

# ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST

An animal physical therapist rehabilitates animals that have had surgery, amputation, have been injured or suffer from chronic pain so that they may enjoy a higher quality of life.

## WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Observe animal patients and perform exams
- Determine proper rehabilitation or recovery plan
- Communicate with clients and veterinarians to agree on a rehabilitation plan and determine medical treatment
- Utilize laser therapy, ultrasound, shockwave and radiography equipment
- Assist animal patients in strengthening and exercise routines
- Perform stretches and massages on animal patients
- Organize checkup appointments with clients following completion of rehabilitation



## WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

Most animal physical therapists are licensed as human physical therapists that choose to treat animals; a master's degree in physical therapy is required for this path

## THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, biology, anatomy, animal science and mathematics

## TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Animal hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, colleges and universities with veterinary programs

## FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



## SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- American Society for Animal Science
- American Association of Rehabilitation Veterinarians

## AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$36,000