

Here's why hundreds of veterinary technicians around the country have chosen a career path in the field of laboratory animal science:

- To use their advanced skills and acquire more expertise
- To earn a competitive salary with opportunities for advancement
- To participate in cutting-edge research in a scientific environment
- To work with a large variety of animal species
- To make a difference in the lives of animals and people every day

The American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) is the premier forum for the exchange of information and expertise in the care and use of laboratory animals. Since 1950, we've been dedicated to the humane care and treatment of laboratory animals and the quality research that leads to scientific gains that benefit people and animals.

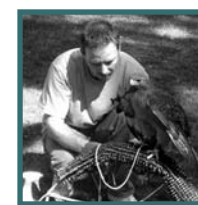
AALAS is dedicated to building and disseminating a knowledge base in laboratory animal science for the education and training of those who work in this field. Through our education, career development, scientific journals and publications, web resources, and outreach, AALAS advances responsible laboratory animal care and use to benefit people and animals.

Laboratory animal technicians are an essential part of the research team and provide compassionate attention to the animals in their care. AALAS is committed to technicians and offers them a variety of products and services to help them excel in their jobs.

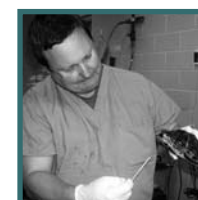
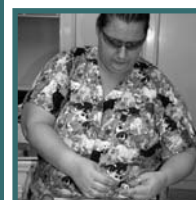
Find out more about technicians in research by visiting the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) website at www.aalas.org, or send an e-mail to info@aalas.org.



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Why more
VETERINARY TECHNICIANS
are choosing
LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE





As an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) coordinator, I play a vital role in ensuring a high-quality animal care and use program that reflects our institution's commitment to the humane and responsible use of animals.

I began my career as an RVT in private practice, but wanted more of a challenge. I accepted a position at the local university as an anesthesia nurse at the vet school. I now hold an exciting position and know that I am making a real contribution. Plus, my VT instructor was right when she said that the best salaries were working in research!

—Tina, RVT, RLATG from a university in Georgia

I'm an animal resources technologist and the technician supervisor for the Department of Lab Animal Resources. I am constantly challenged by the work. We ensure that animals are well treated, are cared for humanely, and respected for their contribution to human health care. I perform daily treatments, assist in surgery, induce and monitor anesthesia, run lab work, and provide environmental enrichment for the animals. I love the variety of the work and the array of species. I take pride in my work every day, because the research performed at our facility benefits people who are suffering.



—Angélique, RVT, RLATG from a university in Texas

I attended a vet tech program that was closely affiliated with a research university. I realized how important animals are in research and became very interested in furthering my career in the field. I worked for the university and then moved on to a large pharmaceutical company. Now, 13 years later, I am the president and CEO of my own company, which focuses on animal models of infectious disease. Being a vet tech has been the backbone of my success in a research facility. As a vet tech, you can make a difference. Don't limit yourself!

—Daniel, LVT, LATG from a private research facility in Michigan



It is a privilege to be such an integral part of the research team, ensuring that exceptional care is provided to our nonhuman primate colony. My primary function in the lab is anesthetist/circulating nurse for all surgical and imaging procedures. Perioperative care and pain management is my top priority.

I am especially enthusiastic about my additional role as environmental enrichment coordinator. It brings joy to witness the benefits of a strong well-being program that promotes social companionship, the opportunity to engage in species-typical activities, and positive personnel interactions.

—Nicole, RVT, RLAT, AAS from a university in California



The most fulfilling career decision that I have ever made has been to go into lab animal medicine. Speaking with a few technicians in the field, I realized that I would be using my skills, as well as expanding upon them and doing things that I never thought I would do. I would actually be a key to ensuring the mental and physical well-being of animals.

I work as an anesthesia technician on an array of animals, including rodents, rabbits, swine, and ruminants. My job consists of a variety of tasks, but my main focus is on pain management. Making my patients as comfortable as I can is critical, because they are where good science starts. Being a CVT is vitally important in this field.



—Samantha, CVT, RLATG from a biotechnology company in Massachusetts

We are technically skilled, but we also have the science knowledge to understand how the science works and why we are doing what we do. If you have a passion for animals as well as science, and if you want to make a difference in the future of medicine, then this is where you should be.

Working with animals has always been a goal of mine. As an LVT, I proudly worked in a large mixed practice veterinary hospital. In time, I wanted a different challenge within the realm of veterinary medicine. I jumped into the field of lab animal medicine where I could fully use my job skills. I continued to perform many of the same duties of general practice and also gained new, more advanced



skills, along with opportunities to work with a variety of animal species. Currently, I am AALAS certified as a registered Laboratory Animal Technologist and have been employed in this field since 2000.

—Lisa, LVT, RLATG from a university in Washington

There are so many opportunities for an LVT in the lab animal field. After doing my lab animal research internship in vet tech school, I was fascinated by the job of the training coordinator because it combined all the things I wanted in a career: working with animals, learning about animals, and spreading knowledge of animals.

After a year as a vet tech at my facility, I was able to move up the ladder and become the training coordinator after only three years in the field. Without the drive and the knowledge I gained by becoming an LVT, it probably would have taken me a lot longer. Contributing to the well-being of lab animals, while contributing to the world of research and medicine, is what makes this such an amazing field to go into.



—Jacob, BA, LVT, LAT from a medical school in New York

For 10 years, I worked as a vet assistant in private practice, eventually becoming an RVT in a vet hospital. I felt the growing pains of the vet tech profession—our technical skills were not used to their fullest. I helped establish a vet tech association in my state to promote our profession, to encourage full use of a VT's skills, and to offer continuing education to technicians in our state.

Eventually, I found my calling: working with animals in research. I am fully using my skills. I'm an advocate for the animals. And, when I pass a cancer patient on the street, or when a friend calls me worried about their diabetic dog, I'm reminded that I'm helping to advance both human and animal medicine"

—Sandy, RVT, LATG from a Veterans Administration facility in Georgia

