

Preparation for a Profession in Veterinary Medicine

A bachelor's degree is preferred for admissions into most veterinary schools. Without a degree, students must complete 70 hours of pre-professional requirements, including a minimum of 12 hours in humanities and/or social sciences. Veterinary schools expect candidates to demonstrate the intellectual, analytical, and problem-solving skills necessary to succeed in veterinary medical school. Students are strongly advised to balance coursework in the natural sciences with coursework in humanities and social sciences. The General Education component of a Liberal Arts degree provides a sound foundation for demonstrating an interest in and knowledge of a diverse and global society. Candidates should also consider coursework in areas such as anthropology, communication, economics, ethics, logic, psychology, sociology, and statistics. Some characteristics that are sought in potential students are compassion for people and animals, respect for life, personal integrity and high ethical standards, and strong written and oral communication skills.

Most schools base admissions decisions on a balanced combination of the following:

- Grade point average: This varies by school but is usually above a 3.0 minimum.
- GRE (Graduate Record Exam) test scores
- Personal statement from the candidate
- Professional experience (employment, volunteer work, shadowing, etc.) that shows a strong desire to become a veterinarian
- Interview
- Evaluations from academic instructors (usually in the sciences), an academic advisor, and a veterinarian.

Core Courses for Veterinary Medicine Programs: a minimum requirement

- Engl 101 English Composition I (3) **and** 102 English Composition II (3)
- Comm 111 Public Speaking (3)
- Chemistry 211 General Chem. I (5) **and** 212 General Chem. II (5)
- Chemistry 531 Organic Chemistry I (5) **and** 532 Organic Chemistry II (5)
- Biology 210 General Biology I (4) **and** 211 General Biology II* (4)
- Biology 220 Introduction to Microbiology (4) or BIOL 330 General Microbiology (5) - *preferred*
- Biol 419 Genetics (4) (offered only in fall semesters)
- Chem 661 Intro to Biochemistry (3)
- Physics 213 General Physics I (5) **and** 214 General Physics II (5) **or**
Physics 313 University Physics I with lab (315) **and** 314 University Physics II with lab (316)

The core classes above meet the minimum prerequisites for admission to most veterinary schools, including Kansas State University.

Admission Test: The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required for admission to Colleges of Veterinary Medicine. The minimum grade point average considered for admission at most schools is a 3.0. To be a competitive applicant, a grade point average of 3.5 and GRE score of at least 1000 combined in the verbal and quantitative categories is required.

Application: The application period for veterinary school occurs during the fall before the fall semester one wishes to begin veterinary school. Students should apply through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS), and then students will complete a secondary application for the schools they wish to attend.

Schools of Veterinary Medicine:

- Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine www.vet.ksu.edu
- University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine www.cvm.missouri.edu
- Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine www.cvhs.okstate.edu
- Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine www.cvmbs.colostate.edu
- Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine www.vetmed.iastate.edu
- UC Davis College of Veterinary Medicine www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu

Important Websites:

- The Association of American Medical Veterinary Colleges www.aavmc.org
- Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) www.aavmc.org/vmcas
- American Veterinary Medicine Association www.avma.org

The Office of Admissions at Kansas State University may be contacted using the following information:

Dr. Ronnie G. Elmore

Associate Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine

Phone: 785-532-5660

E-mail: Elmore@vet.k-state.edu

Pre-Med Advising Resources

Pre-med Student Association: www.wudoc.org

Blackboard site for Pre-Med professions students:

Pre-Med information

Scholarship Information

Speakers

Shadowing opportunities

LASI 150P Intro to Health Professions (1) A fall semester class that shows student a wide range of professions, salaries, and admission requirements.

Pre-Medical Advisors

Blake Cicenas: all medical areas

blake.cicenas@wichita.edu

Nick Endicott: all medical areas

nick.endicott@wichita.edu

Nancy Krehbiel: all medical areas

nancy.krehbiel@wichita.edu