

Pre-Veterinary Medicine Requirements

Introduction: This information is based on the general requirements of most (>50%) veterinary schools across the nation. It will be up to each student to research schools of interest and to finalize any remaining requirements.

- Veterinary schools do not require any particular major. Students should select a major based on academic strengths and interests.
- Each student should develop an academic plan based on: the core veterinary requirements, requirements needed for their major, and requirements for graduation.
- A draft of your academic plan needs to be reviewed with your advisor from your major.
- Veterinary schools may require above a specific number of hours working hands-on with animals. Check programs for more information.

Required by MOST Vet. Schools

Chemistry: 2 Semesters
CHEM 1031 + CHEM 1033
CHEM 1032 + CHEM 1034

Organic Chemistry: 2 Semesters
CHEM 2201 + CHEM 2203
CHEM 2202 + CHEM 2204

Math: 2 Semesters
Math requirements vary greatly. Check with schools.
MATH 1041
MATH 1042
MATH 1013, MATH 1044, SOC 1167, PSY 1003

Biochemistry: 1 Semester
BIOL 4375, CHEM 3401, or CHEM 4401

Biology: 2 Semesters
*BIOL 1111
*BIOL 1112 or 2112

Physics: 2 Semesters
Physics requirement dictated by major.
PHYS 2021 (or 1061 or 1021)
PHYS 2022 (or 1062 or 1022)

English: 2 Semesters
ENG 0802
Some schools consider any writing intensive course.
IH may not necessarily count as an English course for all programs. Please contact schools of interest for more information.

To look up courses please navigate the [bulletin](#).

Required by SOME Vet. Schools

Humanities / Social Sciences Electives:
[Check schools of interest if additional courses are required.](#)

Upper Level Sciences:
Refer to schools of interest if any additional sciences are required. Possible courses listed below:
Genetics: BIOL 2207+2297
Microbiology: BIOL 2001 or BIOL 3317

Sample Timeline

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Summer
Year 1	Chemistry I Calculus I	Chemistry II Biology I Calculus II / Statistics	<i>Exposure to Vet. Med.</i> <i>Community Service</i>
Year 2	Organic Chemistry I Biology II	Organic Chemistry II	<i>Continue Volunteering</i> <i>Research</i>
Year 3	Physics I <i>GRE Prep</i>	Physics II Biochemistry Apply to Vet School in January Take GRE	Continue Exposure to Vet. Med.
Year 4	Any Additional Requirements <i>Veterinary Interview</i>	Any Additional Requirements <i>Veterinary Interview</i>	<i>Take a break before Vet. School!</i>

This timeline is an example of how you may wish to take courses in a perfect world. **The timing of these courses may change due to placement exams or major requirements.** In addition to these courses, each student will fit in any classes required by their major. Develop an academic plan based on the sequence above that is tailored to your needs so that you and your advisor can discuss your plan.

Visit [Temple's bulletin](#) to view the availability and prerequisites of each course.

ePortfolio

ePortfolio is a tool that will help students stay organized for a professional school application. Through the ePortfolio process, students will set up a 'mock application' that includes GPAs and professional development experiences. **ePortfolio drafts are due to PPHA June 30th two years before students plan to enter professional school.** Competitive students who complete the ePortfolio are considered for an interview by the Pre-Professional Health Evaluation Committee. Interviewed students will be offered a committee letter of recommendation and may have additional letters sent from PPHA to professional schools as they apply.

The circle to the right represents four areas that are important for admission to professional school. As you embark on your journey to Veterinary Medicine school, think about ways to enhance each of these four sections.



Applying to Veterinary Schools

Application Process: A centralized application service is available through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service ([VMCAS](#)) which is administered by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges ([AAVMC](#)). Applications are submitted one year before students expect to enter veterinary school and are available for submission in mid January. Schools view applicants on a rolling basis – apply early when the application opens!

Undergraduate Major: There is no preferred major for veterinary school. Students should select a major that they find interesting and consider a strength.

GPA: Veterinary schools will consider both a student’s overall and math/science GPA. Math/science GPA is calculated using scores from any course taken in the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math. **Both overall and math/science GPAs of 3.5 or above are preferred. GPAs below 3.0 will need to consider Post-Baccalaureate coursework / programs before applying.**

Graduate Record Examination ([GRE](#)): Most veterinary schools require that students complete the GRE which is administered through the Education Testing Service (ETS). This test is often taken during the same time that the student applies to professional school (one year before walking through the doors of veterinary school). Remember, take time to prepare for the exam. Check with schools of interest for preferred percentile scores. Most schools prefer above 50th percentile composite and/or for each section. Some schools may also require that students take the GRE Biology subject test.

Professional Development: Veterinary schools will first review your numbers (overall GPA, Math/Science GPA, GRE scores). If these are in a competitive range, they will then assess your extracurricular and volunteer experiences. Schools like to see that applicants have worked with animals of all shapes and sizes. This can be done in a number of ways either through 4-H or FFA involvement, volunteering at shelters, kennels, racetracks, vet offices, or anywhere you can work directly with animals. Demonstrated experiences working with animals needs to be a part of your profile for future admission.

Letters of Recommendation: Letters for veterinary schools will be sent directly through VMCAS at the time a student applies. Schools generally like to see 2-3 letters of recommendation. Look into schools of interest for more specifics on what types of letters might be preferred.

Additional Resources:

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC): www.aavmc.org
[AAVMC Becoming a Veterinarian](#)