



Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT)
Large Animal and Livestock Biosecurity Externship Program

Dear Veterinary Technician student:

Thank you for your interest in the OAVT's Large Animal and Livestock Biosecurity Student Externship Program.

The goal of this program is to provide veterinary technician students with practical experience in working with large animals and livestock while learning about the best practices in biosecurity measures. Funding has been obtained through the Agriculture Biosecurity Program to pay food-production and equine veterinary clinics for their time and supplies, to enhance your skills while participating in the externship. Clinics will also teach students about biosecurity procedures to prevent the spread of diseases within and between farms.

Funding has also been obtained to pay a stipend to students to cover the cost of commuting or relocation for the two week externship.

There are 28 large animal externship positions available for veterinary technician students in 2011. Interested students must complete the enclosed application. Details of the program requirements, application instructions and deadlines are below.

The selected 28 externship students will be responsible for contacting and securing a large animal, food production, livestock or equine veterinary practice willing to participate in the program. The OAVT will provide the selected students with materials explaining the program that can be shared with clinics that are interested in participating in the externship.

Students can complete the program during their normal college externship time period, or during a time that is acceptable to their college program.

Please note that the following requirements must be met in order to be considered for one of the 28 spots available in the program. Late or incomplete applications, or applications that indicate that the mandatory requirements have not been met, will not be entered into the selection process.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LARGE ANIMAL AND LIVESTOCK BIOSECURITY EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM:

- Applicants must be enrolled in the veterinary technology program at an accredited college in Ontario.
- Applicants must be in their final year of the program and considered eligible (by their college) for completing a two week externship.
- Applicants must accept that they may need to relocate to a rural area for the externship and are responsible for making these arrangements.

**note: upon completion of the externship, each of the 28 students will be given a stipend to assist with relocation expenses.

- Applicants must accept that they may sometimes work outside of normal business hours, depending upon the participating veterinary practice (eg earlier than 8am and later than 5pm)



- Applicants wishing to work in a food-production clinic do not need any prior experience with large animals and livestock. Applicants wishing to work exclusively in an equine clinic are required to be comfortable holding and walking a horse for simple treatment.
- Applicants must accept that the duration of the externship with this program is two weeks. Students from colleges with externships longer than two weeks are responsible for making arrangements for the duration of their externship.

A completed application package must be received by the OAVT by: 5:00 PM, February 25, 2011

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION PACKAGE

A complete application package includes the attached application forms A & B; as well as a copy of your college transcripts.

Part A - Student Application Form

Part B - Reference Form

This form must be completed by a staff member of your college who has taught you during the veterinary technician program. The applicant should fill out their own contact information in **Part B (Reference Form)** before giving it to their chosen referee. The referee should complete the form, enclose it in an envelope, seal the envelope, and then sign across the seal. The applicant is responsible for obtaining the sealed envelope to include in their application package.

The completed package should be mailed to:

**Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians
Large Animal Biosecurity Application Selection Committee
Ontario Agricentre 100 Stone Rd W. Suite 104
Guelph, Ontario N1G 5L3**

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- Completed application packages must be received by the OAVT by **5pm on February 25th 2011.**
- Successful candidates for the externship program will be notified by telephone and/or email by **March 4th 2011.**
- If the candidate indicates they wish to accept the externship position, they will receive a contract via registered mail that must be signed and returned to the OAVT by **Friday, March 18th, 2011.**
- Externship students must have selected and secured an externship position with a large animal, livestock, food-production or equine veterinary clinic by **March 31, 2011.**

Questions about the externship program or the application package should be directed to:

Rory Demetrio
Executive Director & Registrar

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