



November 6, 2020

Dr. D. Ray Perren  
President  
Lanier Technical College  
2535 Lanier Tech Drive  
Gainesville, GA 30507

Dear Dr. Perren:

Thank you for submitting the following substantive change:

Substantive change:

**Significant Departure Program**

**Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Veterinary Technology**

**Technical Certificate in Veterinary Technology Assistant**

Submission date:

**6/8/2020**

Implementation date:

**1/1/2021**

Case ID:

**SC011557**

The 80-credit hour Associate of Applied Science degree program in Veterinary Technology, which is consistent with the mission of Lanier Technical College, will include a 28 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Veterinary Technology Assistant. The target audience is traditional college-age students who desire careers in the veterinary field, and adults seeking a new career path. Courses will be delivered through a combination of face-to-face instruction, distance education, and lab experiences with an expected initial enrollment of 16 students. As a rationale for the program, the College cites EMSI Labor Market Analytics data which project a 37% increase in the number of veterinary technician jobs in the College's service area by 2029. Administrative oversight will be provided by the Program Coordinator. The new program was approved by the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia in June 2020.

A comprehensive list of all other programs offered by the College was provided, as well as a list of approved off-campus instructional sites. The curriculum, course descriptions, and student learning outcomes were provided. Admission and graduation requirements for the program, along with the definition of a credit hour, were also noted. Student learning will be assessed through laboratory skills check sheets, rubric-scored projects, and criterion-referenced objective examinations. The A.A.S. program and its Certificate will be integrated into the College-wide institutional effectiveness process, which was described in detail. This process involves the



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systematic collection, review, and use of assessment data for continual improvement of teaching and learning. Results are compiled into annual Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports which include explicit comparison of student learning across delivery modes.

The Faculty Roster describes the qualifications of the five full-time and two part-time faculty members who will support the Veterinary Technology program. The faculty members all have related graduate or professional degrees and appear qualified to teach the assigned courses. Keep in mind that the ultimate determination of faculty qualifications is the responsibility of the peer review teams who will assess the faculty as part of the institution's next SACSCOC accreditation review.

Library and learning resources appear to be adequate. The Lanier Technical College Library has a collection of both physical and electronic resources that support the veterinary technology curriculum. This collection includes books/e-books, journals, and databases. A detailed list of discipline-specific resources was provided. Students may access all items in person from any campus location, or online from the Library website. Additional external resources may be obtained through GALILEO (Georgia Library Learning Online), interlibrary loans, and through cooperative borrowing agreements with multiple libraries across the state. Instruction on use of library resources is provided through classroom presentations and individual consultations. Students may also receive remote assistance through online research guides and via telephone, email, or the Ask-a-Librarian chat service.

Student support services appear to be adequate and are available to all students regardless of location. Along with standard academic support services such as financial aid, student records, and admissions the College provides additional support through academic advising, career services, and personal counseling. Specialized resources are available for veterans, non-traditional students, and individuals with disabilities. Students have access to tutoring services in face-to-face sessions or virtually through [Tutor.com](http://Tutor.com). The College also provides students with opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities that contribute to their intellectual, emotional, physical, and professional development outside the classroom. Information about available resources is provided through an online orientation via the College website.

The physical resources appear to be adequate. Instruction for the proposed Veterinary Technology program will be offered at the Lanier Technical College main campus, as well as multiple off-campus clinical sites. Face-to-face courses will utilize existing classroom and laboratory space. Lab areas have program-specific equipment including an anesthesia machine, clippers, exam table, esophageal stethoscope, muzzles, surgery instruments, and centrifuge. A detailed list of all equipment, plus photos of the laboratory space, was provided. Distance



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learning courses will be conducted through the existing Blackboard learning management system. The College already has technical infrastructure in place to support this system.

Financial support for the program appears to be adequate; a projected three-year budget was provided. Expenses will include instructional personnel, equipment/supplies, travel, and library resources. Revenues will come from student tuition and fees, and are expected to outpace expenses after the second year of the program's operation. A contingency plan is in place to sustain the financial stability of the program in the event expected enrollment numbers are not realized. Lanier Technical College is not currently on reimbursement for Title IV funding.

**The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program in Veterinary Technology and the Technical Certificate program in Veterinary Technology Assistant. It was the decision of the Board to approve the programs and include them in the scope of the current accreditation.**

Enclosed is an invoice for \$500 to help defray the cost of reviewing the prospectus.

Should you need assistance, please contact Dr. Denise Y. Young at 404-679-4501 or via email at [dyoung@sacscoc.org](mailto:dyoung@sacscoc.org).

Please include the Case ID number above in all submissions or correspondence about this substantive change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW/SKO:lp

Enclosure (invoice with liaison's copy only)

cc: Dr. Joanne P. Tolleson, Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness & Operations  
Dr. Denise Y. Young



**INVOICE**

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
Commission on Colleges, Inc.  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Date	Invoice #
10/27/2020	6588

<b>Bill To</b>
Lanier Technical College Attn: Accounts Payable Hall County Campus 2535 Lanier Tech Drive Gainesville, GA 30507

Please include the Case ID on your check and on all correspondence with the Commission regarding this submission.

Case ID	Due Date	Account #
SC011557	Due upon receipt	41800

Description	Amount
<b>REVIEW OF SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE PROSPECTUS FEE</b>	
Substantive Change Fee for transmitting the prospectus for the laniertech-2020-SC011557-PGM SIG DEPARTURE-Multiple Programs, effective January 1, 2021.	500.00

Please make checks payable to SACSCOC. Attn: Business Office and/or Sharon Wilks

Questions, please contact Sharon Wilks @ 404-679-4501 ext 4507 or 404-994-6540

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
Payments/Credits	\$0.00
<b>Balance Due</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

Phone #	Fax #	E-mail
404-679-4501 ext 4507	404-994-6590	swilks@sacscoc.org

Web Site
www.sacscoc.org