



MEDICAL PROFESSIONS
ADVISEMENT



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE GUIDE

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

89,200

jobs in 2019

103,400

jobs projected in 2029

MEDIAN ANNUAL WAGE

\$99,300

in 2020

for more information, see the Bureau of Labor Statistics
<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/veterinarians.htm>

The Pre-Veterinary Medicine track at East Tennessee State University

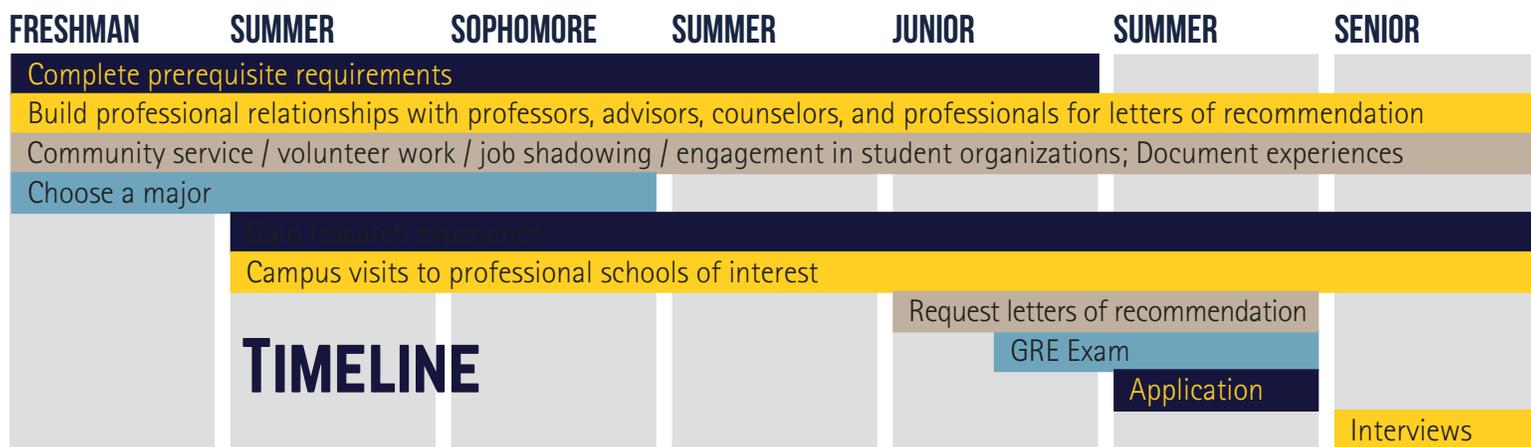
prepares students for application to a four-year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree program. Completion of a bachelor's degree is strongly recommended for application to veterinary schools.

CAREERS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

Veterinarians care for the health of animals. They diagnose, treat, or research medical conditions and diseases of pets, livestock, and animals in zoos, laboratories, and racetracks.

Veterinarians in private clinical practices use a variety of medical devices, including surgical tools and imaging equipment, to treat the injuries and illnesses of all animals.

Veterinarians often work long hours, including nights and weekends. They may also have to respond to emergencies outside of scheduled work hours. Most veterinarians work 50 or more hours a week; however, about a fifth work 40 hours.

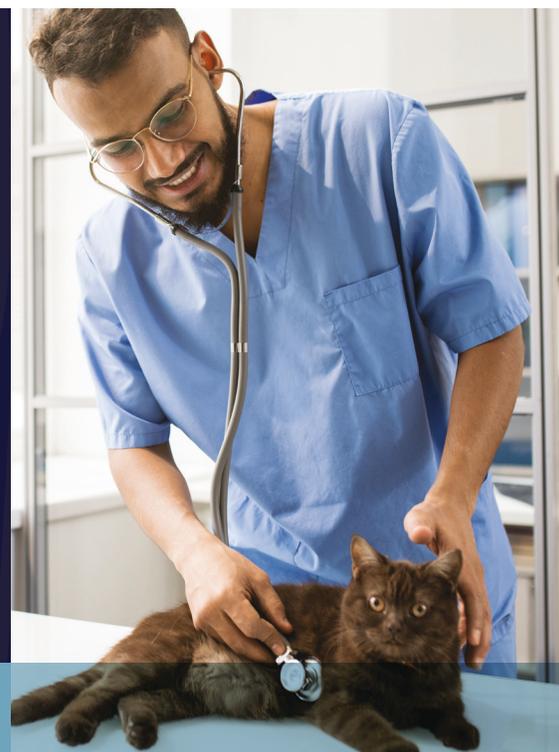


TIMELINE

ADVISEMENT

PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE IS NOT A MAJOR. Therefore, you must choose a major (and minor, if appropriate) which supports your life goals by the time you earn 60 credit hours. Students may major in their field of choice. Some schools, however, feel that students who major in biology or chemistry will be the most prepared for entry into veterinary school. Students who have an extensive science background have an easier time with the veterinary school basic sciences than non-science majors. Students should speak with a Pre-Veterinary Medicine counselor before/when declaring a major.

We strongly recommend you meet with your MPA counselor and major advisor each term before registering for the following semester. Students who receive scholarships or participate in specialized ETSU programs (such as athletics or Honors College programs) must also seek advisement from those departments. Serious consequences can occur if students fail to meet with advisors/counselors (e.g., failure to graduate on time, missing appropriate courses to prepare for application, etc.).



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO GET INTO VETERINARY SCHOOL?

GPA - 3.6

Average undergraduate GPA of students admitted to vet schools nationwide in 2020

AVERAGE GRE SCORE

Quantitative 154.3
 Verbal 156.0
 Analytical 4.0

CORE PREPARATION COURSES

Different schools may have varying prerequisite requirements. It is up to the student to research and ensure the required courses are completed before application to the preferred school(s) of interest.

Biology	8 hours	BIOL 1110/1111, BIOL 1120/1121
General Chemistry	8 hours	CHEM 1110/1111, CHEM 1120/1121
Organic Chemistry	10 hours	CHEM 2010/2011, CHEM 2020/2021
Physics	8 hours	PHYS 2010/2011, PHYS 2020/2021
Genetics	8 hours	BIOL 3100
Cell Biology	5 hours	BIOL 3150/3151
Biochemistry*	3-6 hours	Consult with your counselor
English	6 hours	ENGL 1010 and ENGL 1020
Social Sciences/Humanities	18 hours	Consult with your counselor

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED COURSES

Immunology	4 hours	HSCI 3540
Comparative Anatomy	4 hours	BIOL 3220
Human Physiology	4 hours	HSCI 3020
Animal Physiology	4 hours	BIOL 3260
Microbiology	4 hours	HSCI 3320/3321
Calculus	8 hours	MATH 1910 and 1920
Probability and Statistics	3 hours	MATH 1530
Speech	3 hours	Consult with your counselor

**This should be an upper-division course in general cellular and comparative biochemistry. Half of a two-semester sequence will not satisfy this requirement. The biochemistry course must have been satisfactorily completed within five years of the time you wish to enter the professional program.*

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students are encouraged to begin the application process at the end of their junior year.

Students must register through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS). liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login. We have two veterinary schools in Tennessee. Lincoln Memorial University- lmu.net.edu/college-of-veterinary-medicine/index.php and UTHSC- vetmed.tennessee.edu. An application will be completed through this service and will then be submitted to the veterinary schools of your choice. VMCAS opens in May and the deadline to submit is in September. Most schools require a supplemental application that will be provided by the school. Most veterinary school applications require a personal statement as well as three letters of recommendation. One recommendation letter should be from a veterinarian. Therefore, it is important to establish a strong relationship with the person(s) you are shadowing.

Remember that requirements vary by school, so check with each individual school for specific details.

SUGGESTED 2-YEAR SCHEDULE FOR PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE STUDENTS

FRESHMAN

Fall

CHEM 1110/11
 BIOL 1110/11
 MATH 1720/1910
 ENGL 1010
 PREH 1350

Spring

CHEM 1120/21
 BIOL 1120/21
 MATH 1530
 ENGL 1020
 ELECTIVE

SOPHOMORE

Fall

CHEM 2010/11
 PHYS 2010/11
 SPCH*
 PSYC 1310
 ELECTIVE

Spring

CHEM 2020/21
 PHYS 2020/21
 ELECTIVE
 ELECTIVE
 ELECTIVE

Students should maintain a minimum of 17-19 credit hours per semester

* Consult your MPA counselor before choosing a speech course



MPA COUNSELOR CONTACT
Medical Professions
Advisement Office
423-439-5602

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

WE HAVE 15+ PRE-HEALTH STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE 250+ AT ETSU

ANIMAL HEALTH AND SCIENCE STUDENT ORGANIZATION (AHSSO)

The Animal Health and Science Student Organization promotes animal health and awareness through the exploration of all animal sciences. This organization provides volunteer and shadowing experiences, career guidance, and research opportunities to help students prepare for graduate and professional schools.

ALPHA EPSILON DELTA HONOR SOCIETY (AED)

AED functions as a health pre-professional honor society encouraging excellence in scholarship. It emphasizes the importance of health education and promotes cooperation and contact among professionals.



Please visit Student Activities and Organizations to find an organization that best fits your goals.

etsucampuslabs.com/engage/organizations

WHAT CAN I BE DOING NOW TO STRENGTHEN MY APPLICATION TO VETERINARY SCHOOL?

RELATED EXPERIENCE It is important for students to have veterinary experience. Veterinary schools look for students who have had supervised experiences in three or more different areas such as large animal, small animal, research, animal food production, exotic, aquatic, wildlife, zoological, and medicine. Applicants will be evaluated on duration, level of duties, and diversity of the experiences. Although a precise number of hours is not usually required by most veterinary schools, students should work in the field as much as possible without sacrificing grades.

EXTRACURRICULARS The admissions committees of veterinary schools are interested in seeing a range of extracurricular activities, especially those demanding a significant leadership role. Students should demonstrate their ability to balance full academic schedules with extracurricular involvement on and off campus and/or through employment opportunities. ETSU has many organizations that students can join. Students should visit the SAO or www.etsu.edu/students/sao/ for more information regarding extracurricular activities. It is not beneficial to simply join an organization. You must demonstrate leadership!

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE Veterinary schools are looking for candidates who demonstrate a commitment to service. Students should seek volunteer projects that focus on giving back to the community. Students are encouraged to also look for volunteer opportunities related to the veterinary field.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE Please consider personal email addresses when corresponding with professional schools. First impressions are often based on correspondence; therefore email addresses should be appropriate for professional communication. Messages and images sent electronically are reflections of judgment and potential suitability for professional careers. Inappropriate behaviors shared on an accessible venue can be viewed and shared by anyone, possibly compromising your chances of admission to veterinary school.

WATCH WHAT YOU POST!



American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

www.aavmc.org



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