



PREVET INFORMATION SUMMARY

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Veterinarians prevent and treat animal disease, improve the quality of the environment, ensure the safety of food, control diseases transmitted from animals, and advance medical knowledge. For more information on the profession, visit: www.aavmc.org.

ACADEMICS + ACTIVITES = VETERINARY SCHOOL PREPARATION

These classes and activities will answer “Why Veterinary Medicine?” and prepare you for success in your Veterinary program and your career.

Academic Preparation

Academic preparation for Pharmacy school requires a Bachelor’s degree and completion of a set of prerequisite classes, usually science, which vary from school to school. Common classes are listed on the last page of this summary. For your degree, any major is appropriate. There is no preference in this regard, so study something you love! Competitive applicants have high grades so pace yourself in order to succeed, and remember that all grades will count when you apply even if you repeat classes

Interpersonal Skills

Vet schools are looking for students who have strong communication and interpersonal skills. The university offers a variety of courses in speech and writing to help you refine your abilities.

Animal/Veterinary Experience

All vet schools require experience with **animal care** and *substantial* first-hand observation or work experience with a **practicing veterinarian**. Many vet schools recommend experience with a range of animal species, both large and small. All schools require a letter of recommendation from a practicing veterinarian with whom you have spent a significant amount of time. These experiences demonstrate your motivation for the profession and help you develop important

Why Veterinary Medicine?

Service to the Community

Because you are preparing for a humanitarian profession, it is important to have volunteer learning experiences which demonstrate a commitment of service to others. It is suggested that this be ongoing throughout your college years prior to application for admission.

- Lowell Bennion Community Service Center
<http://bennioncenter.org>

Leadership Experience

As a veterinarian, you will be a leader and team member with your patients, your staff, your colleagues, and your community. Examples include offices held in organizations, committee work; leadership in church activities; coordinating a project; managing, training, supervising at work or in other activities; teaching experience of any kind; coaching, peer counseling or mentoring, etc.

Research Experience

Veterinary medicine depends on professional literature to remain current in their field. Most veterinary schools highly recommend participation in research. It is good to participate in independent, hypothesis-based research using the scientific method. Your research experience could be from many different areas – it does not have to be medically related or in a lab.

Things to Remember

- Make sure you have contact information of supervisors and veterinarians you shadow or work with in case you need to have them write recommendation letters. Even if you discontinue some activities, try to keep a relationship with them.
- Record all hours of service and experiences. Writing your reflections in a journal will be helpful when you write a personal statement. You can download the **PreHealth Planner Spread Sheet** from our website; you will find it under Available Downloads.

❖ APPLICATION TIMELINE

	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR		
GRE®	Register, study, take exam & submit score to schools by Sept 15																		
Recom. Letters	Request letters and have writers submit letters by Sept. 15 (Get e-mail addresses from letter writers. VMCAS will contact them by e-mail.)																		
Application	VMCAS application form available online in late-January through Sept. 15																		
						You can submit your application in mid-May													
											Supplemental application deadline: Mid Oct								
											Interviews			FAFSA Application opens on Oct. 1					
												Acceptance Notifications							

❖ GRE

Take the GRE® when you have finished the necessary coursework. It is administered throughout the year. Taking the exam by spring will enable you to apply earlier. October is the last test accepted by most schools for the following Fall's entering class. It is divided into three multiple choice sections; Scored on a scale of 130-170 for Verbal and Quantitative Reasoning, and 0-6 scale for Analytical Writing. The exam may be repeated, but the best strategy is to prepare thoroughly and take it once.

❖ APPLICATION PROCESS

❖ VMCAS

There are 28 accredited vet schools in the US. State vet schools give priority to residents, but accept some non-resident applicants. All vet schools participate in the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS). Standardized application, links to vet schools, and much more are available online at: www.aavmc.org.

Your application process begins in spring or summer at the end of the junior year if you have completed the necessary requirements. Your first step is usually to take the appropriate entrance exam. As noted above, most schools require to take Graduate Record Examination (GRE®). A few schools may accept the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test).

The VMCAS application becomes available in January each year. You can begin filling it out then. In mid-May you will be able to choose your schools and submit your application. You should start completing it early, and apply before mid-September, one year prior to the entering class to which you desire admission. The deadline for most schools is **October 2**, but the VMCAS deadline for all materials is usually in **mid-September** to ensure meeting that deadline. However, *applicants are strongly encouraged to apply well before the deadline*. Transcripts, test scores, letters of evaluation, a personal statement, and resume are submitted through VMCAS.

❖ SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS

In addition to VMCAS, most schools require supplemental application materials and completion fees. Fees are paid directly to the individual schools when you send in the additional materials. Some vet schools which require supplemental material will first review your VMCAS application, then will notify candidates who have been selected to complete the application. Most schools now have a web based supplemental application and require completion of supplemental materials by the October 2. Deadlines for supplemental materials do vary, but some schools require that EVERYTHING (VMCAS, supplemental, all fees, transcripts, evaluations) be in by October 2. **Follow the instructions provided by each vet school.**

▪ LETTERS OF EVALUATION

Vet schools require letters from: **1) veterinarians** with whom you have worked or volunteered, **2) a college professor who has taught you in a classroom setting and has given you a letter grade**, and **3) an employer/supervisor**. Applicants must use the VMCAS online letter service called eLOR available on the VMCAS web site. You need to provide evaluators' e-mail addresses and have them submit their letters to VMCAS online. VMCAS will send your letters to the individual schools. For more information about eLOR, visit <http://aavmc.org/Applicant-Responsibilities/Evaluations.aspx>.

• GET TO KNOW YOUR PROFESSORS BETTER!

- Let professors know at the beginning of class that you would like them to keep an eye on your performance. It will give them a longer “observational window”. Visit their offices regularly and ask them for a letter at the end of the semester if you do well and they are agreeable.
- A key to a good letter is the establishment of a relationship between student and professor based on shared academic interests.
 - Ask thoughtful questions
 - Delve deeper into concepts presented in lectures
 - Share your academic and career goals
 - Ask for recommendations for additional reading
 - Inquire about their areas of interest and research
- After you have gotten to know professors, ask about further opportunities, e.g. teaching assistantships, individual research projects, etc.

❖ GENERAL POLICIES REGARDING COURSEWORK

CLEP Credit & Correspondence Study	Varies by school. Ask schools directly.
AP Credits	Must appear on official transcripts and be equivalent to the appropriate college-level coursework.
Online Courses	Depends on schools. Ask schools directly.
Repeats	VMCAS will count all repeated courses in your GPA
Withdrawals	W’s should be used only for emergencies, although W’s will not affect GPA.

❖ WIMU: REGIONAL PROGRAM IN VETERINARY MEDICINE <http://dvm.vetmed.wsu.edu/wimu-regional-program>

WIMU is the Washington–Idaho–Montana–Utah Regional Program in veterinary medicine. It is a partnership between the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Idaho Department of Animal and Veterinary Science, Montana State University, and **Utah State University School of Veterinary Medicine**, <http://www.vetmed.usu.edu/>

Up to 20 Utah residents, and up to 10 nonresidents, spend their first 2 years at USU in Logan Utah, and their final 2 years at the WSU campus in Pullman, WA. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree is conferred by Washington State University.

❖ USEFUL WEBSITES

- Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges <http://aavmc.org/>
- Veterinary Medical College Application Service <https://vmcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>
- Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah (WIMU) Regional Program, <http://dvm.vetmed.wsu.edu/wimu-regional-program>
- Pre-Veterinary Club uofuprevetclub@gmail.com

❖ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Salt Lake Animal Services, <https://slco.org/animal-services/get-involved/volunteer/>
- Best Friends Animal Society/No more Homeless Pets, <http://utah.bestfriends.org/volunteer>
- Second Chance For Homeless Pets, <http://www.utahpetadoptions.org/Get-Involved.html>
- Humane Society of Utah, <http://www.utahhumane.org/volunteer>
- Hogle Zoo, http://www.hoglezoo.org/jobs_volunteers/volunteers/
- Tracy Aviary, <http://tracyaviary.org/volunteer/>
- Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah in Ogden, <https://wrcnu.org/volunteer>
- Ching Farm Rescue & Sanctuary in Riverton, <https://chingsanctuary.org/help-out/volunteer/>

PreVeterinary Medicine Course Guide

- This guide is designed for students preparing to apply to a range of schools. Some courses may not be required by all schools; some schools may require additional courses not on this list. See a PPA advisor for specifics. **Shading indicates most commonly required by most schools.**
- Classes with an * may be taken at SLCC, however – some veterinary schools will not accept community college credits for certain prerequisite courses; you must check with each vet school for details the specifics of their program.

BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	MATH	PHYSICS	NON-SCIENCE
<p>*1610 (4) Fundamentals of Bio I Prerequisite for most Biology courses [May not be waived by AP] Formerly BIOL 1210</p>	<p>OPTIONAL preparatory courses for CHEM, MATH, and PHYS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MATH 10 Math Boot Camp for Intermediate Algebra MATH 15 Math Boot Camp for Pre-Calculus CHEM 10 Chemistry Boot Camp for General Chemistry CHEM 1200 (3) Prep for College Chemistry CHEM 1208 (1) Intro to Periodic Table CHEM 2308 (1) Intro to O-Chem <p>NOTE: In order to take the proper math class, you must have ACT, SAT or math placement test scores, or successfully pass a prerequisite math course.</p>			<p>2 Semesters of English Composition (WRTG 2010 & CW)</p>
<p>BIOL 2020 (3) (Prereq BIOL 1610) Not required, but is the prereq to BIOL 2030 which is required by most vet schools</p>		<p>*1050 (4) & *1060 (3) College Algebra & Trig Can be substituted with 1080 (5) or 1210 (4)</p>	<p>Physics has 2 options. <i>Consult with both your major advisor and a PPA advisor to choose the correct lab and lecture sequence</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	
<p>*2030 (3) Genetics (Prereq: BIOL 2020) Required by most vet schools</p>	<p>*1210 (4) Gen Chem 1 *1215 (1) Lab (Prereq: MATH 1050)</p>	<p>1070 (3) Stats (Prereq: B or Better in MATH 0980, C or higher in MATH 1010 or 1030) Required by <u>many</u> vet schools. May be substituted with PSY 3000, FCS 3210 or other stats courses.</p>	<p>2010 (4) Gen. Physics 1 2015 (1) Lab (Prereq: MATH 1060)</p> <p>2210 (4) for Scientists & Engineers 1 2215 (1) Lab (Prereq: MATH 1210)</p>	<p>At least 2 Behavioral Science, Arts, and Humanities courses (BF, FF, HF)</p>
<p>*2420 (4) Human Physiology (Prereq: BIOL 1610 CHEM 1210) 3320 (3) Comparative Physiology (Prereq: BIOL 1620) OR Required by <u>some</u> vet schools</p>	<p>*1220 (4) Gen Chem 2 *1225 (1) Lab (Prereq: CHEM 1210)</p>	<p>1210 (4) Calculus 1 Required by <u>some</u> vet schools. (Prereq: MATH 1050 & 1060 or 1080)</p>	<p>2020 (4) Gen. Physics 2 2025 (1) Lab (Prereq: PHYS 2010)</p> <p>2220 (4) for Scientists & Engineers 2 2225 (1) Lab (Prereq: MATH 1220 & PHYS 2210)</p>	<p>At least 1 Public Speaking, Speech, or other COMM course</p>
<p>3210 (3) Micro Biology 3205 (1) Lab (Prereq: BIOL 2020 & CHEM 1210) Required by most vet schools</p>	<p>2310 (4) O-Chem 1 2315 (2) Lab (Prereq: CHEM 1220)</p>			<p>1 Semester of Animal Science/Nutrition course (Can be online)</p>
<p>Optional Biology Courses 3325, 3360, 5030, 5370, 5385, 5395, or 5401</p>	<p>2320 (4) O-Chem 2 2325 (2) Lab</p>			
<p>BIOL/CHEM 3510 (3) Biochem I (Prereq: CHEM 2310)</p>				
<p>2 Biology LABs are required by most vet schools. Taking either the Anatomy OR Physiology lab will fulfill the first biology lab for most vet schools. The second biology lab can be fulfilled by any biology course such as BIOL 1615, 1625, 3115, 3205, 3235, 3515, 3525 and more. Taking labs at SLCC is also acceptable.</p>				