



November 15, 2019

Dr. Kimberly Hoffmans, RN, EdD
President
Ventura College
4667 Telegraph Road
Ventura, CA 93003

Dear Dr. Hoffmans:

This letter is written in support of the proposed Veterinary Technology Program (Certificate in Veterinary Assisting and Associates Degree in Veterinary Technology) at Ventura College. This is a project that we have been actively working on with the Ventura College Administration over the last two years. We are passionate about education and providing an opportunity for our local students to obtain a specialized education in the animal health field. Ventura County is home to 3 large specialty veterinary practices and a multitude of general practices that are constantly looking to hire skilled veterinary assistants and technicians. In addition, there is also the possibility for students seek to local employment in biotech (Amgen), non-profit (National Search Dog Foundation), or government (Ventura County Animal Services, Fish & Game, etc.). Therefore, these students will have many local employment opportunities that the proposed Veterinary Technology program will prepare them well for. Obtaining an Associate Degree and a Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) license will also help justify higher and competitive pay rates.

As veterinarians and practice owners, we can attest to the demand for both RVTs and veterinary assistants as we have had active RVT job openings for years and are constantly looking for skilled veterinary assistants. We've had at least 50% of our staff express interest in attending a Veterinary Technology program and obtaining their RVT license. These employees are graduates of local high schools and said that the barriers to pursuing an RVT program included distance (Pierce College is too far) and/or cost (private colleges and online programs are expensive and do not give the students the hands on training they need to be successful). These employees are looking forward to having access to an RVT program locally at Ventura College.

4547 Telephone Road., Suite A
Ventura, CA 93003
T: (805) 658-7387 F: (805) 658-7388
info@ohanapethospital.com
www.ohanapethospital.com