

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PRE-VETERINARY STUDENTS

I. MAJOR

Requirements for admission to veterinary school can be met through almost any major; however, the majority of students choose majors in the College of Agriculture or the College of Science since these curricula contain many of the courses required for admission to a school of veterinary medicine. Admission is competitive and students are encouraged to select a major that would be of interest to them if they were not admitted to a school of veterinary medicine. Students who experience difficulty selecting a major should consult with an academic advisor.

II. REQUIRED COURSES

Undergraduate courses required by schools of veterinary medicine will vary from school to school. Most schools of veterinary medicine require courses in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Calculus. **The course requirements listed below are for the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine.** Students who wish to prepare for veterinary study in another state are urged to contact the school directly to inquire about required courses. Students may also consult Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements, available in the Biology Counseling Office (Lilly Hall of Life Sciences, Room 1-123).

Requirements and Purdue equivalents are listed below. (Effective for students entering Purdue fall 2008.)

Requirements	Semesters	Purdue Equivalents
General Chemistry (with lab)	2	CHM 115 <u>and</u> 116 <u>or</u> 111, 112 <u>and</u> 116
Organic Chemistry (with lab)	2	CHM 255/255L, <u>and</u> 256/256L <u>or</u> CHM 257, 257L
Biochemistry	1	BCHM 307 <u>or</u> BCHM 561 <u>and</u> 562 <u>or</u> CHM 333
Biology (with lab)	3	BIOL 110/111 <u>and</u> 231/232 <u>or</u> 3
Genetics (with lab)	1	BIOL 121, 131, 195T, <u>and</u> 231/232
Microbiology (with lab)	1	BIOL 241/242 <u>or</u> AGRY 320/321
Animal Nutrition	1	BIOL 438/439 <u>or</u> BIOL 221
Physics (with lab)	2	ANSC 221
Calculus	1-2	PHYS 220 <u>and</u> 221
Statistics	1	MA 223 <u>or</u> MA 161 <u>or</u> MA 165
English Composition	1	STAT 301 <u>or</u> 503
Communication	2	ENGL 101/102 <u>or</u> ENGL 103 <u>or</u> 106 <u>or</u> 108
Careers in Vet Medicine	1	COM 114 <u>or</u> 212 <u>or</u> 224
Humanities Electives	1	VM 102
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[Humanities electives include the areas of language, cognitive sciences, and social sciences.

Other recommended courses: accounting (MGMT 200); animal sciences (including nutrition (ANSC 324)); biochemistry laboratory (BCHM 309); business (CSR 105); business/technical writing (ENGL 420, ENGL 421); chemistry (CHM 224); economics (AGEC 217, ECON 210, ECON 251, ECON 252); developmental biology (BIOL 595D); immunology (BIOL 537); leadership (CSR 309); personal finance (CSR 342)].

***Seventeen of the 28 Veterinary Medical Schools in the United States require six or more credit hours of organic chemistry.**

SELECTION VARIABLES

The factors deemed most important in the selection of veterinary medical students will vary among schools. An applicant who wishes to assess his or her acceptability at a particular veterinary medical school should contact the school in question. Some of the selection variables applied by veterinary school admissions committees are listed below.

- Overall Grade Point Average
- Required Courses Grade Point Average
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Work experience and extra-curricular activities
- General animal experience
- Veterinary experience
- Application and essay quality
- Personal Interview
- Letters of reference

IV. STANDARDIZED TESTS

Most schools of veterinary medicine require that a standardized admission test score be submitted with each application. Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine requires applicants to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and submit test scores by November 1. The GRE is offered on computer and score reports are available 10-15 days after the test is completed. The local GRE test site is the Prometric Testing Center (447-0626). Other test sites are listed in the GRE Information and Registration Bulletin and on the website at www.gre.org.

Other tests that may be required are the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or the Veterinary College Admissions Test (VCAT).

APPLICATION PROCESS

There are 28 schools of veterinary medicine in the United States. Twenty-five of these schools require students to apply through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS). VMCAS applications are available online at <http://aavmc.org>.

Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine requires students to submit the VMCAS application by October 1. Students should call the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine in the summer before they wish to apply in order verify the current application deadline. Three letters of recommendation are required: one from an employer, one from an academic advisor, and one from a veterinarian.

Please consult the website: <http://www.vet.purdue.edu/admissions/college.html> and click on Application Process Summary for a copy of the Purdue University Veterinary “Admissions Process Timeline”.

If you have specific questions about Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine contact:

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