The Faculty of Science at TRU offers a 2 year Animal Health Technology (AHT) diploma program.

Intake Dates: Fall (September) semester only

Admission Requirements

Academic Requirements
- Grade 12 or equivalent
- English 12/English 12 First Peoples or equivalent, C+ minimum grade
- Foundations of Math 11 or equivalent, C+ minimum grade
- Biology 11 or equivalent, C+ minimum grade
- Chemistry 11 or equivalent, C+ minimum grade
- Biology 12, Chemistry 12 or Physics 12 or equivalent, C+ minimum grade, Biology 12 is recommended

General Requirements
- Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Residence status
- Questionnaire (form)
- 80 hours orientation at a veterinary facility (working or volunteering or observing) (form)
- Three confidential reference forms (submitted directly from the referee), one from each of the following areas:
  1) Veterinarian orientation site
  2) Other animal related (non-vet related)
  3) Any non-animal work/volunteer experience
- Attendance at a program orientation session (upon invitation)

For assistance in developing your academic plan to meet this program’s requirements, you may want to contact Academic Advising at advising@tru.ca or 250-828-5075. Additional information is available at tru.ca/advising

Applications are accepted from October 1 – February 15 (deadline for application and submission of supporting documents). Admission to the AHT program is determined by a selective admission process and is highly competitive. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.

How to Apply

1. Submit your application online tru.ca/campus/admissions/apply
2. Pay the application fee: $28.68 for Canadian citizens and permanent residents.
3. Submit Ministry of Education high school transcript: For current high school students please submit final Grade 11 grades and an interim Grade 12 statement listing courses you are taking this year.
4. Submit official post-secondary transcript(s), if applicable
5. Submit all required supporting documents

Next Steps:
1. We will contact you within 2-3 weeks to let you know that we have received your application.
2. Use the check-list in this package to make sure you have included all the supporting documents required for the program you are applying to. For limited and selective programs, all documents must be submitted by the deadline in order for your application to be considered.
3. Once we have reviewed your application and supporting documents, we will notify you about the admission decision after the deadline.
4. If you are offered a seat in the program, you will have to pay a commitment fee to confirm your seat.
**Need Help? Contact Us**

Email: [admissions@tru.ca](mailto:admissions@tru.ca)

Old Main Student Street  
Phone: 250-828-5036  
Fax: 250-371-5960

**Mailing Address:**  
Admissions  
Thompson Rivers University  
805 TRU Way  
Kamloops, BC V2C 0C8

Further information regarding the Animal Health Technology program and application process can be found at: [tru.ca/science/programs/aht](http://tru.ca/science/programs/aht)

Additional information regarding various TRU support services, including Disability Services, Counselling, Student Awards & Financial Support, and Housing can be found at [www.tru.ca](http://www.tru.ca)

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**Program Application Checklist**

Applications are submitted to Admissions and will only be considered if all required documents are received. Incomplete applications will not be considered after the **February 15th** application deadline.

Please check off and include all of the following:

- [ ] Application form
- [ ] Application fee $28.68
- [ ] Ministry of Education high school transcript
- [ ] All official post-secondary transcript(s)
- [ ] Questionnaire (form)
- [ ] Orientation to a veterinary facility (form)

**Reference forms** should be submitted directly by the referee to Admissions and must be received by the application deadline. Alternatively, reference forms may be given directly to the applicant provided it is in a sealed envelope with the referee’s signature and the date across the envelope flap. If the latter option is used, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that the reference form is received by the application deadline. No reference will be accepted from family members.
Animal Health Technology Questionnaire

September 2018 intake

Complete this form in your own handwriting & submit with your application.

Name

Address

Phone _______________________________ Date _______________________________

1. What courses did you feel most comfortable with in High School? Why do you think that is so?

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2. What courses did you feel least comfortable with in High School? Why do you think that is so?

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3. The Animal Health Technology (AHT) program is academically demanding – the number of instructional hours is high and there are many assignments/quizzes/projects. Please explain how you have prepared for this type of educational experience.

➢ In your response, comment on your previous performance in high school and/or university.

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4. Tell us about any achievements, awards/bursaries or scholarships that you may have received.

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5. List and briefly describe your voluntary and/or paid veterinary experience – beginning with the most recent experience.

➢ Include approximate # of hours per week, duration and a brief description of your role/responsibilities. (Attach additional sheet if necessary)

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6. Briefly describe any non-veterinary animal experience, e.g. shelters, SPCA, rescues, wildlife rehab, exotics, etc.

➢ Include approximate # of hours per week, duration and a brief description of your role/responsibilities. (Attach additional sheet if necessary)

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7. List any other non-veterinary/non animal related voluntary or paid work experience.

➢ Include the approximate # of hours per week, duration and a brief description of your role/responsibilities. (Attach additional sheet if necessary)

8. Do you have any large animal experience (cattle/horses/sheep/goats/llamas, etc.)?  YES  NO (circle one)
   If yes, please provide details.

9. Is there any type of animal that causes you some anxiety or makes you feel uncomfortable? Please explain.

10. Everyone who applies to the AHT program has a passion for animals, however all animals come with humans attached! How do you like working with people? Do you prefer to work in a team or on your own? Are you comfortable in the role of team leader?
11. Considering there are many career paths in the field of Science, why did you choose to enter this component of Veterinary Medicine?

12. Tell us what you believe the job opportunities are for a graduate Animal Health Technologist/Veterinary Technologist.

13. If accepted to the program, what are your career plans after graduation?

14. Although there are many jobs for AHTs/VTs and it is rewarding to work with animals, the work is hard and the pay is modest. How do you feel about this?

15. What salary or wage do you expect to receive (dollars/month or hourly wage) after graduation?

16. AHTs/VTs and AHT students must do lots of cleaning up after animals – this includes cleaning up feces, urine, blood and vomit. How do you feel about having to do this type of cleaning for part of most days?
17. How did you hear about this program?
   a. High School Counsellor
   b. Local Veterinarian
   c. Animal Health Technologist
   d. Poster/Brochure
   e. Other, please explain ________________________________

18. Why did you choose TRU?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

19. Explain what you believe an Animal Health Technologist/Veterinary Technologist is, and then outline to us a routine day in the life of an AHT/VT. Finally, tell us why you wish to be an Animal Health Technologist/Veterinary Technologist (attach additional sheet if necessary).

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Dear Doctor:

The Animal Health Technology (AHT) 2 year diploma program at Thompson Rivers University consistently receives more applications than available seats. We have noticed that a number of applicants are unfamiliar with the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians and AHTs in particular. The purpose of this letter is to clarify an admission prerequisite and ask for your cooperation in supporting this applicant.

It is a mandatory prerequisite that an applicant have spent at least two weeks (80 hours) at a veterinary facility. Please note that these hours do not need to be concurrent. If possible, it would be helpful if you or one of your AHTs could speak with the prospective applicant outlining the AHTs function and responsibilities in your practice.

After the applicant has completed the minimum time in your practice, please complete the Orientation to a Veterinary Facility form attached. We would also appreciate you providing a reference for this applicant (please use the reference form provided to the student). This reference form can be sent directly to the registrar’s office – instructions are located on the cover page for the Veterinary Orientation Site Reference form. Alternatively, this reference form can be given directly to the applicant provided it is in a sealed envelope with your signature and date across the envelope flap. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at 250-852-7170 or ahtprograms@tru.ca.

Sincerely,

Robina Manfield, RVT, RMLAT  
Chairperson, AHT Program  
Animal Health Technology Department  
Thompson Rivers University  
www.tru.ca/science/aht
Animal Health Technology
Orientation at a Veterinary Facility

Applicant’s Name:

This is to certify that the applicant named above has spent__________ hours* observing my practice. I feel that he/she had adequate exposure to a routine day in a veterinary facility.

*Number of hours (estimate) is required as part of the applicant’s evaluation.

Dates of Orientation:__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

Practice/Business Name: ____________________________________________________________________
City/Province: _______________________________________________________________________

Veterinarian’s Name: ____________________________________________________________________
Date: ____________________________________________________________________

(Please print)

Veterinarian’s Signature:

Veterinarian, please complete the attached reference form

Thank you.
VETERINARY ORIENTATION SITE REFERENCE
THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY
ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Name of Applicant: ________________________________________________________

Dear Doctor:

The above candidate has applied for admission to the Animal Health Technology (AHT) program at Thompson Rivers University.

If admitted, he/she will require two years of intensive study which represents a large investment in time and educational resources. It is also hoped that, as professional people, animal health technology graduates will take an active, responsible part in the affairs of the community in which they reside. Such responsibilities require the characteristics indicated on the attached form.

The AHT program relies on referees such as you to help evaluate the applicant regarding these characteristics. Please complete this reference form, including your written evaluation, keeping in mind that this is a form of evaluation and not a letter of recommendation. Therefore, please be candid in your evaluation. The information will be used only by the Admissions Committee of the AHT program, will be held in strictest confidence, and will not be communicated to the applicant. This reference form can be sent directly to the registrar’s office - instructions are located below. Alternatively, this reference form can be given directly to the applicant provided it is in a sealed envelope with your signature and date across the envelope flap.

Please complete and return this reference form, by February 15, 2018 to:
Thompson Rivers University
Attn: Penny Pentilchuk, Admissions
805 TRU Way
Kamloops, BC V2C 0C8

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Sonia Walczak
Program Coordinator, Animal Health Technology
Thompson Rivers University
Telephone: 250-377-6079
Email: swalczak@tru.ca

Note: If you have completed one of these forms for the above mentioned applicant within the past two years and your assessment is unchanged, it is not necessary to complete this form. Please check the space below, include your signature and address, return the form to the admissions contact noted above and your previous assessment will be used.

☐ Please use previous evaluation on file

__________________________________________________________
Name (please print)                                                                                           Address
__________________________________________________________
Signature                                                                                                          
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What is (was) your relationship to the applicant?

How well do you know the applicant?

How long has the applicant been involved with you or organization? (Give approximate start and end dates if possible)

Approximately how many hours per week?

Please evaluate the applicant for each of the following characteristics by encircling the statement which in your judgement best describes the applicant. Special comments may be made in the space by each characteristic given below.

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Overall Rating as a Candidate for Admission to the Animal Health Technology Program (A “Highly Recommended” rating should be used only for those candidates whom you deem to be truly outstanding.)

☐ Not Recommended ☐ Recommended with reservation ☐ Recommended ☐ Highly Recommended ☐ No Opinion

Your Name: (please print): _______________________________________________________________________

Your occupation: _____________________________________________________________________________

Your business, organization or institution: _______________________________________________________________________

☐ Business or

☐ Home Address: _______________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________________________

Please submit directly to Thompson Rivers University Admissions Office or give to applicant in a sealed, signed & dated envelope.
Dear Sir/Madame:

The above candidate has applied for admission to the Animal Health Technology (AHT) program at Thompson Rivers University.

If admitted, he/she will require two years of intensive study which represents a large investment in time and educational resources. It is also hoped that, as professional people, animal health technology graduates will take an active, responsible part in the affairs of the community in which they reside. Such responsibilities require the characteristics indicated on the attached form. The AHT program relies on referees such as you to help evaluate the applicant regarding these characteristics. Please complete this reference form, including your written evaluation, keeping in mind that this is a form of evaluation and not a letter of recommendation. Therefore, please be candid in your evaluation. The information will be used only by the Admissions Committee of the AHT program, will be held in strictest confidence, and will not be communicated to the applicant. This reference form can be sent directly to the registrar’s office - instructions are located below. Alternatively, this reference form can be given directly to the applicant provided it is in a sealed envelope with your signature and date across the envelope flap.

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If admitted, he/she will require two years of intensive study which represents a large investment in time and educational resources. It is also hoped that, as professional people, animal health technology graduates will take an active, responsible part in the affairs of the community in which they reside. Such responsibilities require the characteristics indicated on the attached form.

The AHT program relies on referees such as you to help evaluate the applicant regarding these characteristics. Please complete this reference form, including your written evaluation, keeping in mind that this is a form of evaluation and not a letter of recommendation. Therefore, please be candid in your evaluation. The information will be used only by the Admissions Committee of the AHT program, will be held in strictest confidence, and will not be communicated to the applicant. This reference form can be sent directly to the registrar’s office - instructions are located below. Alternatively, this reference form can be given directly to the applicant provided it is in a sealed envelope with your signature and date across the envelope flap.

Please complete and return this reference form, by February 15, 2018, to:

Thompson Rivers University  
Attn: Penny Pentilchuk, Admissions  
805 TRU Way  
Kamloops, BC V2C 0C8

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Sonia Walczak
Program Coordinator, Animal Health Technology  
Thompson Rivers University  
Telephone: 250-377-6079  
Email: swalczak@tru.ca

Note: If you have completed one of these forms for the above mentioned applicant within the past two years and your assessment is unchanged, it is not necessary to complete this form. Please check the space below, include your signature and address, return the form to the admissions contact noted above and your previous assessment will be used.

☐ Please use previous evaluation on file
What is (was) your relationship to the applicant?

How well do you know the applicant?

How long has the applicant been involved with you or organization? (Give approximate start and end dates if possible)

Approximately how many hours per week?

Please evaluate the applicant for each of the following characteristics by encircling the statement which in your judgement best describes the applicant. Special comments may be made in the space by each characteristic given below.

**INTEGRITY** (Honesty with others and him/herself)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usually dishonest</th>
<th>Sometimes dishonest</th>
<th>Usually honest</th>
<th>Unquestioned integrity</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**INTERESTED IN ANIMALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all interested</th>
<th>Not very interested</th>
<th>Average interest</th>
<th>Very interested</th>
<th>Exceptionally interested</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**INDUSTRY** ( Applicant to a task and perseverance)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lazy</th>
<th>Tends to be lazy</th>
<th>Industrious</th>
<th>Very industrious</th>
<th>Exceptionally industrious</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**MATURITY** (Knows and accepts self, adaptable, tolerant)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very immature</th>
<th>Somewhat immature</th>
<th>Mature</th>
<th>Very mature</th>
<th>Exceptionally mature</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**RELIABILITY** (Responsible, dependable, punctual)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usually unreliable</th>
<th>Somewhat unreliable</th>
<th>Usually reliable</th>
<th>Very reliable</th>
<th>Unquestioned reliability</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY** (Likely to be decisive in crisis, takes setbacks in stride, positive self-image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all stable</th>
<th>Easily upset</th>
<th>Seldom Upset</th>
<th>Stable, well balanced</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**INITIATIVE** (Motivated, independent, resourceful)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependent, constantly requires direction</th>
<th>Needs some direction</th>
<th>Does only assigned work</th>
<th>Usually does more than assigned work and without help</th>
<th>Exceedingly resourceful and motivated</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**VERBAL FACILITY** (Vocabulary, ability to express oneself)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inarticulate</th>
<th>Moderately articulate</th>
<th>Articulate and fluent</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**REASONING CAPACITY** (Ability to draw valid conclusions from data and to apply general principles to specific conditions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can only memorize facts</th>
<th>Can draw simple conclusions only</th>
<th>Can often draw proper conclusion</th>
<th>Can usually draw proper conclusion</th>
<th>Can generate new principles from data and apply them</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**ABILITY TO THINK IN PRACTICAL TERMS** (“Common Sense”)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all practical</th>
<th>Not very practical</th>
<th>Practical</th>
<th>Very practical</th>
<th>Extremely practical</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**LEADERSHIP** (Ability to influence and guide others)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No ability to lead</th>
<th>Marginal ability to lead</th>
<th>Average ability to lead</th>
<th>A good leader</th>
<th>Outstanding leader</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**BREADTH OF INTEREST** (Knowledge of and participation in a variety to fields and activities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No outside interests</th>
<th>Few outside interests</th>
<th>Average outside interests</th>
<th>More than usual outside interests</th>
<th>Spends most of leisure time cultivating an interest</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**KNOWLEDGE OF ANIMALS** (Experience in working with animals and knowledge of their husbandry)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ignorant and without experience</th>
<th>Cursory knowledge and little experience</th>
<th>Knowledge and experience comparable to that of average person</th>
<th>Knowledgeable with above average experience</th>
<th>Exceedingly knowledgeable with extensive experience</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**DEPORTMENT** (Social behaviour, ability to get along with others)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Often discourteous, uninterested in others</th>
<th>Sometimes discourteous, passing interest in others</th>
<th>Courteous, some interest in others</th>
<th>Courteous, shows genuine interest in others</th>
<th>Not able to evaluate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
In the space provided below, please describe your overall impression of the suitability of the applicant for admission to the Animal Health Technology program at Thompson Rivers University. Comments regarding both the applicant’s personal attributes and deficiencies should be included. Specific background which documents your impression and assessment will be especially helpful.

_____________________________________________________

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**Overall Rating as a Candidate for Admission to the Animal Health Technology Program** (A “Highly Recommended” rating should be used only for those candidates whom you deem to be truly outstanding.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Recommended</th>
<th>Recommended with reservation</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Highly Recommended</th>
<th>No Opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Your Name: (please print): __________________________________________

Your occupation: ______________________________________________________

Your business, organization or institution: ________________________________

Business or

Home Address: _______________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________ Date: ____________

*Please submit directly to Thompson Rivers University Admissions Office or give to applicant in a sealed, signed & dated envelope.*