



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NAVTA-Approved and Next-Level: IGNITE's Veterinary Assistant Program (IVAP) Redefines Veterinary Assistant Education

IGNITE's Veterinary Assistant Program (IVAP) has officially earned NAVTA approval, joining an elite group of just seven online programs nationwide.

IVAP doesn't follow. It leads.

This isn't about meeting expectations, it's about redefining them. IVAP revolutionizes the training, support, and preparation of veterinary assistants for real-world success.

With a curriculum designed by veterinary professionals, unmatched student support, and modern tools for modern practices, IVAP offers the most forward-thinking path to becoming an Approved Veterinary Assistant (AVA).

What sets IVAP apart?

- **A solution for today's challenges** - grounded in modern adult learning principles, IVAP was built to address the challenges of today's veterinary industry and how veterinary teams have adapted in recent years. IVAP replaces outdated learning programs.
- **Trusted expertise, high-touch support** - IVAP students are never alone. They're backed by a team of experts, real-time coaching, live chat support, a vibrant online community, and direct access to faculty through office hours. That's not common. That's intentional.
- **Jim Hurrell, DVM, is the IVAP Program Director** - with over 40 years of leadership in veterinary education as Program Director and College Professor at 4 AVMA-accredited Veterinary Technician Programs, you don't just get academic content; you get an expert, hands-on, compassionate teacher with field-tested wisdom and practical tips that make the material stick.

- **Externship placement help** - no “good luck” emails here. Through its concierge service, IGNITE helps students land required real-world experience, so they don’t just learn - they launch.
- **Industry titans on the advisory board** - including Lori Renda-Francis, LVT, BBA, M.Ed., PhD, and co-author of “Textbook for the Veterinary Assistant” and long-time advocate for the Approved Veterinary Assistant (AVA) distinction.
- **Fear Free Certification included** - gain a nationally recognized credential at no additional cost, equipping you with low-stress, compassionate animal handling skills that set you apart and aren’t offered by most veterinary assistant programs.
- **Optional large-animal training** - expand your skills with equine, bovine, poultry, and caprine learning content—because not every clinic smells like a Shih Tzu.
- **Purpose-built for ALL entry roles** - whether you are an existing Veterinary Assistant looking to expand your foundational knowledge, a practice training your next Veterinary Assistant, or an individual aspiring to work in practice, IVAP builds talent ... and for practices, your internal pipeline.

To learn more about IGNITE’s Veterinary Assistant Program (IVAP), visit <https://learn.ignitevet.com/bundles/navta-approved-ivap-program>.

What They are Saying

“What sets IVAP apart is the connection we create with our students. High-touch support is not an add-on - it’s foundational. This program delivers the strongest and most modern learning content in the industry, paired with real-life application and mentorship that drives results. With NAVTA approval now in place, I believe thousands of future assistants will choose IVAP not just because it is a credentialed program but because it is built to help them succeed.”

-Jim Hurrell, DVM, Program Director, IVAP

“Dr. Jim Hurrell is one of the most respected voices in veterinary education, and his leadership ensures IVAP meets the highest standards. Backed by an incredible independent advisory board, IVAP is not just another program - it is a game-changer. We designed it with purpose, to be affordable, accessible, and transformative for students and the practices that rely on them. Going above and beyond the NAVTA approval requirements to deliver soft skills, different species, and present-day scenarios that veterinary teams are facing gives me a great sense of pride in this program.”

-Jill Clark, DVM, Chief Visionary Officer, IGNITE

About IGNITE

IGNITE® is a purpose-driven, veterinarian-owned company devoted to advancing the skills of passionate veterinary practices and their people while improving medical outcomes. IGNITE was created to innovate and disrupt traditional veterinary learning, uniquely delivering the education tools veterinary teams need whenever, wherever, and however they need them. IGNITE now serves over 22,000 members and offers membership programs tailored to Practice Owners, Practice Managers, Technicians, Veterinary Assistants, and Front Desk staff globally, as well as other signature programs, including the Veterinary Receptionist Certificate of Excellence.

To learn more about why thousands of veterinary professionals are choosing IGNITE®, visit <https://ignitevet.com>.

About NAVTA

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) sets the standard in veterinary assistant and technician education — and their approval puts real weight behind the programs that earn it.

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