



**Ministry of Agriculture  
and Fisheries**  
**VETERINARY SERVICES DIVISION**

**We are the focal points that ensure  
the health of animals and humans  
at the farm level**



## **Veterinary Services Division MANDATE**

- Keeping exotic diseases out of Jamaica
- Safeguarding the Livestock Industry
- Facilitating Trade
- Improving Public Health
- Enhancing Food Safety
- Promoting Animal Welfare

*FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US AT:*

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## **Animal Health Technician**

## WHO IS AN ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN?

**Animal Health Technicians, (AHT)** is a group of professional health assistants who assist veterinarians in providing medical and welfare care to animals. They also conduct:

- Animal disease surveillance
- Animal identification and tractability,
- Screwworm control
- Food animal and animal product monitoring through harvesting and processing facilities
- Farm inspections



## WHAT MUST I DO TO BECOME AN AHT?

Although many animal care workers receive on-the-job training, formal training is required to become an animal health technician. Individuals interested in becoming an AHT typically complete a 2 or 3 year programme at an approved Institution.



### Main subjects needed are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science subjects e.g. Biology
- Diploma in Veterinary Science or Animal Health Science

## WHERE DO YOU GO TO BE QUALIFIED?

Any approved institution/school (locally or overseas) that offers courses in Animal Health Sciences or Veterinary Sciences.

### OPPORTUNITIES:

Individuals may choose to upgrade to a Masters or Doctorate level or any specialized area in the field of Animal Health.

We and the veterinarians are the first responders to animal health investigations or disease outbreaks.

