



Applying to Veterinary School

A Presentation by Bethune College SOS



<http://bethune.yorku.ca/sos/>

General Information

- There are 5 veterinary schools in Canada. Canadian students must apply to the Veterinary College in their region of residency. The OVC at Guelph serves Ontario.
- Each school has its own relatively unique methods of determining who is invited for interview, and who eventually will be accepted to the school
- The rules change yearly and you must keep up with the changes

Schools in Canada



Ontario Veterinary College

- University of Guelph
 - Serves Ontario

Atlantic Veterinary College

- University of Prince Edward Island
 - Serves the 4 Atlantic provinces & territories; some OOP

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

- University of Calgary
 - Serves Alberta; no OOP



Schools in Canada (cont'd)



Western College of Veterinary Medicine

- University of Saskatchewan
 - Serves 4 western provinces & territories; no OOP

Faculté de médecine vétérinaire

- Université de Montréal (Francophone)
 - Serves Québec

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Ontario Veterinary College @ University of Guelph



- **Interview invite is based on:**
 - GPA (last four 15.0-credit semesters & prerequisites GPA)
 - Practical experience and extracurricular involvement
- **Final Acceptance is based on:**
 - Cumulative GPA
 - Interview Score on the MMI

Admission Requirements:



- **Academic:**
 - At least 2 years of 100% course load (15.0 credits/semester) **undergraduate** education in a university science program
 - **Prerequisite Courses:**
 - 2 Biological Sciences (recommended emphasis on animal biology) = 1 credit
 - Cell biology = 0.5 credit
 - Genetics = 0.5 credit
 - Biochemistry = 0.5 credit
 - Statistics = 0.5 credit
 - 2 Humanities/social sciences = 1.0 credit

(more details at <http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/recruitment/en/applyingtodvm/Academicrequirements.asp>)

Admission Requirements:



- Academic (cont'd):

- The GPA from your **last two full-time semesters**, as well as the average of your **8 prerequisite courses** must be ≥ 7.0 (B+) on York's 9-point scale.
- **MCAT**
 - **Note:** The MCAT is no longer required for applicants to the DVM program, beginning with applications for Fall 2016 entry.

Admission Requirements:



- Non-academic:
 - Undergraduate Student
 - 3 Referee Assessments (reference letters)
 - Two of the three referees selected must be veterinarians with whom you have obtained veterinary and/or animal experience.
 - Graduate Student
 - Two of the four referees selected must be veterinarians

Admission Requirements:

- Non-academic (cont'd):
 - **Background Information Form (BIF):**



Personal statement

“Why you want to become a vet” essay

Animal Experience

Pet store, work with livestock, breeding program, etc. A vet does not have to be present.

Veterinary Experience

Volunteer or paid; supervised by a vet.

Extracurricular experience

Jobs & volunteer activities that hone your communication, interpersonal and organizational skills.

Application Process



- **DUE JANUARY 1:**
 - **Canadians with Ontario residency:** If you attend a post-secondary institution other than the University of Guelph OR are living abroad, apply to the DVM program using the OUAC 105D form online at the Compass website.

Application Process (cont'd)



- **DUE FEBRUARY 1:**
 - **Background Information Form (BIF)**
- **DUE MARCH 1:**
 - **Referee Assessments**
 - **Transcripts**

Selection Process



- **1. Calculation of Admission Average - March**
 - A 50:50 ratio determines admission average (50% GPA of last 2 acceptable semesters, 50% GPA of prerequisite courses).
 - Top candidates move on in the selection process.
- **2. Review of Applications - March-April**
 - The OVC admissions committee reviews the applications of the top applicants to verify that they are suitable for interviews.

Selection Process (cont'd)



- **3. Interview (MMI format) – May**
- Candidates rotate through a series of 8 stations. At each station, there is a scenario that the candidate must interpret for assessors who evaluate the student based on a scoring rubric.
- **4. Final review of interviewed applicants - early June**
 - The top 100 students chosen after admission committee reviews.
- **5. Communication of decision**
 - An official letter will be mailed to each applicant.

Class of 2016 Stat Sheet

<http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/recruitment/en/applyingtodvm/resources/DVMAdmissionStats2016forweb.pdf>

Atlantic Veterinary College @ University of Prince Edward Island



- **4 Year Program, 63 students**
- **5 Distinct Applicant Pools:**
 - **Approx. 2/3 of seats reserved for Atlantic students from PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick & Newfoundland and Labrador**
- **The fifth pool is allocated to international applicants including those from the US**

Atlantic Veterinary College @ University of Prince Edward Island



- **Selection Criteria** (out of 100% overall admissions score):
 - **60% Academic:**
 - 50% weighed academic average
 - 10% General Graduate Record Examination
 - **40% Non-academic:**
 - 20% work and school approach and behaviour test score
 - 20% veterinary, animal, employment, and community experiences.



Admission Requirements:

- **Academic:**
 - **Twenty post-secondary undergraduate courses** must be completed prior to applying to the DVM program.
 - **Weighed Academic Average (50% of overall admissions score)**
 - 30% of weighted academic average = average of grades attained in Animal Biology 1, Animal Biology 2, Microbiology, and Genetics.
 - 70% of the weighted academic average = average of grades attained in the remaining 16 prerequisite courses.



Prerequisite Courses (Fall 2017):

Science

Animal Biology 1

Animal Biology 2

Animal Biology 3

Genetics

Mathematics 1

Mathematics 2 (Statistics)

Chemistry 1

Chemistry 2

Chemistry 3 (Organic

Chemistry)

Non Science:

English (Composition)

10 Electives

Academic Average = 50% (Average of 10 prescribed courses) + 50% (Average of most recent two full time semesters, Sept – April)

More about prerequisite courses criteria at

<http://www.upei.ca/programsandcourses/professional-programs/doctor-veterinary-medicine/dvm-academic-requirements>

Admission Requirements:



- Academic:
 1. Courses must be completed while taking a course load of 3 courses (with 9 hours of lecture/week – excluding labs)
 2. Courses may be taken during any F or W semester, or in any two consecutive summer semesters
 3. Courses will not be acceptable if they are repeats of courses taken in the last 6 years
 4. Pass/Fail courses cannot be evaluated



Admission Requirements:

- Academic:
 - GRE Scores must be competitive:
 - http://www.etscanada.ca/gre/graduate_record_exam
 - No minimum academic average that is required for acceptance into the DVM program

AVC Class	Mean Academic Average	Range of Academic Averages
2020	86.0	76.3 - 92.6
2019	85.3	74.1 - 92.7
2018	84.7	74.2 - 92
2017	86.2	77.1 - 93
2016	86.0	77.9 - 92.5



Admission Requirements:

- Non-academic:
 - **Interview (20% of overall admissions score)**
 - Only those applicants who rank highly based on their academic achievement (weighted academic average and GRE score) will be invited to interview.
 - Interview will draw on applicant's veterinary and animal experiences submitted as part of the application
 - Asked to expand on details provided regarding experiences and discuss how they have contributed to their understanding of the veterinary profession



Admission Requirements (cont'd):

- **Non-academic:**
 - **Work and School Approach and Behaviour Test (20%)**
 - W-SAB Test is a personality inventory
 - Each scale in the test is designed to evaluate critical approaches and behaviours found in daily and professional situations
 - Not possible to study for this
 - **Employment Experience, Honours and Awards, and Community Activities**
 - Applicants are asked to submit structured and detailed descriptions of their employment, honours and awards, and extracurricular and community activities.



Admission Requirements (cont'd):

- Non-academic:

Looking for specific skills:

1. Observation
2. Communication
3. Motor Skills
4. Intellectual Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities
5. Behavioural and Social Attributes

Application Process:



- *International Applicants (includes non-Atlantic Canadians)*
 - **August 1:** deadline for transcript submission through VMCAS
 - **September 15:** deadline for completion of VMCAS application
 - **November 1:** deadline for receipt of the Supplementary Application and fee (\$100) to UPEI
 - **December 15:** deadline for receipt of GRE scores
 - **February 1:** deadline for receipt of fall semester transcripts for courses in progress, if applicable
 - **June 1:** deadline for receipt of winter semester transcripts for courses in progress, if applicable.

Western College of Veterinary Medicine @ University of Saskatchewan



- **WCVM serves the four western provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the territories of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.**
 - BC: 20 seats
 - Alberta: 20 seats
 - Saskatchewan: 20 seats
 - Manitoba: 15 seats
 - Territories: 1

Western College of Veterinary Medicine @ University of Saskatchewan



- 4 Year Program, 78 Students
- Applicants must meet **residency requirements**
- **Component weighting for admission:**
 - **Academic:**
 - 2/3 of average of all university courses completed
 - 1/3 of best full year average (full year = 24 credits within the Sept – April term)
 - **Non-Academic:**
 - Structured Interview – assess applicant’s ability to cope with the veterinary program & evaluate non-academic qualities
 - Referees evaluation are also used to assess these non-academic qualities
 - Out of province interviews will be charged a \$150 fee



General Admission Requirements

- You must be a **Western Province/Territory resident** with Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status
- GPA from the **last four full-time terms (min. 12.0 credits)** as of January will be calculated.
- You must have completed or be in the process of completing the **10 required courses**. Required courses may not be repeated more than once for consideration.
- **English language proficiency** must be demonstrated for all applicants for whom English is not their first language.

Academic Admission Requirements



- The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine considers applicants from a variety of educational backgrounds. No preference is given to any particular program, college or university.

Required Undergraduate Courses:

6 Credits of Biology
6 Credits of Chemistry
6 Credits of English
6 Credits of Mathematics/Statistics
3 Credits of Organic Chemistry
3 Credits of Physics
3 Credits of Biochemistry
3 Credits of Genetics
3 Credits of Microbiology
21 Elective Courses

Academic Admission Requirements



- Normally, minimum academic requirements from undergraduate studies to receive consideration for admission are as follows:
 - A minimum average of 3.0 out of 4.0 (6.0 on York's 9-point scale, 75%) in the last four 12-credit terms
 - A minimum overall average of 2.70 out of 4.0 (5.0 on York's 9-point scale) with a passing grade in each of the required courses

University of Calgary- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



- Students must be **Alberta residents**, as defined by the Province of Alberta. To be eligible for admission to UCVM, you must be an Alberta resident.
- The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine **accepts 30-32 DVM students per year**. The Admissions Committee recommends students for admission to the program on the basis of academic and non-academic factors.

University of Calgary- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



Academic Requirements

- A minimum overall average of 3.00 ("B" or its equivalent) with a passing grade in each of the required courses
- Once this requirement has been met, the average GPA from the required courses will not be used further in the admissions process.
- You must have completed or be in the process of completing the TEN (10) required courses with at least SEVEN (7) of the TEN (10) required courses being completed before December 31, 2016.

University of Calgary- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



Academic Requirements

- UCVM defines a “full time” term as a minimum of FOUR (4) ‘first-attempt’ courses per term (semester)
- A minimum combined grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 ("B" or its equivalent) over EACH of the last four full-time terms of undergraduate academic years.

University of Calgary- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



Required Courses

- Two Introductory Biology Courses (a lab component is required for each course)
- Two Introductory Chemistry Courses (a lab component is required for each course)
- One Introductory English Course (must contain a writing component)
- One Introductory Organic Chemistry Course (a lab component is required)
- One Introductory Statistics Course
- One Introductory Biochemistry Course (a lab component is optional)
- One Introductory Genetics Course (a lab component is optional)
- One Introductory Ecology Course (a lab component is optional)

University of Calgary- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine



A complete application consists of:

- The completed application form
 - The application fee
 - Post-secondary transcripts submitted by the appropriate academic institutions
 - Proof of Alberta residency
 - Signed Declaration of the applicant
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- Interview style is MMI

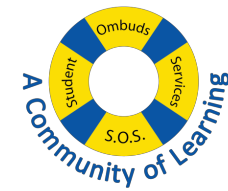
Faculté de médecine vétérinaire- Université de Montréal



- To attend this school you must be proficient in **French**, due to all the classes being taught in this language

- For more information: <http://www.medvet.umontreal.ca/>

More about your Veterinary School Application

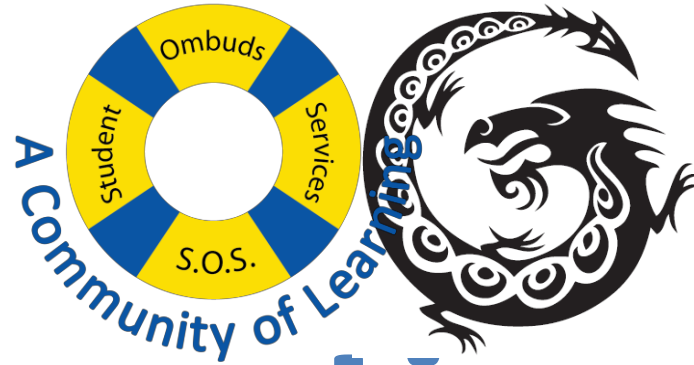


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Prepare Yourself

- You must take an **active interest in learning** and keeping up with the admissions policies at your targeted schools
- You have to **plan in advance** your approach
- Don't count on any one particular school's policies to help you – remember luck plays a role and **policies change**.
- Of all things, **GPA is usually the primary barrier** for most applicants and is the hardest to improve



Questions?

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