



ANIMAL CAREERS



PURPOSE

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding student's excellence and professionalism in the field of animal care.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to active Skills USA members enrolled in CTE program on the secondary level with animal science or care.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

NYS Health Care Attire:

- Official school clinical scrubs uniform with identification removed/concealed. Only plain white, collarless T-shirts may be worn underneath the scrubs
- Health professional's white leather work shoes, white socks, or skin-tone seamless hose.
- Shoes must be "all-white" leather (no canvas), completely enclosed (no open toe or open heel). Athletic style shoes that meet the criteria are acceptable.
- Hair must be pinned up and off the collar.
- Jewelry: Only one stud or small hoop earring in each ear is allowed. No facial piercings are allowed. All visible tattoos (including those on hands, arms and the neck or chest must be covered). No facial or tongue rings allowed. A watch with a second hand is allowed.

Note: Contestants must wear their contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting. Also bring #2 pencil, resume, and safety assurance form.

The PDT test will be taken at orientation.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the chairperson:
 - a. All animals
 - b. All equipment, materials, and items needed to conduct the contest.
2. Supplied by the contestant:
 - a. Pen/Pencil
 - b. All contestants must bring the safety assurance form (not the NCLS form) and turn it in at the same time as the resume.
 - c. All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty.
 - d. “Note: Your resume may be judged as part of your contest”

DEVICES

Cell phones or other electronic devices not approved by the NYS Chairperson will be collected by the contest chair during the competition. Chairpersons will announce their acceptance by listing it on their standard or at the orientation meeting. In case of emergencies advisors should allow the competitors to take their phones to the contest areas.

If the competitor uses their device in a manner which compromises the integrity of the competition, the competitor’s score may be penalized.

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

The scope of the contest is defined by industry standards.

Knowledge Performance

The contest will include a written knowledge test assessing general knowledge of basic animal care skills. Topics assessed may include but are not limited to life sciences related to animal health care, communication skills, employability, law and ethics, and work safety practices.

Skill Performance

The second portion of the contest will be a series of workstations in which contestants could be tested on the following topics but not limited to:

Clinical Skills	Rabbit ID
Emergency Care	Rabbit Care
Communication Skills	Beef and Dairy Cattle ID
Key medical terms and abbreviations	Beef and Dairy Cattle Care
Medical Records	Equine Breed ID
Office Management	Equine Care
Client Relationships	Swine Breed ID
Ethics and Legal Issues	Swine Care
Dog Breed ID	Sheep and Goat Breed ID
Dog Care	Sheep and Goat Care
Cat Breed ID	Poultry ID
Cat Care	Poultry Care
Pocket Pet Health	General Anatomy of Large/Small Animals
Pocket Pet Care	Nutrition of Large/Small Animals
Restraint and Handling of Large/Small Animals	Grooming of Large/Small
Safety of Large/Small Animals	Animals Education and Careers in Animal

APRIL 23-25, 2025

Study Guide

Cluster Manager
Steve Marfione

Here is a list of equipment and materials you may be asked to identify:

Ambu bag	Hypodermic Needles	Leur Lock Syringe
Anesthetic Machines 1& 2	Drench Gun	Automatic Multi-Dose Syringe
Animal Clippers	Ear Notcher	Slip Tip Syringe
Autoclave	Ear Tag Pliers	Microscope
Autoclave Tape Indicator	Ear Tags	Microscope Slides
Backhaus Towel Clamp	Elastrator	Muzzle
Balling Gun	Elizabethan Collar	Guillotine Nail Clippers
Bandaging Mati-Elasticon	Emasculators	Plier Nail Clippers
Elasticon	Endotracheal Tube	Mayor-Hegar Needle Holder
Rolled Gauze	Fecal Loop	Olsen-Hegar Needle Holder
Vet Wrap	Fecalyzers	Obstetrical Chain and Handle
Bands (castration or docking)	Feeding Tube	Ophthalmoscope
Basket Muzzle	Small/Large Animal	Otoscope
Betadine	Fetal Extractor	Paste Gun
Body Brush (soft bristle)	Fingertip Toothbrush	Pig Tooth Nippers
Dandy Brush (stiff bristle)	Alligator Forceps	Pill Counting Tray
Pin Brush	Allis Tissue Forceps	Radiology PPE
Slicker Brush	Adson-Brown-Thumb Forcep	Rumen Magnet
Wool Card	Crile Forceps	Scalpel Blade
Bulb Syringe	Halstead Mosquito Forceps	Scalpel Handle
Cat Bag	Kelly Forceps	Lister Bandage Scissors
Catch pole (dog snare)	Rat Tooth Thumb Forceps	Shedding Blade
Butterfly Catheter	Adson Tissue Forceps	Silver Nitrate Sticks
IV Catheter	Babcock Tissue Forceps	Small Animal Oxygen Cage
Urine Catheter	Gag Mouth Speculum	Snook Hook
Centrifuge	Small/Large Animal	Squeeze Chute
Chain Twitch	Gavage Needle	Staple Remover
Chemical Indicator Strips	Gravity Feeder- J Tube	Steel Lift Table
Clipper Blades	Halter	Stethoscope
Clipper Comb	Head Chute	Surgical Cap
Cold Sterile Tray	Hog Snare	Surgical Drape
Curry Comb	Hoof Knife	Surgical Gown
Flea Comb	Hoof Pick	Surgical Masks
Scotch Comb	Hoof Rasp	Surgical Tray
Cover Slips	Hoof Trimmers	Suture Material
Barnes Dehorner	Chain Twitch	Suture Needle
Electric Dehorner	Hydraulic Chute	Tattooing Instrument
Scoop or Tube Dehorner	IV Administration	Small/Large Animal
Dental Floats	IV Fluids	Tourniquet
Dental Retractor	Laryngoscopes	Trocar & Cannula
Dental Scaler	Lead Rope	Weight Tape

Examples of contest skills that could be demonstrated.

- Identify animal breeds from photographs.
- Spelling Counts!
- Animal Body Language (dominance, aggression, fear, arousal, etc.)
- Demonstrate & record temperature, pulse and/or respiration of a large or small animal.
- Identify apical and femoral pulse sites.
- Identify common blood withdrawal sites.
- Patient history & Physical exam.
- Practical mathematical applications That are commonly encountered in the veterinary workplace. (weights, conversions, mixing concentrated solutions etc.)
- Identify directional terminology and body planes.
- Identify surgical instruments.
- Prepare and/or package equipment and/or supplies for sterilization. (Reference McCurnin)
- Gown folding (Reference McCurnin)
- Aseptic technique (common antiseptic and disinfectant agents)
- Sterilization Methods
- Identify diagnostic equipment used in Radiology, Dentistry, Surgical Nursing, Anesthesiology, Pathology and Parasitology.
- Apply principles of disinfection.
- Wound Management and Bandaging.
- Scientific Classification of various animal species.
- Identify external parasites and internal parasites. (Using scientific terminology)
- Perform a fecal Analysis.
- Principles of nutrition- basic needs, unique characteristics of individual species diet.
- Care of Birds, large and small Animals
- Identify the sex of various animal species.
- Identify common bedding materials.
- Proper restraint and handling techniques of various animal species.
- Identify External anatomy parts of small and large animals
- Identify Systems of the body and their function
- Diseases of domestic animals.
- Preventive health plans, vaccinations, and abbreviations.
- Knowledge of Animal Welfare and Animal Rights issues and agencies.
- Proper hand washing skills.
- Veterinary terminology and abbreviations.
- Pharmacology (Routes of Administration, dosage calculations & drug classifications)
- Identify grooming equipment.
- Identify parts of microscope
- Customer Service procedures
- How to tie knots
- Proper Method for Preparing a Label for a Syringe
- Proper Method for Filling a Syringe
- Removal of Sutures
- Bandage Removal
- Bandage Application
- Pill Counting Tray Procedure
- Administration of Topical Medication
- Administration of Subcutaneous Injection
- Administering Ophthalmic Medication
- Intramuscular Injection
- Administration of Aural Medication
- Catching and Haltering a Horse
- Tail Tying Your Horse
- Applying a Commercial Muzzle
- Restraint for Venipuncture
- Restraint in Lateral Recumbency
- Removing a Dog from a Cage or Kennel
- Restraint for Jugular Venipuncture
- Restraint for Cephalic Venipuncture
- Applying a Gauze Muzzle
- Grooming small and large animal

References: Cengage Books

Restraint and Handling for Veterinary Technicians and Assistants: Bonnie Ballard/Jody Rockett ISBN-13:9784354-5387-6 ISBN-10: 1-4354-5387-5

Veterinary Assisting Fundamentals & Applications; Beth Vanhorn/Robert W. Clark ISBN-13:978-1-4354-5387-6 ISBN-10: 1-4354-5387-5

Equine Science Fifth Edition; Rick Parker ISBN: 978-305-94972-0

Small Animal Care Management Fourth Edition; Dean M. Warren ISBN: 978-1285-42552-8