

VETERINARY MEDICINE

GENERAL CAREER INFORMATION

Veterinary medicine is the application of medical, diagnostic, and therapeutic principles to companion, domestic, exotic, wildlife, and production animals. Veterinary science is vital to the study and protection of animal production practices, herd health and monitoring the spread of disease. It requires the acquisition and application of scientific knowledge in multiple disciplines and uses technical skills directed at disease prevention in both domestic and wild animals.

Veterinary science helps safeguard human health through the careful monitoring of livestock, companion animal and wildlife health. Emerging zoonotic diseases around the globe require capabilities in epidemiology and infectious disease control that are particularly well-suited to veterinary science's "herd health" approach.

Veterinary medicine is informally as old as the human/animal bond but in recent years has expanded exponentially because of the availability of advanced diagnostic and therapeutic techniques for most species. Animals nowadays often receive advanced medical, dental, and surgical care including insulin injections, root canals, hip replacements, cataract extractions, and pacemakers.

Veterinarians assist in ensuring the quality, quantity, and security of food supplies by working to maintain the health of livestock and inspecting the meat itself. Veterinary scientists occupy important positions in biological, chemical, agricultural and pharmaceutical research.

The path to becoming a veterinarian is rewarding. It requires undergraduate schooling, admission to an accredited veterinary medical school or college, completion of the curriculum, passage of appropriate certification examinations and state licensure. On average, most students complete their undergraduate pre-professional and veterinary education in eight years.

VETERINARY EDUCATION IN TEXAS

There are 27 accredited colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States. The only one in Texas is at Texas A&M University in College Station. The information provided here focuses on this school, which admits mostly Texas residents. A compilation of admission requirements for all the colleges of veterinary medicine is given in the current edition (revised annually) of *Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements in the U.S. and Canada*, published by Betz Publishing Company, Inc., P.O. Box 34631, Bethesda, MD 20827. Admission requirements as well as other information can be obtained by contacting the individual veterinary colleges listed at the end of this section.

The minimal subject requirements for enrollment in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University are 64 semester hours of acceptable college or university credit including those listed below. Note: Please be aware that these prerequisites can change. Check with your health professional advisor or the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University at 1-800-874-9591 for any changes or additional requirements.

In addition to the 52 required semester hours, the applicant must complete a minimum of 12 additional hours of their choice. Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine will award a B.S. degree in Veterinary Science after completion of one year of the professional curriculum. To be eligible for this degree, students must complete the core curriculum requirements for a baccalaureate degree at Texas A&M University. Students may take the pre-professional courses at any accredited institution of higher

VETERINARY MEDICINE

education. However, the course must be equivalent in subject content and credits to its counterpart at Texas A&M University.

Texas A&M University uses two separate on-line application services and applicants must select the appropriate service depending upon their residency status. All Texas residents must apply through the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (www.utsystem.edu/tmdsas). All non-Texas resident applicants must apply through the Veterinary Medical Colleges Application Service – VMCAS - (www.aavmc.org). All applicants will be required to complete a Supplemental Application, found at www.aavmc.org/vmcas/supplemental_applications.htm.

The deadline for submitting a completed application, transcripts, and evaluations is October 1 of the year prior to that in which admission is sought. The applicant must request an official transcript to be sent from each college or university attended. In addition, each applicant must take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and must submit the scores directly to Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine.

Specific Course Requirements for Admission to Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine		
Course	Credit Hrs	UT Dallas Courses
General Biology with lab	4	BIOL 2311/2111
Microbiology with lab	4	BIOL 3V20
Genetics	3	BIOL 3301
Animal Nutrition	3	Not offered
General Chemistry with lab	8	CHEM 1311/1111 and 1312/1112
Organic Chemistry with lab	8	CHEM 2323/2123 and 2325/2125
Biochemistry	5	BIOL 3361/3362 or CHEM 3361/3362
Physics with lab	8	PHYS 1301/1101 and 1302/1102 OR PHYS 2325/2125 and 2326/2126 OR PHYS 3341/2125 and 3342/2126
Calculus or Statistics	3	MATH 1325 or 2417 or STAT 3332
English Composition	3	RHET 1302
Literature	3	Any 3 hours course in LIT
Speech Communication	3	AMS 3316 or COMM 3311
Technical Writing	3	ECS 3390 or BIOL 4390

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Students should check with the individual veterinary schools regarding admission requirements, application deadlines, and other information. Students can also access helpful information regarding veterinary medicine from the following sources.

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
American Veterinary Medical Association

www.aavmc.org
www.avma.org

Texas A&M University
College of Veterinary Medicine
College Station, TX 77843-4465
1-800-874-9591
<http://www.cvm.tamu.edu>

Accredited U.S. Colleges of Veterinary Medicine Outside of Texas

Auburn University
College of Veterinary Medicine
Auburn, Alabama 36849
Tel: (334) 844-4546
<http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu>

Tuskegee University
School of Veterinary Medicine
Tuskegee, Alabama 36088
Tel: (334) 727-8174
<http://www.tuskegee.edu>

University of California
School of Veterinary Medicine
Davis, California 95616-8734
Tel: (530) 752-1360
<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu>

Western University of Health Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
Pomona, California 91766
Tel: (909) 469-5650
<http://www.westernu.edu>

Colorado State University
College of Veterinary Medicine and
Biomedical Sciences
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1601
Tel: (970) 491-7051
<http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu>

University of Florida
College of Veterinary Medicine
Gainesville, Florida 32610-0125
Tel: (352) 392-4700
<http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu>

University of Georgia

College of Veterinary Medicine
Athens, Georgia 30602-7371
Tel: (706) 542-3461
<http://www.vet.uga.edu>

University of Illinois

College of Veterinary Medicine
Urbana, Illinois 61801
Tel: (217) 333-2760
<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu>

Purdue University

School of Veterinary Medicine
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
Tel: (765) 494-7607
<http://www.vet.purdue.edu>

Iowa State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Ames, Iowa 50011-1250
Tel: (515) 294-1242
<http://www.vetmed.iastate.edu>

Kansas State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Manhattan, Kansas 66506
Tel: (785) 532-5660
<http://www.vet.ksu.edu>

Louisiana State University

School of Veterinary Medicine
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803
Tel: (225) 578-9900
<http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu>

Tufts University

School of Veterinary Medicine
North Grafton, Massachusetts 01536
Tel: (508) 839-5302
<http://vet.tufts.edu>

Michigan State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1314
Tel: (517) 355-6509
<http://cvm.msu.edu>

University of Minnesota

College of Veterinary Medicine
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel: (612) 624-4747
<http://www.cvm.umn.edu>

Mississippi State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762
Tel: (662) 325-1278
<http://www.cvm.msstate.edu>

University of Missouri

College of Veterinary Medicine
Columbia, Missouri 65211
Tel: (573) 882-3554
<http://www.cvm.missouri.edu>

Cornell University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Ithaca, New York 14853-6401
Tel: (607) 253-3700
<http://www.vet.cornell.edu>

North Carolina State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606
Tel: (919) 513-6786
<http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu>

Ohio State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Columbus, Ohio 43210
Tel: (614) 292-1171
<http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu>

Oklahoma State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-2005
Tel: (405) 744-6595
<http://www.cvm.okstate.edu>

Oregon State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Corvallis, Oregon 97331
Tel: (541) 737-2098
<http://www.vet.orst.edu>

VETERINARY MEDICINE

University of Pennsylvania

School of Veterinary Medicine
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6044
Tel: (215) 898-5434
<http://www.vet.upenn.edu>

University of Tennessee

College of Veterinary Medicine
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
Tel: (865) 974-8387
<http://www.vet.utk.edu>

Virginia Tech and University of Maryland Virginia-Maryland Regional

College of Veterinary Medicine
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0442
Tel: (540) 231-7666
<http://www.vetmed.vt.edu>

Washington State University

College of Veterinary Medicine
Pullman, Washington 99164-7010
Tel: (509) 335-9515
<http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu>

University of Wisconsin-Madison

School of Veterinary Medicine
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
Tel: (608) 263-6716
<http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu>