



The Tyler Sheahan Memorial Veterinary Shadowing Program For Bard College Students

The Rhinebeck Animal Hospital (supervising veterinarian Dr. Noah Shulman) and the Bard College Prehealth Advising program are pleased to offer the opportunity for Bard College students interested in a career in veterinary medicine to shadow veterinary professionals. The goal of this experience is to supplement your education by providing exposure to veterinary medicine in a busy, multi-disciplinary veterinary hospital setting. While New York State law does not allow students to treat patients, this program will provide observational learning through a shadowing experience. Students are encouraged to follow clinicians, interact with patients, and learn from experienced technicians. Student participants will have the opportunity to observe surgery, dentistry, medical treatments, kennel care, laboratory work, exam room appointments and other areas of client and patient care. The actual areas the student will observe will vary throughout the day, and day-to-day due to the variable nature of hospital work. The experience will include a total of 40 hours of observations scheduled over the course of a five-week period.

Tyler Sheahan was a biology major and student at Bard College from 2019-2023. He was a vibrant and energetic personality with a deep passion for becoming a veterinarian. He designed a shadowing experience at the Rhinebeck Animal Hospital while working there as a veterinary assistant. Tyler was passionate about making this kind of experience available to other Bard Students and he worked with Bruce Robertson, Associate Professor of Biology/Director of the Biology Program, and Tom Mullen, Hospital Manager, to make this shadowing program a reality.

Expectations. The Career Development Office may be able to provide transportation if the volunteer schedule and availability of drivers align. Alternatively, students will be required to arrange transportation for themselves to the Rhinebeck Animal Hospital either via private vehicle or to coordinate with the [Dutchess County Loop bus schedule](#), which would require participants to make a 15-minute walk to and from the bus stop to the hospital. Students will be required to adhere to a dress code and to log their working hours on a timesheet.

Interested students should complete the [Application Form](#)

The evaluation process will begin with a simple telephone or in-person meeting to get to know the student and discuss expectations, and to discuss when students might best put in their hours given their classes and other commitments.

