

PRE-VETERINARY



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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HELPFUL WEBSITES:

- UA Pre-Professional Health Advising: uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth
- Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges: aavmc.org
- The American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association: apvma.org
- The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine: vet.osu.edu

Veterinarians play a major role in the healthcare of pets, livestock, 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. While there is no preferred major, most UA pre-veterinary students pursue a major in Biology. explorehealthcareers.org

In addition to coursework requirements, students must score competitively on the GRE, obtain animal experience through work or volunteering and veterinary experience through shadowing.

COURSEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS

Course Number	Course Name
BIOL 111/112	Principles of Biology I & II w/labs
CHEM 151/152/153/154	Principles of Chemistry I & II w/labs
CHEM 263/264/265/266	Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs
CHEM 401/402	Biochemistry I & II
BIOL 211	Genetics
BIOL 331	Microbiology w/lab
PHYS 261/262	Physics for Life Sciences I & II w/labs
MATH 149 STAT 261/262	Pre-calc Intro to Stats I & II
OSU requires: BIOL 363/364/473/474 Foundations of Physiology I & II (lab optional) and COMM 105 Public Speaking	

The above coursework is based on the general requirements and recommendations of most veterinary schools. The list is not comprehensive and students are responsible for knowing and completing the requirements of their major and those of the veterinary schools to which they plan to apply.

VETERINARY SCHOOL TIMELINE

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Meet with the pre-health adviser
- Register your pre-veterinary interest at www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth
- Explore careers in veterinary medicine
- Consider alternative career plans
- Pursue shadowing, volunteer, and other related activities

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Pursue shadowing, volunteer, and other related activities
- Develop relationships with faculty
- Review veterinary school catalogs and websites

JUNIOR YEAR

- Pursue shadowing, volunteer, and other related activities
- Complete prerequisites
- Prepare and take the GRE
- Gather letters of recommendation
- Apply for admission

SENIOR YEAR

- Complete secondary applications
- Prepare for interviews

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process to veterinary school is rigorous; there are many components, and it often takes students much longer than anticipated to complete the application.

Most veterinary schools use rolling admission, so submitting applications sooner rather than later is advantageous. Although each veterinary school has different application deadlines, admissions applications tend to be available in May and

must be submitted through the online application system, Veterinary Medical Colleges Application Service (VMCAS) by mid September.

The only Veterinary School in Ohio is at Ohio State University. OSU, as most veterinary schools, requires the GRE and application submission through VMCAS. As part of the application, students will be required to submit recommendation letters. Therefore, it

is important that they develop professional relationships with natural science faculty and veterinarians.

Once applications are completed, students will receive secondary applications, and finally interested schools will send invitations for interviews.

EXPERIENCE & INVOLVMENT

In addition to strong academic credentials, veterinary schools want to see well-rounded applicants. Students should shadow veterinarians and work/volunteer in animal shelters or anywhere else they can gain animal experience.

Veterinary schools like to see applicants with veterinary and animal experience, as it shows that the student has a solid grasp of what is involved in the practice of veterinary medicine. Some schools have a minimum number of shadowing hours and/or require a letter of recommendation from a

current veterinarian so, it's important to start early.

It is also recommended that you document the number of hours you log and journal your experiences. So later when you are filling out your applications and writing your essays you will easily be able to recall those experiences.

Participating in student organizations on campus is a great way to get involved in community service and develop leadership skills which are a

great way to start building your resume. .

It is important to note that there is no magic formula for admission to veterinary school. Students need to be successful in the classroom while also selectively participating in activities that will add to their veterinary school applications. Think about how the people you meet through these experiences could help you as you apply to veterinary school.

* All students interested in veterinary school should register their pre-veterinary interest at www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth. Students are encouraged to meet with the pre-health adviser early on to plan courses and experiences that will help prepare them to apply to veterinary school.