Applying to Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) Degree Programs

Application Information

UTSA does not offer advanced degrees in veterinary medicine. However, students are able to take pre-requisite coursework while completing any major at UTSA. Students are encouraged to take coursework in the basic sciences, social and behavioral sciences, and humanities to prepare for their veterinary medicine program. Students should choose a major of their interest and purposefully take coursework in preparation for their application to a DVM program.

A common timeline for students attending Veterinary school is shown below:

![Timeline Diagram]

This timeline is subject to change based on student competitiveness and readiness to apply.

Applicants use the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS) to apply to the only in-state veterinary program at Texas A&M University. The application timeframe is May 1-Oct 1 for entry in the following Fall semester.

Admission to Texas A&M’s DVM program is increasingly competitive and is often determined on a holistic basis, including the following:

- **Academic Ability (49% of admissions)**
  - Grade point averages (33%):
    - Minimum Overall: 2.9 on a 4.0 scale
    - Minimum Last 45 Hours: 3.1 on a 4.0 scale
    - Minimum Science GPA: 2.9 on a 4.0 scale
  - Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. (16%)

- **Professional Preparation criteria (51% of admissions)**
  - Animal and Veterinary Experience (11%): Minimum of 100 hours under direct supervision of a veterinarian, clinical or research, paid or volunteer. Plus, experience handling animals in a kennel or shelter.
  - Interview (20%) — highly qualified students are invited for interviews
  - All other achievements, activities, evaluations (20%) to include academic rigor, average course load per semester and honors courses taken.

More information related to Texas A&M admissions can be found on their website at: [http://vetmed.tamu.edu/dvm/future/selection-process](http://vetmed.tamu.edu/dvm/future/selection-process)

Texas A&M Veterinary Medicine Pre-requisites

- BIO 1404: Biosciences I (new format, includes lab)
- BIO 2313 & BIO 2322: Genetics & Lab
- BIO 3713 & BIO 3722 OR BIO 1053 & BIO 1061: Microbiology & Lab
- Animal Nutrition: Course not offered at UTSA, see TAMU website for list of correspondence courses
- CHE 1103 & CHE 1121: General Chemistry I & Lab
- CHE 1113 & CHE 1131: General Chemistry II & Lab
- CHE 2603 & CHE 2612: Organic Chemistry I & Lab
- CHE 3643: Organic Chemistry II
- BIO 3513 OR CHE 4303: Biochemistry
- PHY 1603 & PHY 1611: Algebra-based Physics I & Lab
- PHY 1623 & PHY 1631: Algebra-based Physics II & Lab
- STA 3003 OR STA 3513: Statistics
- PSY 1013: Introduction to Psychology
- WRC 1013: Freshman Composition I
- COM 2113: Speech
- ENG 2413: Technical Writing

Students are encouraged to take additional advanced biology electives to better understand science concepts. Here is a list of some optional Biology electives related to veterinary medicine:

- BIO 3013: Introduction to Clinical Medicine
- BIO 3123: Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy
- BIO 3213: Animal Behavior
- BIO 3413: Advanced Physiology
- BIO 3433: Neurobiology
- BIO 3623: Neuropsychopharmacology
- BIO 3713: Microbiology
- BIO 3813: Cellular Biology
- BIO 3913: Molecular Biology
- BIO 4053: Molecular Biology
- BIO 4453: Endocrinology
- BIO 4723: Virology
- BIO 4743: Immunology
- BIO 4763: Parasitology

**Some courses have pre-requisite requirements. Please view these on the catalog website: [catalog.utsa.edu](http://catalog.utsa.edu).**
Shadowing/Volunteering/On-Campus Involvement

Admission to veterinary medicine programs is becoming increasingly holistic. As such, students are strongly encouraged to participate in veterinary and animal-related activities, community service and on-campus leadership experiences. Experience in these areas contributes to a student’s understanding of and commitment to veterinary careers and facilitates personal development prior to the application process.

Ways to get involved:
- UHPO keeps a list of volunteer opportunities in the San Antonio area in our office and on our website, located here: http://www.utsa.edu/healthprofessions/volunteer.html.
- UTSA student organizations participate in service and veterinary-related activities. Information about getting involved on-campus can be found on RowdyLink: https://utsa.collegiatelink.net/.
- Students are encouraged to shadow or work with veterinarians to learn more about the profession. Veterinary technician jobs can help students gain valuable exposure.
- Pre-Vet students are encouraged to apply for leadership roles in their community and/or on-campus to develop necessary communication and teamwork skills.
- Attend UTSA’s Health Professions Day, held each February, to meet with representatives from various vet schools.

Veterinary Fast Facts and Helpful Websites

- Texas has only one veterinary medicine program in the state, which is at Texas A&M University—College Station. To learn more about the program, students are encouraged to visit: http://vetmed.tamu.edu/dvm/future.
- There are 30 accredited veterinary programs in the United States. Information about these programs across the country can be found on the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges website: www.aavmc.org or the American Veterinary Medical Association website: www.avma.org.
- Typically, around 500 students apply to Veterinary School in Texas each year. Texas A&M accepts around 125 students per year. Other schools across the United States may be selective.
- More information for pre-veterinary medicine students can be found on the American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association website: www.apvma.org.
- Information about a career in veterinary medicine and related careers can be found on www.explorehealthcareers.org.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Test

The GRE is one of the measures required by many veterinary medicine programs to determine a student’s academic ability in relation to graduate education.

Some general information about the GRE:
- Three sections:
  - Verbal Reasoning (Two 30 minute sections with 20 questions per section)
  - Quantitative Reasoning (Two 35 minute sections with 20 questions per section)
  - Analytical Writing (30 minutes)
- Scoring:
  - Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning: Scores range from 130-170
  - Analytical Writing: Scores range from 0-6 in half point increments

More information about the GRE can be found on the American Educational Testing Services website (http://www.ets.org/gre/.)