

March 20, 2026

VET TECH FRIDAYS

Knowledge, News, and Updates



VTI STUDENT VOICES

We are excited to introduce a new section in our newsletter featuring YOU!

Students are invited to submit:

- A short article (200-400 words)
- An optional photo of yourself

Not sure what to write about? Here are some ideas:

- A reflection about your experience
- Advice for other students
- Why you chose veterinary technology
- A challenge you've overcome in the program
- What has surprised you most so far
- A meaningful moment in kennel or class
- Study tips or time management strategies
- What motivates you to keep going on tough days
- Your goals after graduation
- What being part of VTI means to you

If selected, your submission will be featured in the newsletter, and you will receive a small thank-you gift as a token of appreciation.

Submit your entry by emailing Ashley Miller at amiller@vettechinstitute.edu.

Please include your name and cohort with your submission.

All submissions should be respectful, appropriate, and school-related.

Please note that submissions may be lightly edited for clarity, length, and professionalism.

No need to be a "perfect writer" – we just want to hear your voice and your experience.

Being featured is also a great addition to your resume or professional portfolio.

Let your voice be heard! We can't wait to hear your story.

VTI Student Voices
Virgen Suluaga 03DV26

Growing up, I always knew I had a deep love for animals, but I never imagined I would take the step to turn that passion into a career. I chose veterinary technology because I want to help those who can't speak up for themselves and be a voice for them when they need it most. Coming back to school after many years was honestly intimidating and overwhelming, especially while balancing life, responsibilities, and getting back into school mode and studying again.

My first couple of weeks at VTI have been exciting and eye-opening, a roller coaster of emotions. One thing that has surprised me the most is how hands-on and fast-paced everything is. Even though it was said many times, my brain didn't fully understand just how fast-paced it truly is until experiencing it myself. Every day brings new information, skills, and challenges that push me to stay focused and keep up.

One meaningful part of this journey has been seeing how supportive my instructors and classmates are and how willing everyone is to help each other succeed. My biggest study tip is to take advantage of tutoring and never hesitate to ask for help when you feel stuck.

What keeps me going is my "why." I'm doing this not only for my future, but also for my family, my husband and my kids, especially my kids, so they can see that it's never too late to chase your goals and build a better life doing something you truly love.

After graduation, my goal is simple: to step into the field and give animals the care, voice, and compassion they deserve.



Photos Around Campus



Working side by side, 11DV25 students Grace Voorhis and Carmen Shelton spend time studying in the student lounge.



Spending time together at the apartment, 11DV25 students Arianna Smith, Arabella Durato, Kelsey Bailey, Lexi Clift, and Mallory Glosser share a lighthearted moment.

A little laughter, a little downtime, and a lot of future vet techs in one room. 11DV25 getting ready for class.

Pictured above is Kellie Ramsey, Chloe Trick, Kady Whitehead, Arianna Smith, Maddie Neal, Maya Pickett, Riley Packard, Bernice Tooley, Kenzy Triezenberg, and Burke Mills.



Taking time to uplift others, 11DV25 students Jacee Nugent and Jazmyne Wallace share inspiration on the Pawsome Board.



In between assignments, 07DV25 students Caitlin Yarusso, Malachi Tomlin, Lucas Riley, Cait Throop, Tannah Tillison, and Claire Schofield take a moment for a photo together.



Collaborating across cohorts, 03DV26 student October Thomas and 11DV25 student Clayton Rodriguez spend time studying together in the student lounge.

National Technical Honor Society (NTHS)



Informational Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 26

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Room 116

What is the National Technical Honor Society?

The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) recognizes students who demonstrate excellence in career and technical education. It celebrates students who work hard, show leadership, and are committed to building strong careers in their field.

NTHS helps students grow both academically and professionally while recognizing their dedication to their program and future career.

Why Join NTHS?

Members of NTHS have the opportunity to:

- Be recognized for academic achievement in technical education
 - Develop leadership and professional skills
 - Participate in service projects that support the community
- Build connections with fellow students who are motivated and career-focused
 - Strengthen resumes, job applications, and externship opportunities
- Apply for exclusive scholarships available only to NTHS members
 - Wear honor cords and receive recognition at graduation

Who Can Join?

To become a member of NTHS, students must meet the following requirements:

- 3.6 cumulative GPA or higher
- 80% attendance rate or higher
- Demonstrate professionalism, responsibility, and dedication to their program

Interested in Learning More?

Even if you do not yet qualify, you are welcome to attend the informational meeting to learn more about the organization and how you can work toward becoming a member.

Come find out what NTHS is all about and how it can support your future career!

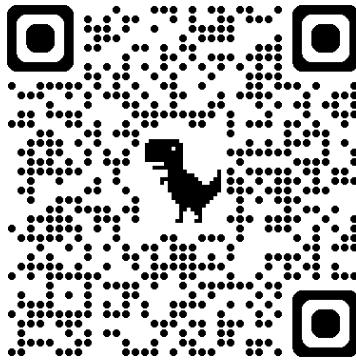
✦ Join us on March 26 at 2:30 PM in Room 116.
We hope to see you there!

Show Your School Spirit

The webstore will be open through Tuesday, March 31 at noon, and orders will be delivered to the school office by Friday, April 24.



**SCAN QR CODE
TO ORDER**



**SCAN QR CODE
TO ORDER**



Underrated Animals

Whale Shark

When people think of sharks, they often imagine speed, sharp teeth, and danger. But the whale shark challenges all of those assumptions. As the largest fish in the ocean, sometimes reaching over 40 feet long, whale sharks are enormous, yet they are among the most peaceful and fascinating creatures in marine life.



Instead of hunting large prey, whale sharks survive by filtering tiny organisms from the water. They swim slowly with their mouths open, taking in plankton, fish eggs, and other microscopic food. Water flows through their gills while specialized filters trap what they need to eat. Despite their size, their diet is incredibly small, which makes their calm, drifting feeding style feel almost surreal compared to the aggressive image many people associate with sharks.

Their appearance is just as captivating as their behavior. Each whale shark has a unique pattern of white spots and stripes across its dark body, much like a fingerprint. Scientists actually use these patterns to identify and track individual sharks over time. From above, their markings resemble a star-filled sky, adding to their almost otherworldly presence in the ocean.



What makes whale sharks especially remarkable is their gentle nature around humans. In certain parts of the world, swimmers and divers can observe them up close. They move slowly and often seem unbothered by people nearby, sometimes even appearing curious. Even so, they are still wild animals, and respecting their space is essential.

Despite being the largest fish on Earth and one of the most visually striking marine animals, whale sharks are surprisingly underrated. They don't have the dramatic reputation of predators like great whites, and much of their life is spent in open ocean areas far from view. Because of this, they are often overlooked in conversations about marine life.

Unfortunately, whale sharks are currently classified as endangered. They face threats from boat collisions, accidental capture in fishing gear, and changes to their environment. Their slow reproduction rate makes population recovery especially difficult, which means conservation efforts are critical.

The whale shark is a powerful reminder that size and strength do not always equal aggression. In a world where the loudest and most dangerous animals tend to get the most attention, this quiet giant drifts through the ocean, playing an important role in the ecosystem while asking for very little in return.



IT'S TIME TO COMPLETE YOUR

26-27 FAFSA

FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!



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APRIL

Deadline

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT(S) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.

Please Join Financial Aid for

26-27 FAFSA WORKSHOPS



DEADLINE IS APRIL 15TH

Please have your FSA ID ready! Parents are welcome to join, BUT if they cannot make it, please have their email address available so we can invite them to your FAFSA.

[FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.](#)

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!

2:30 PM TO 4 PM

RM: 104

Time & Room

TUESDAYS &

THURSDAYS

Days

[IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT\(S\) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.](#)