PRIORITY OCCUPATION
CURRENT DEMAND · FUTURE GROWTH · VIABILITY · RETENTION

Kiri Savai'i - 33

> My parents say I taped a toothpick "splint" to an injured caterpillar when I was six. I don't think it worked, but my parents say that's the day they predicted I would become a vet, and they were right! As a kid, I thought that loving animals and wanting to be around them all the time would be enough, but veterinary school is hard work. I was always good at science, so that helped, but it's medical school for all different types of animal species, so you have to stay committed.
>
> Some of my friends went into large animal specialties, working for farms or on horses. Another friend treats exotic pets like snakes and hedgehogs, but I enjoy the family pet dynamic. Whether it's performing surgery or teaching kids how to care for a new puppy, every day is a fun challenge! The pets all have their own great personalities! The losses can be hard, because I love my patients. Fortunately, there are more happy outcomes than sad ones, and my bonus pay is wagging tails and friendly licks!

Occupation:
Veterinarian

Salary:
$96,364

Education:
Doctoral or Professional Degree

Job Description:

Veterinarians diagnose, treat, or research diseases and injuries of animals. Includes veterinarians who conduct research and development, inspect livestock, or care for pets and companion animals.*

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Job Description:

SOC Code: 29-1131

Top Job Skills:

- Diagnostic testing
- Behavioral assessment
- Customer service
- Administer vaccines
- Climbing ladders

General Work Activities:

- Mental Processes
  - Operate on patients to treat conditions
  - Prescribe medications
  - Treat acute illnesses, infections, or injuries
  - Communicate health and wellness information to the public
  - Counsel family members of clients or patients
  - Provide health and wellness advice
  - Treat animal injuries or illnesses
  - Supervise medical support personnel
- Interacting With Others
  - Coordinate logistics for productions or events
- Information Input
  - Examine patients to assess general physical condition
- Work Output
  - Collect biological specimens from patients
  - Operate diagnostic imaging equipment

Source: SC Works Online Services (SCWOS)

JOB STATISTICS[*]:

Typical Wage Range
$91,220 - $156,410

Projected Growth
109/yr Job Openings

Employed In-State
1,440

Required Education
Doctoral or Professional Degree

Work Experience
Typically Requires None

On-the-Job Training
Typically Requires None

[*]**Source:** Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

EXAMPLES OF WORKFORCE AREAS WITH JOB OPENINGS:

Source: SC Works Online Services. Ask an SC Works representative for more information about postings in your area.

- Midlands
- Trident
- Greenville
- Upper Savannah
- Catawba
- Waccamaw

EXAMPLES OF EMPLOYERS WITH JOB OPENINGS:

Source: SC Works Online Services. Ask an SC Works representative for more information about postings in your area.

- American Veterinary Group
- Thrive Pet Healthcare
- VCA, Inc.
- VetCor
- Encore Vet Group
- National Veterinary Associates

RELATED OCCUPATIONS[*]:

- Allergists and Immunologists
- Emergency Medicine Physicians
- Dermatologists
- General Internal Medicine Physicians
- Physicians, Pathologists
- Urologists

NOTE: All data based on state averages. Information may vary depending on region, experience, and specific employment situation. **Last Updated:** 2025.

LEARN MORE WITH SCWOS:

SC Works Online Services (SCWOS) is the state's largest job database and provides all of South Carolina's job postings from all major sites, including Monster and Career Builder, in one resource. SCWOS has thousands of positions listed by employers all over the state. To access SCWOS, visit *jobs.scworks.org*.

Find in-depth breakdowns of occupational statistics such as necessary job certifications, job skills and abilities, current job openings, overview of general work activities, and more by visiting *O*NET.org*.