



KENTUCKY'S EQUINE INDUSTRY

Equine Healthcare Pathway

CLINIC

LABORATORY

SUPPORT SERVICES

Higher-Skilled

Veterinarian*
 Average Annual Earnings: \$55-65k
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Long-term
 Minimum Education Required: DVM degree

Veterinary Technicians*
 Average Hourly Earnings: \$13-16/hr.
 Work Experience Required: 1+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Moderate-term
 Minimum Education Required: associate's degree, bachelor's degree preferred

Middle-Skilled

Veterinary Assistants
 Average Hourly Earnings: \$11-20/hr.
 Work Experience Required: <1 yr
 On-the-Job Training: Short-term
 Minimum Education Required: High school diploma or GED

Entry-Level

Barn Crew
 Average Hourly Earnings: \$13-15/hr
 Work Experience Required: 1-2 yrs hands-on equine experience
 On-the-Job Training: Short-term
 Minimum Education Required: High school diploma or GED

* Veterinarians and technicians can specialize in areas such as surgery or reproduction, which may influence earnings, education, and work experience requirements.

Higher-Skilled

Laboratory Manager
 Average Annual Earnings: \$60-90k
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Moderate-term
 Minimum Education Required: Master's degree, PhD degree preferred

Middle-Skilled

Laboratory Technician
 Average Hourly Earnings: \$14-16/hr.
 Work Experience Required: 1-3 yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Short-term
 Minimum Education Required: associate's degree

Higher-Skilled

Farrier
 Average Annual Earnings: \$50-60k
 Work Experience Required: 1+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Long-term
 Minimum Education Required: High school diploma or GED, farrier school certificate preferred

Equine Nutritionist
 Average Annual Earnings: \$45-80k
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Moderate to Long-term
 Minimum Education Required: bachelor's degree, master's degree preferred

Equine Dentist
 Average Annual Earnings: \$45-55k
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Long-term
 Minimum Education Required: DVM degree (in most states), equine dental certification

Equine Chiropractor/Massage Therapist
 Average Annual Earnings: \$45k+
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Long-term
 Minimum Education Required: DVM degree (in some states), chiropractic or massage certification

Pharmaceutical Representative
 Average Annual Earnings: \$50-75k (salary and commission)
 Work Experience Required: 5+ yrs
 On-the-Job Training: Moderate-Term
 Minimum Education Required: Bachelor's degree

* These positions do not work within a pathway, but rather are stand alone opportunities within the industry

* On-the-job training: Short-term = brief onboarding requirements. Moderate-term = procedural experiences over time. Long-term = ongoing educational requirements.