



Pre-Veterinary Medicine Prerequisites Guide

This guide contains course prerequisites and other requirements for veterinary medicine schools. Because admissions requirements vary among programs and institutions, you should consult with veterinary medicine school websites or admission offices to ensure proper coursework and that all other requirements are met or exceeded.

Course Prerequisites at WSU

Biology

- General Biology with lab
 - BIOL 106 – Introductory Biology: Organismal Biology
 - BIOL 107 – Introductory Biology: Cell Biology and Genetics

Biomedical Science Courses

Two or more courses required; check with specific veterinary medicine programs for required biomedical science course requirements.

- Anatomy
 - BIOL 324 – Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy
 - VET_PH 308 – Functional Anatomy of Domestic Animals
- Genetics
 - BIOL 301 (cross listed with MBIOS301) – General Genetics
- Cell Biology
 - BIOL 352 – Cells
 - MBIOS 401 – Cell Biology
- Physiology
 - VET_PH 325 (cross listed with NEUROSCI 325) – Foundations of Medical Physiology
 - BIOL 350 – Comparative Physiology
 - ANIM_SCI 440 – Physiology of Domestic Animals
- Pathology/Immunology
 - BIOL 418 – Parasitology
 - MBIOS 440 – Immunology
 - MBIOS 442 – General Virology



Microbiology

- Microbiology with lab (select one or more courses)
 - MBIOS 101 - Introductory Microbiology
 - Introductory courses may not meet the requirements for some programs, check with specific veterinary medicine programs
 - MBIOS 304 – Microbiology and Molecular Biology laboratory
 - MBIOS 305 – General Microbiology

Math

- College Mathematics (select one or more)
 - MATH 106 – College Algebra
 - MATH 108 – Trigonometry
 - MATH 171 – Calculus I
- Introductory Statistics (select one course)
 - STAT 212 – Introduction to Statistical Methods
 - PSYCH 311 - Statistics in Psychology

Physics

- General Physics (select one series with labs)
 - General Physics (with labs)
 - PHYS 101 (and 111)
 - PHYS 102 (and 112)
 - Physics for Scientists/Engineers (with labs)
 - PHYS 201 (and 211)
 - PHYS 202 (and 212)

Chemistry

- General Chemistry with lab
 - CHEM 105 - Principles of Chemistry I
 - CHEM 106 - Principles of Chemistry II
- Organic Chemistry
 - CHEM 345 – Organic Chemistry I
 - CHEM 348 – Organic Chemistry II (highly recommended; required by many vet programs)
- Biochemistry
 - MBIOS 303 – Introductory Biochemistry



English

- English - Introductory Writing (select one)
 - ENGLISH 101 – College Composition
 - ENGLISH 298 – Writing and Research (Honor's students only)
- Advanced Writing (select one)
 - ENGL 301 – Writing and Rhetorical Conventions
 - ENGL 402 – Technical and Professional Writing

Public Speaking

- Public Speaking (select one)
 - COM 102 – Public Speaking in the Digital Age
 - HD 205 – Developing Effective Communication and Life Skills

Other Common Program Requirements

In addition to the prerequisite courses listed above, most veterinary medicine schools require additional requirements for applying to their programs. Most programs use holistic admissions, where more than GPA and standardized test scores are used to determine admissions. It is important to check the institution's website for specifics on their program requirements and to ensure you meet or exceed these requirements.

For most veterinary medicine schools, the following requirements are used to holistically determine admissions:

- Completion of prerequisite courses (usually with a C or 2.0 or higher grade)
- Completion of specific number of credits (usually 90 semester credits) or completion of a bachelor's degree with a strong GPA
 - average cumulative GPA of 3.6 or higher
- Standardized test scores
 - **GRE** test score (only required for some programs; optional for other programs)
 - **CASPER** scores (only required for some programs)
- Experiences
 - Animal Experiences (250-500+ hours)
 - Any work experience with animals that is not supervised by a veterinarian



- Veterinary Experience (250-500+ hours)
 - Work supervised by a veterinarian
 - Best to have experience at multiple clinics
- Volunteer/Community Service (non-animal volunteering)
- Work experiences (non-animal positions)
- Achievements (scholarships, honor society, club officer, etc.)
- Extracurricular Activities (clubs, Greek life, sports, hobbies, etc.)
- Research experience (not required but strongly recommended)
- Letters of recommendation
 - check with each program for number of letters needed and list of acceptable letter writers
- Personal Statement
- Completion of the VMCAS ([Veterinary Medicine Centralized Application Service](#)) application
- Personal interview
 - each school will determine the format and specifications for their interview process