

***APPENDIX D**
Program Planning Summary
State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education
(Not to exceed three pages in length)

1. College: Piedmont Technical College
2. Award: Associate in Health Science
3. Major: Veterinary Technology
4. Designation (Check one)
 - a. New Program Proposal
 72 Number of credit hours
 - b. Program Modification
 Number of credit hours
5. Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall Semester 2008
6. Justification of Need:

Piedmont Technical College's (PTC) mission is to respond to the academic, training, and public service needs through excellence in teaching and educational services. PTC contributes to the economic growth and development of the largest geographical region of the technical college system: Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda counties. In support of this mission, PTC proposes to develop and implement an Associate in Health Science with a major in Veterinary Technology to provide students the opportunity to pursue training in a discipline of health science which is in high demand.

Currently there is a strong demand nationally for graduates from veterinary technology programs. The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, estimates the need for veterinary technicians will increase by 35% between 2004 and 2014. In part, this estimate is because "pet owners are becoming more affluent and more willing to pay for advanced care because many of them consider their pet to be part of the family. This growing affluence and view of pets will spur employment growth for veterinary technicians." The Bureau of Labor Statistics further predicts that "biomedical facilities, diagnostic laboratories, wildlife facilities, humane societies, animal control facilities, drug or food manufacturing companies, and food inspection facilities will provide additional jobs for veterinary technicians."

Survey data published in *The NAVTA Journal* further supports the need for veterinary technician graduates. According to the journal article, those in veterinary practice management “feel that for every veterinarian on staff, there should be two veterinary technicians. “ Coupled with the Bureau of Labor Statistics predictions, the data published in this article clearly supports the increasing demand for additional veterinary technicians.

7. Anticipated Program Demand and Productivity:

In the fall of 2006, Newberry College made the decision to discontinue their Veterinary Technology program. With national trends showing that Veterinary Technology programs are predominantly offered in two-year institutions, Newberry College approached PTC about assuming the responsibility of the program. As a result, PTC conducted a needs survey and implemented a certificate program in the fall of 2007. There are currently fourteen students in the certificate program.

PTC’s needs survey echoes national and state-wide trends in the veterinary technology field. The college’s need survey respondents anticipate employing 72 full-time and 30 part-time veterinary technicians over the next three years with an average entry-level salary of \$28,400 for full-time employees. The SC Veterinary Technologist and Technician 2004 salary data reported the median salary as \$26,255.

The proposed program is expected to generate an enrollment of 24 full-time students the first year. Program enrollment for the second and third years will be 24 freshmen and 18 sophomores each year. These numbers are based on an attrition rate of 25%.

8. Assessment of Extent to Which Program Duplicates Existing Programs in the State:

Two technical colleges in the state, Tri-County Technical College (TCTC) and Trident Technical College (TTC), currently offer an Associate Degree in Health Science with a major in Veterinary Technology. Both programs are accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). Each of the established programs has reached the maximum allowable enrollment with TCTC serving the upstate, while TTC serves the coastal region. The TCTC program has recently increased enrollment but continues to be unable to accept all applicants. The existing programs do not meet the needs of the Piedmont region of the state.

9. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Existing Programs at the Proposing Institution:

Through the Health Science Biological and Chemical Division, PTC offers Associate Degree and Diploma programs in five health science related fields including: Pharmacy Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Radiologic Technology, Medical Assisting Technology, and Surgical Technology. Certificates are offered in Massage Therapy, Medical Coding and Billing, Patient

Care Technology, Phlebotomy, and Veterinary Technology. The proposed program will bring a new and exciting dimension to the wide array of health care programs offered at PTC.

All of the general education courses required for the proposed program currently exist within the college's course offerings. Therefore, there will be no economic impact to the college for additional courses.

10. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Other Institutions Via Inter-Institutional Cooperation:

Piedmont is proposing a two-year associate degree program designed primarily as a terminal degree. The goal of the proposed program is to prepare graduates to attain the required competencies needed to successfully complete the National Veterinary Technician Exam (NVTE) and the South Carolina licensure examination required to become a Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT).

Although the proposal program is designed as a terminal degree, the college may seek articulation with a Pre-Veterinary program at some future time.

The proposed program will seek AVMA accreditation within the first year.

11. Total Costs Associated with Implementing the Proposed Program (General Estimates Only):

Annual estimated costs associated with the program are as follows:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Faculty Salaries	\$115,000	\$118,450	\$122,003
Supplies and Materials	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Library Resources	\$700	\$700	\$700
Other (Accreditation)	\$8,500	\$500	\$500
Total Projected Costs	\$149,200	\$139,650	\$143,203

(Signature of College President)

(Date)