



Pre-Veterinary Medicine Program

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Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary medicine touches the lives of every citizen in the United States. The continual growth in U.S. pet ownership combined with the higher expectations for the health and safety of their pets has resulted in a serious shortage of veterinarians. The job market is in dire demand for veterinary expertise. There is vital need for more veterinarians to provide services in the following public practice areas:

- USDA (Food Safety and Animal Disease Control)
- Biosecurity and Homeland Security
- Research on domestic and foreign animal diseases
- Public Health Service/Animal diseases affecting humans
- Rural Communities and Urban Centers without veterinary services
- Wildlife Disease Control
- Animal Care and Welfare
- Laboratory Animal Care and Research

Currently, there are 28 veterinary schools in the United States that graduate 2,500 veterinarians each year. These schools are at full capacity and are working on ways to increase classrooms, research facilities and teaching laboratories. With today's shortage, plus the projected need over the next 20 years, it is estimated there will be a shortage of 15,000 veterinarians.

Ohio has one of the largest veterinary schools located at The Ohio State University. This is fortunate for pre-vet students since OSU is a public institution that gives preference to Ohio residents (\$19,750/yr). Admission is very competitive with 999 applicants for the 2006 entering class and 140 new entrants into the class (97 from Ohio).

Pre-Veterinary Medicine

Wright State University is prepared to help you plan a career in veterinary medicine. We offer all the prerequisite courses necessary for you to meet the requirements necessary for applying to veterinary school. We also have an active pre-vet organization that students can participate in to gain additional information from guest speakers and handouts, as well as tours to vet hospitals, zoos, or schools.

Required Pre-Requisites

The Ohio State University
College of Veterinary Medicine

English:	ENG 101, 102
Chemistry:	CHM 121/125, 122/126, 123/127
Organic Chem:	CHM 211/215 <i>*one quarter required, one year recommended</i>
Biochemistry:	BMB 421, 423
Biology:	BIO 111, 112, 115
Genetics:	BIO 211
Microbiology:	M&I 220 or BIO 310/311
Mathematics:	MTH 128, 131 <i>*(see advisor)</i>
Physics:	PHY 111/101, 112/102
Humanities/ Social Sciences:	<i>20 credits from GE courses; e.g., SOC and EC</i>
Electives	<i>(e.g., communication, journalism, classics, management, or animal behavior)</i>

The OSU College of Veterinary Medicine recommends an undergraduate degree, but does not require it. *(A look at admission statistics shows, however, that the overwhelming majority of admitted students do, in fact, have a B.A. or a B.S.)* To be eligible for admission, applicants must have earned 96-101 college quarter-credit hours. No more than one required prerequisite course may remain to be completed by the end of the fall quarter of the academic year in which a student applies; that course must be completed by the end of winter quarter.

In addition, a grade of C or better must be earned in all prerequisite course work and a minimum undergraduate GPA above 3.0. In addition, official GRE/MCAT scores must be submitted along with an application through VMCAS. Candidates must also have proof of a minimum of 80 hours of veterinary experience, and preferred exposure to large animal, exotic, traditional pet, and zoo populations.

Ohio Veterinary Medicine Programs

“Why choose Veterinary Medicine as a Career?”

Many individuals interested in studying veterinary medicine had a strong desire to work with animals beginning at a very young age. Others have gained an interest later in life. Veterinary medicine recruits individuals from all types of backgrounds with diverse goals.

There are many reasons students choose veterinary medicine as a career:

- **Salary income:** according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, veterinarians earned a median average of \$71,990 in 2006.
- **Satisfying professional career:** many veterinarians enjoy the independence and autonomy of owning their own practice and the flexibility of determining their practice hours (thus allowing more time for personal life).
- **Career outlook is excellent:** increasing demands by animal owners and production animal managers is resulting in a demand for additional veterinarians in companion and production animal practice.
- **Bioterrorism and national security needs:** there is an extreme shortage of veterinarians who enter research and public practice. Many doors will be open for those who pursue this path.
- **Ecological health:** there is a demand for veterinary expertise on issues pertinent to the environment, conservation, aquaculture, and wildlife management.
- **Increased specialization in the future:** not only are practices focused on large or small animals, they are also developed specializing in critical care, dentistry, dermatology, internal medicine, ophthalmology, radiology and surgery.
- **Working with federal agencies:** veterinarians are hired by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Defense, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- **Nearly 80% of all veterinary students are female:** the number of women applying to and matriculating into veterinary schools is increasing.
- **Pet owners are purchasing pet insurance:** more individuals are spending more and more money on veterinary care for their pets.



The OSU College of Veterinary Medicine Enrollment Statistics (2008)

	Total Applicants	Total Matriculants	Male/ Female (%)	Mean Age	Mean GPA	Mean GRE Score
OSU	875	140 (97 from Ohio)	18/82	23	3.57	1229

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For additional information please visit our website: www.wright.edu/cosm/premed
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