



SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Science
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Monitoring

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

High level

- Diagnosing diseases and disorders
- Giving injections, drugs, and other medications
- Planning health care treatments
- Researching life sciences
- Treating physical or mental problems
- Using medical or dental instruments to treat patients

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Instructing
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Time Management

Medium level

- Equipment Selection
- Management of Financial Resources
- Management of Material Resources
- Management of Personnel Resources
- Negotiation
- Operation Monitoring
- Persuasion
- Service orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Troubleshooting

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/pubs/careers/cps>.

WHAT THEY DO

Examines, diagnoses, and treats medical problems in animals. May work with pets and/or livestock, or with laboratory animals used for research. Belongs to the Health Science cluster and Therapeutic Services pathway.

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Investigative** – You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Realistic** – You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Numerical Aptitude**
- **Form Perception**
- **Finger Dexterity**
- **Manual Dexterity**

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	2010-20 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total All Occupations	1,717,020	1,948,700	231,680	1.3	64,525
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	81,850	100,305	18,455	2.3	3,500
Veterinarians	1,500	1,875	375	2.5	70

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

2012 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total All Occupations	18.90	39,295	9.30	19,341	23.69	49,272
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	31.16	64,824	15.94	33,163	38.78	80,655
Veterinarians	35.50	73,839	23.42	48,708	41.54	86,406

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Doctoral or Professional Degree	None	None

Prospective veterinarians must graduate with a doctor of veterinary medicine (DVM or VMD) degree from a four-year program at an accredited college of veterinary medicine and must obtain a license to practice. Accreditation standards are set by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The prerequisites for admission vary. Many of these colleges do not require a bachelor's degree for entrance, but all require a significant number of credit hours at the undergraduate level. However, most of the students admitted have completed an undergraduate program and earned a bachelor's degree. Applicants without a degree face a difficult task gaining admittance. There is keen competition for admission to veterinary school. Only about one in three applicants was accepted in 2007. New graduates with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree may begin to practice veterinary medicine once they receive their license, but many new graduates choose to enter a one-year internship. Interns receive a small salary but often find that their internship experience leads to better paying opportunities later, relative to those of other veterinarians. Veterinarians who then seek board certification also must complete a three- to four-year residency program that provides intensive training in one of the AVMA-recognized veterinary specialties. Licensing is controlled by each State and is not strictly uniform, although all States require the successful completion of the DVM degree -- or equivalent education -- and a passing grade on a national board examination, the North American Veterinary Licensing Exam. Most States also require candidates to pass a State jurisprudence examination covering State laws and regulations. The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine website at <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalindustry/iowavetboard.asp> and provides specific licensure and support information for the state of Iowa.

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	n.a.
Locating Information	n.a.
Reading for Information	n.a.



This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Veterinarians Employed?)

Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services
Animal Production
Self Employed
Federal Government

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit <http://iwin.iowaworkforce.org/> to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document under the **Publications** tab. Published 10/2013.