

PRE-VETERINARY PREREQUISITES

IMPORTANT: Since the required prerequisites for individual schools may vary from these recommendations, it is very important to review the requirements for schools you may choose to attend in the future.

Typically, the pre-professional program includes the following requirements:

Math	through Calculus & Statistics
General Chemistry	Chemistry 105 and 106
Organic Chemistry	Chemistry 351 and 352
Biochemistry	Chemistry 481
Biology	Biology 200 and 211 General Biology Biology 375 Genetics Biology 221-222 Microbiology
Physics	Physics 115 and 116
English	English 111 and 300 level English
*one year generally means 8 semester hours.	

NOTE: Some schools require additional coursework. Below is a list of some of the courses. Contact any schools of interest to determine their specific prerequisites.

Animal Science (Animal Nutrition)	One semester
Cellular Biology	One semester

In addition, Schools of Veterinary Medicine require that student's have experience working with animals and licensed veterinarians. The following classes can help students prepare for this requirement. You may want to consider an Animal Science Minor or Cluster by taking the following classes.

Anatomy & Physiology w/lab	AS215 and AS215L
Intro. To Livestock Production or Horse Production or Beef Production	AS150 or AS340 or AS360
Feed and Nutrition	AS220
Animal Reproduction	AS236
Applied Animal Health w/lab*	AS315*
Applied Nutrition*	AS420*
Advanced Reproduction*	AS430*
*Not taken for a cluster	

While the list of courses above is a generalized list of requirements, below are some of the course equivalencies for entrance into the **Washington State University Program of Veterinary Medicine;**

WSU	BYU-I
Biological Science (Bio S 103 & 104)	BS 150#, 150L, 208, 200#, & 200L
Inorganic Chemistry (Chem 105 & 106)	CHEM 105 & 106
Organic Chemistry (Chem 240 or 340 & 341)	CHEM 351
Biochemistry (BC/BP 303)	CHEM 481
Mathematics (Math 107 or equivalent)	MATH 110 & 111
Physics (Phys 101)	PH 105 & 105L
Genetics (MbioS 301)	BIO 375
Statistics 212	MATH 221

For a complete listing of requirements for WSU go to <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/admissions/page1.asp>

Veterinarian

Job Description and Worker Requirements:

Veterinarians play a major role in the healthcare of pets, livestock, and zoo, sporting, and laboratory animals. Some veterinarians use their skills to protect humans against diseases carried by animals and conduct clinical research on human and animal health problems. Others work in basic research, broadening the scope of fundamental theoretical knowledge, and in applied research, developing new ways to use knowledge. Most veterinarians perform clinical work in private practices. More than one-half of these veterinarians predominately, or exclusively, treat small animals. A small number of private practice veterinarians work exclusively with large animals, focusing mostly on horses or cows but may also care for various kinds of food animals. These veterinarians usually drive to farms or ranches to provide veterinary services for herds or individual animals

Education: Prospective veterinarians must graduate from a 4-year program at an accredited college of veterinary medicine with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M. or V.M.D.) degree and obtain a license to practice. There are 27 colleges in 26 States that meet accreditation standards set by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The prerequisites for admission vary by veterinary medical college. Many of these colleges do not require a bachelor's degree for entrance; but all require a significant number of credit hours—ranging from 45 to 90 semester hours—at the undergraduate level. However, most of the students admitted have completed an undergraduate program. Most veterinary medical colleges will only consider applicants who have a minimum grade point average (GPA). The required GPA varies by school, from a low of 2.5 to a high of 3.2, based on a maximum GPA of 4.0. However, the average GPA of candidates at most schools is higher than these minimums. Those who receive offers of admission usually have a GPA of 3.0 or better.

Employment: Veterinarians held about 59,000 jobs in 2000. About 28 percent were self-employed in solo or group practices. Most others were employees of another veterinary practice. The Federal Government employed about 800 civilian veterinarians, chiefly in the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services. Other employers of veterinarians are State and local governments, colleges of veterinary medicine, medical schools, research laboratories, animal food companies, and pharmaceutical companies. A few veterinarians work for zoos; but most veterinarians caring for zoo animals are private practitioners who contract with zoos to provide services, usually on a part-time basis.

Outlook: Employment of veterinarians is expected to [grow faster than the average](#) for all occupations through the year 2010. Job openings stemming from the need to replace veterinarians who retire or otherwise leave the labor force will be almost as numerous as new jobs resulting from employment growth over the 2000-10 period.

Wages: Median annual earnings of veterinarians were \$60,910 in 2000. The middle 50 percent earned between \$47,020 and \$84,220. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$36,670, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$128,720. According to a survey by the American Veterinary Medical Association, average starting salaries of 2000 veterinary medical college graduates varied by type of practice as follows:

Small animal, predominant	\$42,918
Small animal, exclusive	42,640
Large animal, exclusive	41,629
Large animal, predominant	41,439
Mixed animal	40,358
Equine	28,526

New veterinary medical college graduates who enter the Federal Government usually start at \$35,808. Beginning salaries were slightly higher in selected areas where the prevailing local pay level was higher. The average annual salary for veterinarians in the Federal Government in non-supervisory, supervisory, and managerial positions was \$ 67,482 in 2001.

Licensing/Certification Requirements: Licensing is controlled by the States and is not strictly uniform, although all States require successful completion of the D.V.M. degree—or equivalent education—and passage of a national board examination. The Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) grants certification to individuals trained outside the U.S. who demonstrate that they meet specified requirements for the English language and clinical proficiency. ECFVG certification fulfills the educational requirement for licensure in all States except Nebraska. Applicants for licensure satisfy the examination requirement by passing the North American Veterinary Licensing Exam (NAVLE), which recently replaced the National Board Examination (NBE) and the Clinical Competency Test (CCT). The new NAVLE, administered on computer, takes one day to complete and consists of 360 multiple-choice questions, covering all aspects of veterinary medicine. The NAVLE also includes visual materials designed to test diagnostic skills.