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Hi, I'm Terry and I am a recent graduate of the vet assistant certificate program at Central Animal Hospital in North Haven, CT.

I was an Art Director in the publishing industry for many years, raising 3 children. Then, 3 years ago, while bringing Ted, one of my 2 cats to the vet, he was diagnosed with cancer. I thought a lot about my love of animals, and mused at the idea of somehow working with them in some capacity once my youngest was old enough for college. The initial thought was veterinary technician, but the thought of enrolling in a 2 year veterinary technician program was an overwhelming thought, especially as an older adult.

Ted's 2 year journey with cancer turned out to be life changing for me. I became friends with my vet, and who knew I was grappling with a career change decision. When it was time to say goodbye to Ted, she encouraged me to investigate the new Vet Assistant program at Central. It was a 9 month commitment and would expose me to the veterinary world. This seemed doable to me.

I started the program in August 2023, and was immediately hooked. The instructor, Brynn Holt, is an extremely knowledgeable, engaging and dynamic instructor. The program is extensive, the lectures and clinicals are hands-on and really give you a chance to learn through doing not just conceptualizing. The class size was small, and felt like family by the end of the program.

One requirement of the program is a 100 hour externship during the second semester. When my externship ended, I was offered a full time job with the Animal hospital where I externed and began working there even before classes were done.

I am happily employed there and have opened a new chapter of my life thanks to this program! I have also made the decision to take the next step and have enrolled in college to become a certified veterinary technician this fall. I never would have made this decision if I hadn't gone through the assistant program.

I can't say enough about this program! If you're wondering if a career with animals may be for you, this is a fantastic place to begin that journey!

Terry Lester