



Pre-Professional Track

A pre-professional program is a statement of intent on the student's part, not an academic major. No university offers a "major" in pre-veterinary.

Pre-veterinary students pursue a course of study to fulfill requirements for entry into a veterinary school. The major that best fits the veterinary science program is biology with a general biology concentration; however, other science and non-science majors are acceptable as long as the student has fulfilled the coursework that is required for admission to their graduate school of choice.

Most students who are residents of Wisconsin or Minnesota opt for admission to the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine or the University of Minnesota Veterinary College. The pre-vet curriculum at UWL ensures that students meet the admission requirements for these two vet schools. Students planning to apply to other schools should check the specific admission requirements of those schools.

Prerequisite Coursework:

- BIO 105: General Biology
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- BIO 203: Organismal Biology
- BIO 306: Genetics
- CHM 103 & 104: General Chemistry I & II
- CHM 300: Survey of Organic Chemistry OR CHM 303, 304 & 305: Organic Chemistry series
- CHM 325: Biochemistry OR CHM 417 & 418: Biochemistry series
- PHY 103 & 104: Fund. Physics I & II OR PHY 203 & 204: General Physics I & II
- MIC 230: Fundamentals of Microbiology
- MTH 145: Statistics
- MTH 150, MTH 151 or MTH 207
- ENG 110: College Writing I
- One additional writing course. Select from ENG 303, 307, 308 or 309

Program Overview

Applicants must complete a total of 60 semester credits of college course work, but most applicants to veterinary school complete an undergraduate degree before enrolling. The 60 credits include the required 40-43 credits of course work, plus a minimum of 17 credits of elective course work left to the student's discretion. The 17 elective credits allow the student to meet personal and academic goals and objectives while preparing for admission to veterinary school. How the electives contributed to the student's academic goals and objectives will be considered in the application process. All course work must be completed no later than the end of the spring term prior to admission to the program.

Most students have obtained a college degree prior to admission or are entering veterinary school after 3 years of pre-veterinary training. It is unusual for students to enter veterinary school without having completed a college degree.

Students should note that admission to veterinary school typically requires the completion of the GRE or other entrance examination.

Veterinary schools are extremely selective, accepting a smaller fraction of their applicants than many medical programs. Veterinary schools also weigh experience with animals and work in a clinical setting very heavily in the admissions process, so considering how summer jobs, volunteer positions, and hobbies can provide you with animal care experience is advised.

For additional requirements of other schools of veterinary medicine or for further information, students should see the pre-veterinary adviser. Early advising avoids problems prior to the application deadline.

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