# Veterinary Technology Student Podcast Guidelines

**Assignment Overview**

Create a professional-quality podcast episode that demonstrates your understanding of veterinary technology concepts while developing communication skills essential for client education and professional collaboration.

**Technical Requirements**

**Duration**

- **Minimum:** 15 minutes
- **Maximum:** 25 minutes
- **Optimal range:** 18-22 minutes

**Audio Quality**

- Record in a quiet environment with minimal background noise
- Use a quality microphone or headset (avoid built-in laptop mics when possible)
- Maintain consistent audio levels throughout
- Export final file as MP3 format, 128 kbps or higher

**File Submission**

- Submit audio file with clear naming convention: LastName_FirstName_VetTech_Podcast.mp3
- Include a separate transcript document
- Provide a brief episode summary (100-150 words)

**Content Requirements**

**Topic Selection**

Choose one primary focus area:

- **Clinical Procedures:** Diagnostic techniques, surgical assistance, patient monitoring

- **Animal Care:** Nutrition, behavior, preventive medicine, rehabilitation

- **Professional Practice:** Ethics, client communication, veterinary team dynamics

- **Emerging Technologies:** New equipment, digital health records, telemedicine

- **Species-Specific Care:** Companion animals, exotic pets, livestock, wildlife

**Required Elements**

1. **Professional Introduction** (2-3 minutes)

   o Host introduction with credentials/student status

   o Episode topic and learning objectives

   o Brief overview of content structure

2. **Main Content Segments** (10-15 minutes)

   o Evidence-based information with credible sources

   o Real-world applications and case scenarios

   o Integration of course concepts and terminology

   o Practical tips for veterinary technicians

3. **Guest Interview or Expert Perspective** (3-5 minutes)

   o Interview with practicing veterinary professional, OR

   o Recorded phone call with industry expert, OR

   o Panel discussion with classmates on different aspects

4. **Professional Conclusion** (2-3 minutes)

   o Summary of key takeaways

   o Resources for further learning

   o Contact information or social media (if applicable)

## Content Standards

## Accuracy and Sources

- Use minimum of 5 credible sources (veterinary journals, textbooks, professional organizations)

- Cite sources naturally within conversation

- Verify all medical/technical information

- Include source list in transcript

## Professional Communication

- Use appropriate veterinary terminology with clear explanations

- Maintain professional tone while being engaging

- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity and inclusivity

- Show respect for animal welfare principles

## Educational Value

- Clearly explain complex concepts for student audience

- Provide practical applications

- Connect theory to real-world veterinary practice

- Include current industry trends or developments

## Production Guidelines

## Planning Phase

- Create detailed outline before recording

- Prepare interview questions in advance

- Research and fact-check all content

- Practice pronunciation of technical terms

**Recording Tips**

- Record introduction and conclusion separately for easier editing

- Leave 2-3 seconds of silence between major segments

- Speak clearly and at moderate pace

- Use natural conversational tone, avoid reading directly from script

**Editing Recommendations**

- Remove excessive "ums," long pauses, and false starts

- Add brief musical intro/outro if desired (ensure royalty-free)

- Balance audio levels between speakers

- Keep editing minimal to maintain natural flow

**Assessment Criteria**

**Content Knowledge (40%)**

- Demonstrates thorough understanding of chosen topic

- Integrates course concepts accurately

- Uses appropriate veterinary terminology

- Provides evidence-based information

**Communication Skills (30%)**

- Clear, professional delivery

- Engaging presentation style

- Effective use of examples and explanations

- Appropriate pacing and organization

## Technical Quality (20%)

- Good audio quality and clarity

- Appropriate length and structure

- Professional presentation format

- Complete submission materials

## Creativity and Engagement (10%)

- Original approach to topic presentation

- Creative segment ideas or format

- Maintains listener interest throughout

- Professional yet personable delivery style

## Ethical Considerations

## Patient Confidentiality

- Never use real patient names or identifying information

- Create composite case studies if using clinical examples

- Obtain permission before recording any interviews

- Respect privacy of all individuals mentioned

## Professional Standards

- Represent the veterinary profession positively

- Acknowledge limitations of student knowledge

- Encourage listeners to consult qualified professionals

- Maintain ethical standards in all content

## Resources and Support

## Technical Assistance

- Free recording software: Audacity, GarageBand

- Royalty-free music: YouTube Audio Library, Freesound

- Editing tutorials available through library resources

**Content Resources**

- AVMA Guidelines and Position Statements

- Veterinary journals through library database

- Professional organization websites (NAVTA, state associations)

- Course textbooks and supplementary materials

**Submission Checklist**

- [ ] Audio file meets technical requirements

- [ ] Episode length within specified range

- [ ] Complete transcript provided

- [ ] Episode summary included

- [ ] Source citations documented

- [ ] Files properly named and formatted

- [ ] Content reviewed for accuracy and professionalism

**Due Date and Late Policy**

**Final submission deadline:** [Insert specific date] **Late penalty:** 5% reduction per day late
**No submissions accepted after:** [Insert final deadline]

Submit all materials through the designated course platform by 11:59 PM on the due date.

---

*This assignment develops essential communication skills for veterinary technicians while demonstrating mastery of technical knowledge. Approach it as an opportunity to share your passion for veterinary medicine with fellow students and contribute to professional education in our field.*