



# Small Animal Care

## Program Description

Small Animal Care is a two-year program for students who enjoy working with a wide variety of small animal species.

The program is an excellent opportunity for students who wish to explore careers in the animal care industry.

Students will learn through hands-on experiences in areas such as: grooming, health, customer service, and science.



Students are instructed in the areas of:

- Safety & Handling of Animals
- Career Opportunities in the Animal Care Industry
- Planning/Maintaining Facilities and Equipment
- Breeding/Reproduction
- Anatomical & Physiological Systems
- Animal Nutrition
- Grooming
- Obedience Training
- Aquarium Maintenance
- Avian (Birds)
- Health Care
- Sales/Marketing/Business Management
- Entrepreneurship

## Program of Study

Junior Year:

Animal Care Lab .....	2.5 credits
Junior English .....	1 credit
Junior Related .....	1 credit
Junior Mathematics .....	1 credit
Junior Social Studies .....	1 credit
Junior Elective .....	1 credit
Junior Science .....	.5 credits

Senior Year:

Animal Care Lab .....	2.5 credits
Senior Related .....	1 credit
Senior English .....	1 credit
Senior Social Studies .....	1 credit
Senior Elective .....	1 credit
Senior Science .....	1.5 credits

A typical day at Penta consists of approximately one-half day hands-on experience in the lab. The rest of the day is used for related technical training along with required course work necessary for graduation.

### Laboratory Management Procedures:

- Aquarium/Pet Shop/Retail
- Grooming/Bathing/Brushing
- Kennels/Pet Day Care Center
- Business Office
- Laboratory Animals
- Health Care/Testing Clinic
- Avian (Birds) Care
- Hoofed Animals/Barn Management

## Career Opportunities

A student successfully completing this two-year program will be prepared for employment in the following areas:

- Animal Caretaker
  - Zoo Keeper
  - Kennel Attendant
  - Brusher/Bather
- Animal Control Officer
- Veterinary Receptionist/Office Manager
- Dog Groomer
- Cruelty Investigator
- Veterinary Aide
- Obedience Instructor/Aide
- Kennel Management
- Pet Shop Management
- Business Owner



## College Opportunities

### Veterinary Technician- 2-Year Programs

Cuyahoga Community College

Columbus State Community College

Stautzenberger College, Toledo

Wayne County Community College,  
Michigan

University of Cincinnati

Ohio State University

Agricultural Technical Institute, Wooster

### Certificate Programs:

National Dog Grooming Association

American Association of Laboratory  
Animal Science

Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council

## Helpful Courses

Courses that are helpful, but not required, before enrolling in Small Animal Care are:

- Vocational Agriculture
- Science Classes

Any hands-on agricultural experience in or out of school provides good experience for this field.

## Activities

As a Small Animal Care student, you will be a member of the FFA. The FFA is a student-oriented organization designed to expand your citizenship and leadership skills. As a member, you will be encouraged to participate in competitive events at the local, district, state, and national levels in both leadership and occupational skills.

In addition to the FFA at Penta, you may participate in student activities at your high school such as music, sports, and club activities.

## Salary Information\*

Salary varies with the employer's location and industry. It also varies with the worker's skills and experience.

Nationally, for small animal caretakers, animal control workers, and veterinary assistants, the average entry wage is \$8.57/hour or \$1,371/month.

\*Ohio Career Information System, 2002

## Member Schools

Anthony Wayne  
Benton-Carroll-Salem  
Bowling Green  
Eastwood  
Elmwood  
Genoa  
Lake  
Maumee  
North Baltimore  
Northwood  
Otsego  
Perrysburg  
Rossford  
Springfield  
Swanton  
Woodmore

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**Explore the  
Possibilities!**



### Penta Career Center

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[www.pentacareercenter.org](http://www.pentacareercenter.org)