



Nutritional Counselor Training Program Outline

Participants

- Veterinary Technicians selected based on nominations from hospital leadership, demonstrates:
 - Interest and commitment from participant
 - PD and PM support and buy-in
 - Baseline knowledge and skills verification for success
- Participant time commitment:
 - ~5 hours per week for foundational curriculum (this includes 1 hour per week live session); total of 40 hours of foundational learning over a 10-week time period.
 - Supplemental learning available for participants to dive deeper on topics if they are interested
- Cohort groups complete the program together

Program Approach and Structure

- Program will follow a “flipped classroom” model
 - Blended-learning approach that has participants interact with new content/learning assignments first and then uses group time to discuss the new information and put those ideas into action
- The program will be 10 weeks in duration
 - Each module builds on the previous modules’ knowledge and skills
- Program will be hosted on the NAVC VetFolio online platform and it will include:
 - All learning module content
 - Module quizzes
 - Final exam
- Live coaching sessions will be conducted via Zoom or similar virtual meeting software
 - Discussion questions
 - Collaboration with Kara Burns and cohort peers

Program Content and Topics

Learning Content Types/Examples

- NAVC Pet Nutrition Coach Certification Program
 - Register at <https://www.vetfolio.com/courses/navc-pet-nutrition-coach-certification>
 - WellHaven Campus to pay for registration fee – must be completed within established time frame
- Textbook: *Nutrition and Disease Management for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses 2nd ed*, Wortinger A, Burns KM eds. for every participant
- Articles from industry resources
- Applying learnings to practice/clients
- Short assignments: Discussion questions, scenarios, short case studies, etc.



Program Outline

- 01. Getting Started
 - Welcome to the PNCC!
 - The Team
 - Introduction
- 02. Nutrition Basics – Mastering the Foundation to Reach the Pinnacle
 - Nutrition Basics - Introduction
 - Introduction
 - Proteins and Amino Acids
 - Carbohydrates
 - Fats
 - Water
 - Vitamins
 - Minerals
 - Energy
 - Supplements
 - Nutrition Basics Discussion
 - Nutrition Basics Quiz
- 03. Having the Pet Food Conversation
 - Having the Pet Food Conversation - Introduction
 - Having the Pet Food Conversation
 - Having the Pet Food Conversation
- 04. The Foundation of Feeding the Pet
 - Foundation of Feeding the Pet - Introduction
 - Physiology of Cats and Dogs
 - Accessory Organs
 - Endocrine System
 - Energy Calculations
 - Life Stages of Dogs and Cats
 - Specific Diets
 - The Foundation of Feeding the Pet Discussion
 - References
 - Quiz 4: The Foundation of Feeding the Pet
- 05. The Application of Feeding the Pet
 - Application of Feeding the Pet - Introduction
 - Wellness and Therapeutic Nutrition
 - The What, How, and When of Feeding
 - The Nutritional Recommendation
 - Application of Feeding the Pet Discussion
 - Application of Feeding the Pet Quiz
- 06. Navigating the Myths and Misperceptions of Pet Foods



- Navigating the Myths and Misperceptions of Pet Foods - Introduction
- Myths of Pet Foods
- Navigating the Myths and Misperceptions of Pet Foods Discussion
- Navigating the Myths and Misperceptions of Pet Foods Quiz

- 07. Pet Food Regulations and Labels
 - Pet Food Regulations and Labels - Introduction
 - Pet Food Regulations and Labels
 - Pet Food Regulations and Labels Discussion
 - Pet Food Regulations and Labels Quiz

- 08. Raw Meat Based Diets
 - Raw Meat Based Diets - Introduction
 - Raw Meat Based Diets
 - Raw Meat Based Diets Discussion
 - Raw Meat Based Diet Quiz

- 09. The Business of Nutrition
 - The Business of Nutrition - Introduction
 - The Business of Nutrition
 - The Business of Nutrition Discussion
 - The Business of Nutrition Quiz

- 10. Tying It All Together: Scenarios
 - Fozy
 - Pudge
 - Gronk
 - Tommy
 - Barry

- 11. Pet Nutrition Coach Exam
 - Pet Nutrition Coach Final Exam

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must have been employed with WellHaven for 6+ months.
- Applicant must be currently employed Full-Time (30+ hours per week).

Participant & Hospital Benefits

For Veterinary Nurses/Technicians

- Career development for Veterinary Nurses/Techs
- Recognized knowledge and skill in veterinary nutrition
 - Participants that successfully complete the program and demonstrate knowledge/skill proficiency will be recognized as a certified WellHaven Nutritional Counselor and a Pet Nutrition Coach through NAVC



o Note: this comprehensive development program issues 8 CE credits upon completion and passing the examination

- Increased utilization

For the Hospital

- Implement or expand nutrition counseling services for your clients
- Enhance preventive care for pets
- Expand technician and team utilization

Program is led by:

Kara M. Burns, MS, MEd, LVT, VTS (Nutrition), WellHaven Director of Veterinary Nurse Development