

Veterinary Technology Distance Education Program

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR  
CLINICAL EDUCATION AFFILIATION

WHEREAS, Coastal Alabama Community College (the “College”), a State of Alabama institution of postsecondary education, and \_\_\_\_\_(the “Clinical Site”), a veterinary medical clinic, (collectively, the “Parties”), desiring to set out in writing the terms and respective responsibilities in regard to a Veterinary Technology Distance Education Program (off- campus clinical instruction and preceptorship site) to be offered by the College but in which both institutions shall participate, do hereby mutually agree on the following terms:

CLINICAL SITE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Clinical Site agrees that students enrolled in the Veterinary Technology Program at the College may utilize the appropriate clinical facilities, equipment, and supplies of the Clinical Site for related training and learning experiences during the days and hours agreed upon by the Parties. Students are required to work at the Clinical Site a minimum number of hours per week calculated each semester based on clinical course hour load.
2. The Clinical Site will allow students to travel to other sites as needed to obtain skills that may not otherwise be available at the assigned site, and to take written or clinical exams as necessary.
3. The Clinical Site will provide opportunities for the appropriate staff members to meet with the program faculty and/or director for the purpose of matching educational objectives with learning opportunities and for mutually agreeing upon policies and guidelines for the clinical practicum and/or preceptorship. Program faculty and/or director shall be allowed to conduct site visits as necessary.
4. The Clinical Site shall provide data and other information as might be necessary in accreditation studies for the Program or College.
5. The learning activities of the students shall fit into and complement the service activities of the Clinical Site; provided, however, that students will not be used in lieu of regular employees and will not work without proper supervision by appropriately certified personnel.
6. The Clinical Site will provide the College with an up-to-date listing and copy of current license of each licensed Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians employed at its location(s) to which this Agreement is applicable. This information is needed for accreditation purposes.
7. The Clinical Site shall designate a Clinical Instructor or Associate (must be a licensed Veterinary Technician or Veterinarian) who will act as intermediary between the Clinical Site and College and will assume the responsibility of

coordinating and supervising the in-house learning activities of students as planned with the Program's faculty and/or director from the College, and verifying skills and tasks using specific criteria provided by the Veterinary Technology program.

8. The Clinical Site and Instructor or Associate shall be operating within any guidelines or laws set forth by the Animal Welfare Act, American Veterinary Medical Association or any state laws governing the practice of veterinary medicine.
9. The Clinical Instructor or Associate shall ensure that all student orientation, instruction, supervision, and evaluation are provided by employees who have the professional qualifications and experience to serve as Clinical Associates. Student progress may only be evaluated by a licensed veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician.
10. The Clinical Instructor or Associate shall provide assistance as needed in monitoring written tests, maintaining written records and evaluations on each student, and providing appropriate information to the Program's faculty and/or director at times mutually agreed upon by both parties.
11. The Clinical Site may require the College to remove any student from the clinical rotation whose conduct or performance does not meet Clinical Site expectations, as determined by notice and a consultation between the College liaison representative and the Clinical Site. The Program's faculty and/or director, or the College will otherwise be responsible for any disciplinary actions taken against students.
12. The Clinical Site shall have written policies on safety as required by the Occupational Safety and Health Act which includes information on required/recommended immunizations, potential zoonotic diseases, pregnancy, and personal protective equipment. The Clinical Site shall adhere to the AVMA Policies and Procedures on Guidelines for Hazards in the Workplace and the CVTEA Policies and Procedures Appendix A Statement on Safety. The Clinical Site shall develop a disaster preparedness plan if one is not already in place. As available, the Clinical Site shall provide first aid for accidents occurring to students while on the premises. The Clinical Site assumes no other responsibility for the health care of students.
13. The clinical supervisor will inform the Program's director if a student is not fulfilling the required minimum number of hours each week as determined by each semester's course clinical hour load or if a student decides to change clinical sites.
14. The clinic shall abide by and endorse the protocols set forth in the program's Rabies Mitigation Policy provided. Once notified of a student's rabies vaccination status, the clinic shall prohibit any unvaccinated student from handling any unvaccinated animal or any animal of unknown vaccine status. Unvaccinated students shall be permitted to complete the Rabies Mitigation Log to provide documentation of rabies vaccination status of animals handled at the clinical site.

## COLLEGE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The College shall seek accreditation of the program and provide data as might be necessary in accreditation studies of the Clinical Site.
2. The Program's faculty and/or director shall make regular on-site clinical visits for the purposes of communication and for review of clinical education effectiveness.
3. The College shall send to the Clinical Site only students who have qualified for clinical rotations and preceptorship, by successfully completing required courses and any other requirements of the program and its curriculum.
4. The College shall send to the Clinical Site the number of students mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
5. The College shall require students to meet the same dress code, punctuality, and other professional expectations of employees, and shall notify students that they may be subject to discipline by the Program for violations of such Clinical Site regulations.
6. The College shall inform students of their responsibility to maintain confidentiality with respect to all Clinical Site affairs, records, and patient data.
7. The College shall inform students that prior written approval from both the Clinical Site and the College must be obtained before publishing any material relative to the clinical rotations, and preceptorship.
8. The College shall require students to purchase personal liability insurance that shall provide for such coverage as is designated by the College and to show proof of medical insurance that shall provide for such coverage as is designated by the College. Students may purchase liability insurance through the College. No other liability is assumed for the personal acts of the student by either the Clinical Site or the College.
9. The College shall provide students with the method of reporting zoonotic disease transmission or exposure to a blood borne pathogen. The College shall require that Veterinary Technology students be immunized, or have been immunized, against tetanus, and shall **strongly** recommend in writing that students be immunized against rabies. The College will provide the Site Clinic with a copy of Coastal Alabama Community College's Rabies Mitigation Policy Rabies Mitigation Log and shall notify the Site Clinic of students who are not vaccinated against Rabies. It shall also recommend that any student who may become pregnant while enrolled in the program inform the program instructor and/or director immediately for the purpose of assessing any potential health risk to the student or the unborn child.
10. The College shall require students to have a current in-force hospitalization/surgical insurance policy, unless they otherwise qualify for indigent care under the appropriate guidelines.

## NONDISCRIMINATION and EQUITY PROVISION

The Parties agree that there shall be no discrimination by either party to this Agreement on the grounds of race, color, disability, gender, religion, creed, national origin, marital status, or age, and that no individual will be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity or employment on the basis of the above described characteristics. The Parties agree to abide by the Coastal Alabama Community College's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy.

## INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

It is understood and agreed that this Memorandum of Agreement is intended solely for the purpose of student clinical education and preceptorship experiences. It is not intended and shall not be construed to create an employment relationship between the College's employees, agents, or students and the Clinical Site. The Clinical Site and the College are at all times acting and performing as independent contractors. Students participating in clinical experiences and preceptorship will not receive compensation for participation as a student in the clinical/course experiences from the College.

## TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall become effective at the beginning of the new program upon being signed by the designated officials of both the Clinical site and the College. This Agreement shall be reviewed annually and shall automatically renew itself for a period of one (1) year unless either party shall notify the other in writing ninety (30) days prior to the expiration of the terms herein. If notice of cancellation is given by either party, those students already assigned to the Clinical Site will be allowed to finish their clinical requirements, if no disciplinary actions were involved.

If either party fails to fulfill the obligations assumed herein, the other party must give written notice of such default. If the default is not remedied within thirty (30) days after notice, the Agreement may be terminated forthwith by such party. If either party's accreditation status changes, immediate notice must be given to the other party.

It is further understood that the parties hereto may revise or modify this Agreement by written amendments whenever the same shall be agreed upon and signed by both parties.

COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM  
MOU SIGNATURE PAGE

Coastal Alabama Community College  
1900 Highway 31 South  
Bay Minette, AL 36507

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
College Representative

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By: (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Coastal Alabama Community College Veterinary Technology Program**  
**RABIES MITIGATION POLICY- Clinical site**

The Veterinary Technology Program at Coastal Alabama Community College is committed to student safety and strongly recommends Rabies pre-exposure vaccinations for all incoming students. The potential for a veterinary professional to be exposed to rabies is one of the inherent risks of veterinary medicine. The State of Alabama is considered an endemic area for rabies, therefore, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), veterinary professionals in Alabama are placed in the “frequent risk” category and pre-exposure vaccination is recommended. Pre-exposure prophylaxis is given as a series of two vaccinations in the deltoid muscle. Pre-exposure vaccination does not prevent the need for post-exposure vaccination should you become exposed, but it does decrease the number of post-exposure injections and might provide some protection should there be a delay in post-exposure treatment.

**Students who decline rabies pre-exposure vaccination due to a medical contraindication, personal issue or religious exemption understand that they are at an increased risk of contracting rabies and are required to track every animal that they handle at their clinical site by recording the animal’s name, Rabies tag number and date of Rabies vaccination on the Rabies Mitigation Log. Documentation must show proof that animal handled has met the minimum 28-day seroconversion period post vaccination prior to being handled by the student.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name: Clinical site owner and/or supervisor)  
at \_\_\_\_\_ (print: Veterinary facility) understand the importance of rabies as a zoonotic disease and have been educated on and provided a copy of the Rabies Mitigation Policy and Rabies Mitigation Log from Coastal Alabama Community College and agree to adhere to its requirements.

- Rabies Mitigation Policy and Plan Components for Coastal Alabama Community College’s Veterinary Technology Program
- Rabies Mitigation Log – for student clinical use

Rabies Vaccination Information from CDC:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific\\_groups/veterinarians/staff.html](https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific_groups/veterinarians/staff.html)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rabies.pdf>

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Vaccinations from CDC:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical\\_care/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/index.html)

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis from CDC:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific\\_groups/travelers/pre-exposure\\_vaccinations.html](https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific_groups/travelers/pre-exposure_vaccinations.html)

Rabies Information from the Alabama Department of Public Health:  
<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/RabiesFlyer.pdf>

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I have read and understand the Rabies Mitigation Policy Information and Acknowledgment form.

Veterinary Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Supervisor (print name) \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical supervisor (signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Coastal Alabama Community College Veterinary Technology Personnel \_\_\_\_\_