



November 13, 2024

Erin Dahlstrom, RVT  
Kirkwood Community College  
Veterinary Technology Program  
7325 Washington View Pkwy SW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Dear Ms. Dahlstrom:

At its November 7-9, 2024, meeting, the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) granted continued **Full Accreditation** to the Kirkwood Community College Veterinary Technology after deliberation of the report of evaluation from the September 4 – 5 2024 site visit and post site visit response.

A final copy of the report of evaluation is included and available in the CVTEA Accreditation Portal by Armature (Armature). Included below is a summary of critical and major deficiencies with details regarding future reporting requirements. After consideration of the documentation provided, the Committee has determined that continued reporting is required on the following deficiencies (see chart(s) below):

Critical deficiency(ies): 3 (noted below)  
Major deficiency(ies): 1,2 (noted below)

The next report will be due Fall 2025 (September 15, 2025). A reminder will be sent out approximately 2 months prior to the due dates. The next full accreditation site visit is scheduled for 2030.

Per the *Policies and Procedures of the AVMA CVTEA*, documentation of progress toward compliance with critical and major deficiencies must be included in the program's report to CVTEA. Insufficient progress toward meeting deficiencies may be considered cause for change in the program's accreditation status.

If there are any changes that impact critical or major deficiencies that the CVTEA previously determined do not require continued reporting, the program must report this change.

On behalf of the evaluation committee, thank you for the courtesy and hospitality shown during the virtual site visit. If you have any questions, or if staff may be of assistance in the preparation of your next report, please do not hesitate to contact staff (Julie Horvath; [jhorvath@avma.org](mailto:jhorvath@avma.org)).

Sincerely,

Brent Wooden, DVM, CVTEA Chair  
AVMA Center for Veterinary Medical Accreditation

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**CRITICAL DEFICIENCY (IES)**

Critical deficiencies apply to situations that clearly result in a program's inability to meet a Standard, and/or subject students, faculty, or others to unacceptable levels of risk. Documentation of significant progress toward compliance with each critical deficiency must be achieved by the time of the program's next report to CVTEA. Lack of compliance may be considered cause for a change in the program's accreditation status.

#	Critical Deficiency Description <i>It is critical that:</i>	Standard(s)	Deficiency status  (Met, Unmet with continued reporting)
1.	The Program must have an appropriately functioning Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), with regards to minutes, documentation of recusal of the primary investigator from voting on protocols, and inspection of the large animal housing facilities.	5a	Met; 11/2024
2.	All facilities used in Program instruction must be compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations with respect to additional eye wash stations must be added to areas within the facility where hazardous cleaning agents are being used, i.e. laundry room, kennel areas, treatment room area and dog recreation area.	4e	Met; 11/2024
3.	Program-specific surveys of employers, and an analysis of the results of those assessments must be used for continued Program improvement.	11a	Unmet; continued reporting is required. Upload a copy of a completed survey and a summary of feedback gathered from survey results.

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**MAJOR DEFICIENCY (IES)**

Major deficiencies apply to situations that jeopardize the ability of the program to meet a Standard. Progress toward meeting each major deficiency must be demonstrated on an annual or biennial basis. Documentation of steps taken toward compliance with major deficiencies is required. Lack of compliance within the assigned five- or six-year period, prior to the next scheduled complete evaluation, may be considered cause for a change in the program's accreditation status.

#	Major Deficiency Description <i>It is required that:</i>	Standard(s)	Deficiency status  (Met, Unmet with continued reporting)
1.	The program director must have the responsibility and authority necessary to manage the program successfully.	9d	Unmet; provide an updated job description and duties of the program director.
2.	The college must continue to develop plans to upgrade the large animal veterinary technology facility (large animal skills lab).	4a,4b	Unmet; continued reporting is required on the renovation/reorganization of the large animal skills lab and farm space.