According to the 2019 Idaho Career Information System—

- **Veterinary Technologists & Technicians** earn a median wage of $28,298 per year in Idaho. Most states require veterinary technologists to be licensed. Licensing is usually governed by the State Board of Veterinary Examiners. The American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) also offers three levels of laboratory certifications. This medium-sized occupation is considered “very fast” growth.

- Around 13% of **Veterinarians** are self-employed. Most work in a vet hospital or a clinic. In the Boise area the median wage is $86,602/year. Veterinarians are state licensed and earning depends on the size and type of practice and whether you are in a rural area of urban. Demand will remain strong however, vets who specialized in small animals face more competition than for example, someone who is willing to treat large animals in rural areas.

Many career and technical education (CTE) courses offer technical competency credits. Instructors inform students of these opportunities and encourage them to consider the benefits of joining a related professional student organizations.

This West Ada Agricultural Science and Technology program is recognized as one of the best programs in the state by the Idaho Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. This highly functional program also received the professional Exemplary Program Award in 2011, which is the highest award a program can receive from the State Division of Career & Technical Education.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources Pathway:**

**Animal Science**

Learn more about …

CTE Magnet Programs at: [www.westada.org/CTE](http://www.westada.org/CTE)

CTE Administrative Office - 208.350.5051

Updated 1/2019
Animal Science training is offered through the Career & Technical (CTE) Center - Meridian Campus. The strong partnership with local businesses in the field of Veterinary Science offers students a very special opportunity to engage in the inner workings of this career field. This pathway offers a large and exciting array of courses so that students can more easily determine if this career field is right for them.

Home High School Prerequisites:
- **Introduction to Animal Science**—introduces basic concepts and principles of animal nutrition, health, behavior, reproduction, and careers.
- **Personal Skills Development**—is **highly recommended** yet not required (counts as a **Speech** credit towards graduation).
- **Botany/Plant & Soil Science**—covers soil and plant relationships, and the impact on the production of food and fiber.
- **Zoology/Animal Science**—develops knowledge and skills pertaining to nutrition, reproduction, diseases, breeding, genetics, anatomy, and physiology in livestock.

NOTE: If your school doesn’t offer the prerequisites, you can take them at the CTE center beginning in 10th grade.

Tech Center courses:
- **Small Animal Care**—Students learn about breeds, systems and nutrition needs. Exposure to proper medication procedures of small animals including care, handling techniques, and documentation standards are also introduced.

- **Equine Science I**—The course focus is on horses, their physiology, anatomy, nutrition, genetics, health and reproduction.

- **Zoo/Fish & Wildlife Management**—This course examines fish and wildlife science and sustaining pertinent resources. Students also learn about related careers.

- **Veterinary Assistant Internship**—Students get real life experience in the field of veterinary medicine. Related animal science businesses provide students opportunities for hands-on learning as they assist with various tasks such as lab work, dental care, surgery and sanitation preparation.

Additional Related Courses:
- **Zoo/Science of Animal Nutrition**
- **Advanced Equine Science II**
- **Consumer Economics/AG Business & Economics**
- **Adv. Leadership in AG & Marketing**
- **Science of Food Production**