

# Veterinary Medicine

**What is a veterinarian?** A medical professional who promotes and protects the health and well-being of animals. They diagnose and control animal diseases and treat sick and injured animals, as well as advise owners on proper care of their pets and livestock. A veterinarian provides a wide range of services in private practice, teaching, public health, research, and other areas. Students may also elect to pursue dual degree programs in which DVM training is combined with a Master's degree in business (MBA) or public health (MPH or MVPH) or with a PhD degree in biomedical research.

**Where?** There are 33 veterinary medical colleges accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) in the United States and 20 AVMA accredited veterinary medical colleges internationally. There are two schools of veterinary medicine in Texas: Texas A&M University in College Station and the Texas Tech School of Veterinary Medicine in Amarillo. Like most state schools, both programs give Texas residents first priority for admission.

**How do I apply?** Veterinary school is a minimum four year professional curriculum. Students applying for admittance should:

- ❖ Complete the required courses listed on the back of this page as part of their chosen degree plan
- ❖ Obtain knowledge on large and small animal care and veterinary medicine through work/volunteer experience
- ❖ Register and take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) (check school in which applying for need)
- ❖ Complete the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS) application
- ❖ Complete secondary application that is submitted directly to each veterinary school

**Selection Criteria at Texas A&M:** The minimum grade point average to apply is a 2.9 for overall and science and a 3.10 in the last 45 hours completed. Applicants must also have over 100 hours of **veterinary supervised experience** in order to qualify for an interview. If all prerequisites are completed prior to application, then six (6) extra points will be given to the application. No points will be deducted for applicants who do not complete prerequisites prior to application.

**Selection Criteria at Texas Tech:** Applicants must be residents of Texas or New Mexico. Less than 10% of the class will consist of New Mexico residents. At least 2 years of full time post-secondary instruction and 48 semester credits from a regionally accredited college or university by the end of Spring Semester prior to enrollment. Minimum overall 2.9 GPA or higher in all coursework; minimum 2.9 science GPA or higher. There is not a minimum number of hours required for animal or veterinary experience. The recommendation is that applicants be exposed to a variety of veterinary careers and animal species prior to application. This will aid in obtaining a quality evaluation (TMDSAS Evaluation Form) and inform the applicant about the profession.

**Evaluations** – Each school requires three Applicant Evaluation Forms, available within the TMDSAS application, are required. One evaluation must be completed by a veterinarian.

Freshman and Sophomore Years: Complete prerequisite courses, gain experience with animals and veterinarians, and begin building relationships with professionals and veterinarians.

**Summer of the year BEFORE matriculation to veterinary school.**

- May: Applications become available
- May – Sept: Prepare, register, and take the GRE (if needed) CASPer test (as scheduled)
- August 15: Highly suggested deadline (September 15-web deadline)
- January: Interview (if required)
- Feb/March: Letters of acceptance mailed
- Mid-April: Deadline for acceptance of offers
- August: Begin veterinary professional program

**Prerequisites:** Students wishing to enter these veterinary medical programs may pursue studies in any major as long as the required courses are taken. All of the following *required* courses must have a grade of “C” or better, and be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to entrance into the CVM. Completion of prerequisites prior to applying can add a small benefit, but is not required.

COURSES	TAMU	Texas Tech	CLASS
BIOLOGY I (with lab)	4	4	BIOL 111
GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY (with lab)	4	4	BIOL 206 OR 351** or VTPB 405
GENETICS	3	3	GENE 301, 302***, 320 OR BIMS 320
ANIMAL NUTRITION or FEEDS & FEEDING	3	3	ANSC 303 or NUTR303 <b>OR</b> ANSC 318 or ANSC 320
GENERAL CHEMISTRY I & II (with lab)	8	8	CHEM 101/111 & 102/112 or CHEM 119 & 120
ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I & II (with lab)	8	4	CHEM 227/237 & 228/238
BIOCHEMISTRY	3	3	BICH 409*, 410* <b>OR</b> VTPB 489
STATISTICS	3	3	STAT 301, 302, 303 or 312 <b>OR</b> PSYC 301
PHYSICS	8	4	PHYS 201 & 202 or PHYS 218 & 208
ENGLISH	6	3	Any course taught in the ENGL dept
COMMUNICATIONS	3	0	COMM 203, 315, or 325

**Please note: All prerequisites and information are subject to change at any time without notice. It is the responsibility of the applicant to remain up-to-date on all requirements.**

\*OCHEM 227 & 228 are required.

\*\*BIOL 112 is required.

\*\*\*BIOL 112 is required AND the TAMU Vet School will accept yet it is not the preferred course.

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