Dear Doctor / Veterinary Technologist:

The purpose of this letter is to introduce _____________________________________________ who is applying for admission into the Veterinary Technology Program (VTEC) at Douglas College.

As an introduction into the veterinary medical profession, it is recommended that the applicant spend a minimum of 80 hours observing how veterinary medicine is conducted in veterinary practice and related fields. If you or a colleague have time to talk to a prospective student, it would be very helpful. The reverse of this letter lists a number of tasks that we hope each student will be able to observe in order to gain a realistic view of how the veterinary team operates on a day-to-day basis. The applicant is not required to “perform” any of the tasks but only to observe them.

Thank you for your cooperation in this academic endeavor. With the proper exposure to the profession, many of these applicants may go on to pursue a career in veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.

Your help is appreciated in identifying those individuals who will be eager and successful in following this career path. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (604) 777-6360 or (604) 777-6322.

Sincerely,

Pauline Chow, DVM
Program Coordinator
Veterinary Technology Program
Faculty of Science & Technology

Both sides of this record must be completed in full. Please return completed form to the applicant OR mail directly to:

Mail to: DOUGLAS COLLEGE, Coquitlam Campus
Attention: Rosemarie Bakker, Office of the Registrar
1250 Pinetree Way
Coquitlam, BC Canada V3B 7X3
Student Name: ________________________________  Student Number: ________________

Doctor or Technician: Please place your initials next to the tasks once they have been observed. Not all tasks are required, but at least 70-80% of these tasks should be observed.

NURSING

[ ] Observe daily animal care (i.e., cage/run/stall cleaning, exercising, feeding)
[ ] Observe daily treatments of hospitalized patients (i.e., rounds, patient orders)
[ ] Observe administration of meds via the oral, injectable and intravenous routes
[ ] Observe physical examination
[ ] Observe client interaction (i.e., history taking, behavior or nutrition counseling)
[ ] Observe emergency triage
[ ] Observe euthanasia
[ ] Discuss the diagnostic points of a radiograph or observe ultrasonography

(NOTE: Please DO NOT expose applicant to radiation)

SURGERY

[ ] Observe major surgery (i.e., open abdominal surgery, orthopedic surgery)
[ ] Observe minor surgery (i.e., draining abscess, debriding traumatic wound)
[ ] Observe dental prophylaxis
[ ] Discuss operation of a gas anesthesia machine
[ ] Discuss equipment sterilization and aseptic technique

LABORATORY

[ ] Observe external parasites on the animal
[ ] Observe external parasites by skin scraping
[ ] Observe internal parasites and/or eggs under a microscope
[ ] Observe blood cells and/or urine sediment under a microscope
[ ] Observe in-house blood testing (i.e., FeLV, FIV, heartworm, serum chemistry)
[ ] Observe intravenous blood draw

FRONT OFFICE

[ ] Observe telephone procedures
[ ] Observe making appointments
[ ] Observe record keeping/data entry
[ ] Observe dispensing prescriptions and/or over-the-counter medications

I attest that ________ hours were logged by this applicant while observing these tasks at this hospital/clinic/facility.

________________________________________  ______________________________
Veterinarian’s/Technician’s Name (Print)  Date:

________________________________________  ______________________________
Veterinarian’s/Technician’s Signature  Phone Number:

________________________________________
Hospital/Clinic name & address: