

# Veterinary Medicine

<p><b>Nature of the Work</b></p>	<p>For descriptions of this profession see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Students, Applicants, and Advisors</i> section of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges website: <a href="http://www.aavmc.org/">http://www.aavmc.org/</a></li> <li>• <i>Veterinary Careers</i> section of the American Veterinary Medical Association website: <a href="https://www.avma.org/public/careers/pages/careers.aspx">https://www.avma.org/public/careers/pages/careers.aspx</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.explorehealthcareers.org">www.explorehealthcareers.org</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Course Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 year general biology</li> <li>• 1 year general chemistry</li> <li>• 1 year organic chemistry</li> <li>• 1 year general physics</li> <li>• Other common requirements include biochemistry, mathematics/statistics and English.</li> <li>• Most schools require additional courses (check the <i>Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements</i>; VMSAR; <a href="http://www.aavmc.org/">www.aavmc.org</a>; <a href="http://www.apvma.org/vet-school-pre-requisites.html">www.apvma.org/vet-school-pre-requisites.html</a>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application Timeline</b></p>	<p>Veterinary school directly after Gettysburg College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required courses completed by end of senior year (although preference may be given to applicants that complete the required courses sooner)</li> <li>• Apply during summer between junior and senior years</li> </ul>
<p><b>Standardized Test</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate Record Exam (GRE) revised General Test (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Given year-round at computer-based test centers</li> <li>• Length ~ 4 hours</li> <li>• 3 sections : Verbal Reasoning (score 130-170), Quantitative Reasoning (score 130-170), Analytical Writing (score 0-6)</li> <li>• Register on-line (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Free and low-cost preparation materials (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Unofficial scores on test day, official scores in 10-15 days</li> <li>• Some schools accept the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) in place of the GRE (check VMSAR)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application Service</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) (<a href="http://www.aavmc.org/">www.aavmc.org</a>)</li> <li>• Available ~ Mid-May</li> <li>• Schools not participating in VMCAS: apply directly to the school</li> <li>• APPLY EARLY!!!</li> </ul>

<b>Admissions Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall and science GPA (check VMSAR for #'s)</li> <li>• Standardized test scores (GRE) (check VMSAR for #'s)</li> <li>• Animal-related experience</li> <li>• 3 separate letters of evaluation</li> <li>• Leadership and communication skills</li> <li>• Commitment to service</li> <li>• Interview</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinary school: 4 years</li> <li>• Optional 1 year internship following veterinary school</li> <li>• Optional 2-3 year residency following internship</li> </ul>
<b>Degree</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (<a href="http://www.aavmc.org">www.aavmc.org</a>)</li> <li>• American Veterinary Medical Association (<a href="http://www.avma.org">www.avma.org</a>)</li> </ul>