



PROGRAM LETTER

Veterinary Assistant: 01.8301

2026-2027

Stephanie Anderson

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Dear Steel Center Family:

Welcome to the Veterinary Assistant Program. My name is Mrs. Anderson, and I am excited to work with students as they build the knowledge, skills, and professionalism needed for the veterinary field. I am a Certified Veterinary Technician with over 15 years of experience in veterinary medicine, with much of my background in emergency and critical care, patient care, client support, and veterinary hospital operations.

The Veterinary Assistant Program is a medicine-based program designed to prepare students for entry-level work in a veterinary setting and to support students who may want to continue their education as veterinary assistants, veterinary technicians, veterinarians, or in other animal-related careers. Students will learn both classroom theory and hands-on skills connected to real veterinary practice.

Throughout the program, students will study topics such as:

- veterinary safety, sanitation, and OSHA expectations
- animal behavior, handling, and restraint
- anatomy and physiology
- common diseases and patient care
- client communication and office procedures
- pharmacy, pharmacology, nutrition, and calculations
- laboratory procedures
- surgical preparation, instruments, and pack wrapping
- grooming, husbandry, and small animal nursing skills

Students will have opportunities for hands-on practice when appropriate. Live animal work is an important part of the program, but it is also a privilege and a responsibility. Students must meet safety, behavior, uniform, and prerequisite expectations before participating in animal handling or lab activities.

Students are required to be in uniform daily. The Veterinary Assistant uniform includes navy blue scrub top and scrub pants, closed-toe shoes that are safe, clean, and appropriate for a veterinary classroom and lab, hair tie if hair is long enough to fall forward during labs or animal care, a stethoscope for second- and third-year students, and a watch with seconds for second- and third-year students. Scrub ordering information and additional uniform details will be provided at the beginning of the school year.

Students will also be expected to follow all classroom, safety, animal interaction, and phone procedures. Veterinary medicine requires focus, communication, responsibility, and respect for both people and animals. My goal is to help students grow not only in technical skill, but also in professionalism and confidence.

I look forward to working with you during the 2026-2027 school year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Stephanie Anderson

