

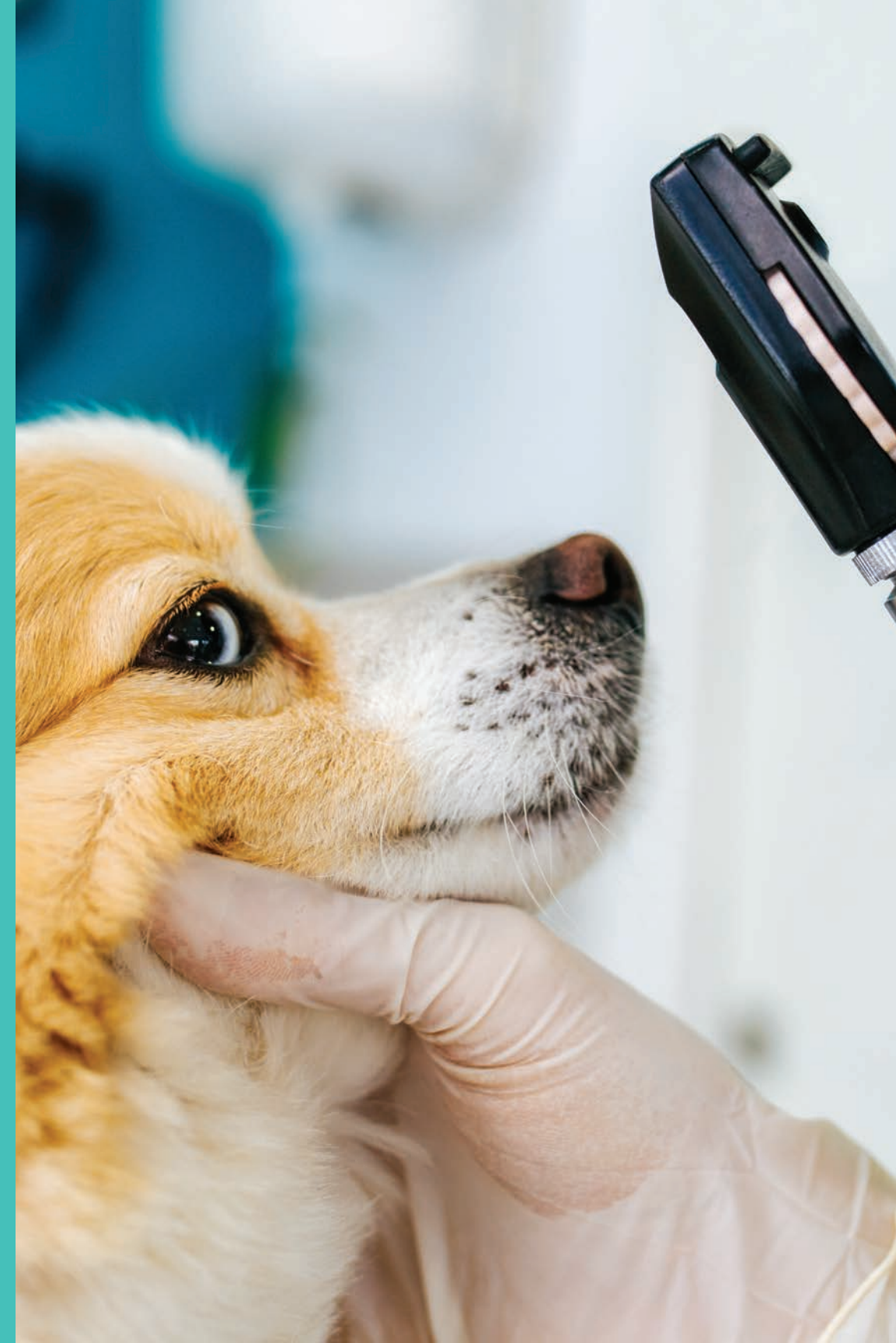
AAVMC

The American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) coordinates the national and international affairs of all thirty-three veterinary medical colleges in the United States, one in Puerto Rico, and five in Canada, three departments of veterinary science, three departments of comparative medicine, and eighteen international colleges of veterinary medicine. The AAVMC's mission is to inspire innovation and promote excellence in academic veterinary medicine worldwide.

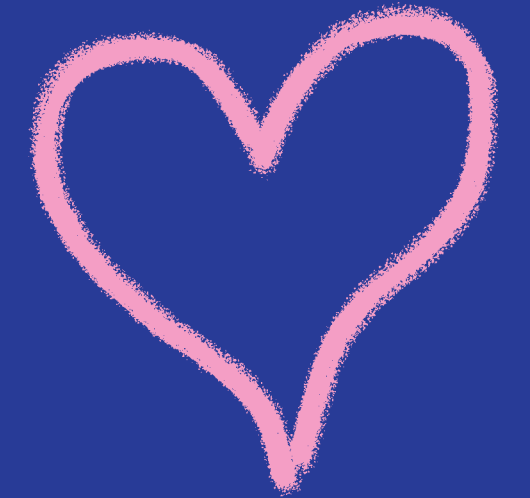


APPLICATION CYCLE TIMELINE

VMCAS launch: **late January** VMCAS deadline: **mid-September**



vetmed pathways



VMCAS

The Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) is a centralized application service sponsored by the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges. Applicants use VMCAS to apply to most of the COE accredited colleges in the United States and abroad.

Thirty-one of the thirty-three U.S. veterinary institutions participate in VMCAS, along with one in Puerto Rico, two Canadian, two Scottish three English, one Irish, three Australian, one New Zealand, and two Caribbean veterinary institutions.

Application material deadlines, prerequisite courses, and other aspects of the admissions process differ from school to school. Applicants are responsible for being informed of all instructions provided by VMCAS and the associated member colleges. Questions about using VMCAS should be directed to 617-612-2884 or email support@vmcas.myliason.com.

VMCAS
655 K Street, NW Suite 725
Washington, DC 20001
T: 617-612-2884
support@vmcas.myliason.com
aavmc.org



INFO

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about preparing to attend veterinary school, visit the site below:

AAVMC
aavmc.org/vmcas

Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements (VMSAR)
applytovetschool.org

Vet Med Pathways
vetmedpathways.com



A GUIDE TO PREPARING FOR VETERINARY SCHOOL

Maybe you already know that you have a strong interest in veterinary medicine, but you don't know where to start. It's never too early to begin preparing. Below are a few guidelines to help you plan your coursework and get in touch with mentors and other professionals who can help you along the way.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

TAKE SCIENCE AND MATH CLASSES,

including chemistry, biology, and algebra. If available, take Advanced Placement (AP) coursework. Note, AP courses may not always satisfy vet college prerequisite coursework, but they will give you the highest level of preparation. Consult with the vet colleges to understand if AP credit in high school will satisfy a prerequisite course requirement.

GAIN ANIMAL EXPERIENCES.

These will give you a good understanding of working with animals and excellent references when you seek a volunteer experience or internship with a veterinarian. Examples include volunteering at a humane society, cleaning stables and grooming horses, doing an internship at a zoo, volunteering at a nature or wildlife center, or getting involved with 4-H, just to name a few.

VISIT WEBSITES AND CAMPUSES.

Visit veterinary college websites and perhaps make a visit during one of their admissions presentations or during an open house. The more you know early on, the better prepared you will be.

TALK TO PEOPLE IN THE FIELD.

Call local veterinarians or contact veterinary society in your city or town to find people who can help answer your questions.

JOIN MAILING LISTS.

Get on the veterinary college's mailing lists for admissions updates and invitations to programs.

START COLLEGE



COLLEGE YEAR 1

Fall Semester

VMSAR.

Access the AAVMC Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements (VMSAR) and review the veterinary schools' requirements with your advisor.

MEET WITH AN ADVISOR.

Plan coursework. Take the list of prerequisite courses on the VMSAR website for planning purposes. Not all vet colleges require the exact same courses, but most will want courses in the areas of biology, chemistry, and physics. That's a good place to start until you narrow down your list of vet colleges to apply to.

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK.

Start working on the prerequisite coursework. Most vet colleges require quite a few biology and chemistry courses. Starting out right away in these introductory courses will allow you to move forward quickly.

Spring Semester

BRAINSTORM SUMMER OPTIONS.

Think about summer volunteer or employment opportunities in veterinary medicine, such as shadowing a veterinarian or volunteering in an animal shelter.

CONTINUE COURSEWORK.

Continue working on the introductory courses and register for the fall semester.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS.

Research preveterinary enrichment programs at ExploreHealthCareers.org. Preveterinary enrichment programs can help you decide if a career in veterinary medicine is a good fit and help prepare you for the application process.

Summer

INTERN OR VOLUNTEER.

Complete an internship or volunteer program.

ATTEND SUMMER SCHOOL,

if necessary. Note, many vet colleges prefer the prerequisite coursework be taken in a full-time load during the academic year. If possible, take general education or major courses during the summer.

COLLEGE YEAR 2

Fall Semester

MEET WITH AN ADVISOR.

Meet with your advisor to discuss your progress.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS.

Attend preveterinary activities.

JOIN PREVETERINARY SOCIETY.

Join your school's preveterinary society, if one is available.

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK.

Continue working on prerequisite coursework.

DO COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Explore community service opportunities through your school (they don't necessarily need to be animal-related). If possible, continue activities throughout undergraduate career.

Spring Semester

RESEARCH.

Look into paid or volunteer veterinary-related research opportunities.

CONTINUE COURSEWORK.

Complete second semester coursework and register for the fall.

ATTEND PREVET MEETINGS.

Attend preveterinary meetings. Learn about the diverse field of veterinary medicine and network with faculty advisors, admissions officers, and veterinarians.

Summer

INTERN OR VOLUNTEER.

Complete a summer research or volunteer veterinary-related program.

ATTEND SUMMER SCHOOL,

if necessary.

GRE.

Prepare for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) if you are considering schools that require it.

VISIT VETERINARY COLLEGES.

Meet with someone from the admissions office or attend an admissions presentation and take a tour.

COLLEGE YEAR 3

Fall Semester

MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.

Meet with your preveterinary advisor. Discuss veterinary schools. Register for spring semester.

VISIT THE AAVMC'S WEBSITE

(aavmc.org) to learn about applying to veterinary schools.

VISIT VMSAR.

AAVMC Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements site.

RESEARCH.

Continue researching schools.

Spring Semester

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

Identify individuals (veterinarian, faculty member or advisor, supervisor of animal experiences, research faculty) to write letters of recommendation.

GRE.

Take the GRE during late spring or early summer.

PREPARE TO SUBMIT

your vet school applications.

CONTINUE COURSEWORK.

Register for the fall semester.

INTERN OR VOLUNTEER.

Schedule a volunteer or paid veterinary medicine related activity.

Summer

BUDGET.

Budget time and finances appropriately. Consider the cost of applying and to attend interviews.

INTERN OR VOLUNTEER.

Participate in a volunteer or paid opportunity.

ATTEND SUMMER SCHOOL,

if necessary.

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS.

Work on and submit your applications. Most vet colleges have a supplemental application, so be very careful to meet all deadlines for the VMCAS application, supplemental application, and getting in supporting documentation and letters.

COLLEGE YEAR 4

Fall Semester

MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.

INTERVIEW.

Attend interviews with schools.

DECEMBER.

Notification of acceptances begins in December.

Spring Semester

APPLY FOR AID.

Apply for federal financial aid.

NOTIFY SCHOOLS OF DECISION.

April 15 deadline to let the vet colleges where you have been admitted know your decision.

Summer

ATTEND ORIENTATION.

Attend school's orientation.

RELOCATE.

Prepare to relocate, if necessary.

VET MED SCHOOL!!!