Degree general education requirements.

SECTION II

Beginning Fall 2026 – Limited Admissions Model

This model applies to students seeking to begin the RVT Program in Fall 2026 or later.

Beginning Fall 2026, the Registered Veterinary Technology (RVT) Program will implement a Limited Admissions model to align with AVMA recommendations, support structured progression, and manage Program capacity.

Admission to the Program is required prior to enrollment in core Veterinary Technology (AGHE-prefix) courses, regardless of registration system limitations.

Counseling Verification Required Prior to Application

Applicants must complete all required General Education and prerequisite coursework before submitting an RVT Program application.

Students are expected to independently track and confirm completion of requirements using the RVT Information Packet and official Mt. SAC resources. Students who have completed coursework at other institutions should seek Counseling verification as needed.

Counseling verification is required only to confirm completion of coursework, particularly when coursework has

been completed at another institution.

Counseling verification is not intended for routine academic planning related to the RVT application process.

Applications submitted without complete and appropriately verified coursework will not be processed.

Students with questions regarding RVT eligibility requirements should refer to the RVT Program website or contact the Program directly.

Program Director Verification

Following counselor verification of General Education and prerequisite completion, the application is reviewed by the Program Director.

Applicants must submit required medical clearance documentation, including verification of current rabies immunization or rabies titer, prior to final processing.

Submission of medical clearance documentation does not guarantee admission, as seat placement remains subject to Program capacity and date of verified eligibility completion.

Once all required documentation has been verified by the Program Director, eligible applications are forwarded to the Agricultural Sciences Department for seat processing.

Application and Selection Process

Admission is limited and based on the following:

- Completion of all eligibility requirements
- Date of verified application submission

When possible, applicants will be notified of admission decisions at least one month prior to the Program start date.

Candidates must confirm acceptance of their placement within seven (7) calendar days of email notification to secure their seat. Failure to respond within the stated timeframe will result in forfeiture of the seat.

Notifications are sent to the students' official Mt. SAC email account. Students are responsible for monitoring their email and spam folders during the notification period.

If Program capacity has been reached, eligible applicants will be placed on a waitlist in order of verified eligibility and be notified if a seat is available. Waitlist placement is determined by the date all eligibility requirements are verified as complete.

All admitted students are required to attend the Mandatory Program Orientation. Failure to attend will result in forfeiture of the seat.

Exceptions may be considered in documented emergency circumstances at the discretion of the Program

Director.

Key Features of the Limited Admissions Model

- Admission is required prior to enrollment in core Veterinary Technology (AGHE-prefix) courses.
- Cohort-based enrollment
- Structured course sequencing
- Defined Program capacity
- Mandatory Program Orientation
- Formal confirmation process
- Established transition guidelines for legacy students

Legacy Student Transition

Students who have completed at least one RVT (AGHE-prefix) course prior to Fall 2026 will follow established transition guidelines and will not be displaced solely due to implementation of the Limited Admissions model.

Students who have not completed RVT (AGHE-prefix) coursework prior to Fall 2026 will be subject to the Limited Admissions process and must apply for program entry.

To maintain Legacy Student eligibility, students must remain continuously enrolled at Mt. San Antonio College by enrolling in at least one course during each academic year (Fall or Spring term).

Summer-only enrollment does not satisfy this requirement.

Maintaining Cohort Status

Students admitted under the Limited Admissions (cohort-based) model are expected to maintain continuous enrollment in required RVT (AGHE-prefix) coursework during each major term (Fall and Spring), consistent with the established Program sequence.

Students who do not enroll in at least one required AGHE-prefix course during a major term may be removed from the cohort and required to reapply to the Program under the admission requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.

Exceptions may be considered in documented emergencies or approved academic circumstances at the discretion of the Program Director.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION POLICIES

Course Failure and Repeat Policy

Students must earn a grade of “C” or better in all required RVT (AGHE-prefix) coursework to progress through the Program.

- One repeat is permitted for a required RVT course, subject to seat availability and Program Director approval.
- Repeat enrollment may occur within a subsequent cohort, consistent with the established course sequence.
- More than two unsuccessful attempts in the same course may result in dismissal.

Continuation in the Program is contingent upon seat availability and successful completion of all progression requirements.

Program Re-Entry

Students who withdraw, fail a required course, or otherwise fall out of sequence may request re-entry into the Program when the required course is next offered.

- Re-entry is not guaranteed and is subject to seat availability, compliance with current Program requirements, and Program Director approval.
- Students returning after interruption may be required to complete competency validation or refresher training prior to enrolling in advanced coursework or clinical rotations.
- Re-entry students may be placed in a subsequent cohort sequence, as determined by the Program.

Program Completion Timeline

Students admitted to the RVT Program are expected to follow the established course sequence and maintain continuous progress toward completion.

Students must complete all program requirements within five (5) years of initial enrollment in RVT (AGHE-prefix) coursework, unless approved otherwise due to documented extenuating circumstances.

- Exceeding the timeframe may require reapplication under current admission requirements.
- Extended inactivity may require repetition of coursework to verify competency.

Program Currency & Competency

Students returning after interruption may be required to complete competency validation or refresher training before advancing in the program or qualifying for graduation.

The Program Director determines final competency alignment and graduation eligibility.

Program Dismissal Conditions

Students may be dismissed from the RVT Program for reasons including, but not limited to:

- Failure to meet minimum academic standards in required coursework
- Repeated failure of required RVT (AGHE-prefix) courses
- Unsafe or unethical behavior involving animals, equipment, or clinical environments
- Violation of College policies or professional conduct expectations
- Failure to meet Program requirements related to immunization, medical clearance, or clinical participation

Program dismissal decisions are subject to review in accordance with applicable College policies and procedures.

Program policies are implemented in alignment with institutional regulations, accreditation standards, and applicable state and federal requirements.

SECTION III

Professional Conduct and Academic Standards

Students in the RVT Program are expected to demonstrate professional behavior consistent with veterinary medical standards and the expectations of the veterinary profession.

Students must adhere to all applicable Mt. San Antonio College policies, including policies related to academic honesty, student conduct, and professional behavior.

Professional conduct expectations include, but are not limited to:

- maintaining respectful and professional interactions with faculty, staff, peers, clients, and members of the public
- demonstrating safe and humane handling of animals in all instructional and clinical environments
- following all safety procedures and laboratory protocols
- maintaining honesty and integrity in academic and clinical work
- complying with program requirements related to attendance, participation, and clinical responsibilities

Failure to meet professional conduct expectations may result in corrective action, removal from instructional activities, or dismissal from the Program in accordance with College policies and Program procedures.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

All students must meet the Essential Functions required for success in the RVT Program. These include physical, cognitive, communication, sensory, and manual dexterity requirements consistent with professional veterinary technician responsibilities.

The full Essential Functions document is available on the RVT Program website under "Resources".

COST ESTIMATES

Costs are approximate and subject to change.

- Enrollment Fees ($46 per unit; subject to change)
- Textbooks
- Uniforms
- Stethoscope
- Licensing & Board Application Fees
- Transportation to clinical sites

Students are responsible for all associated Program costs. Financial Aid and scholarship information is available.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Completion timeline may vary based on course availability and student enrollment patterns.

The RVT Program reserves the right to update policies in alignment with accreditation, regulatory, and institutional requirements.

Failure to enroll in any Mt. SAC course for two consecutive major terms requires college re-enrollment. Students who are required to re-enroll in the College must apply to the RVT Program under the admission requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.