



SMU PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Suggested Pre-Veterinary Medicine Plan

Note: Some science courses may be completed in summer terms.



Individual program requirements may change at any time, and this plan may not reflect the most current information. It is the student's responsibility to review, understand, follow, and remain up to date with the policies, guidelines, and requirements (including prerequisite coursework) of each individual veterinary medicine program and the application service.

This plan could vary depending on the major chosen. Consult your academic advisor and check individual degree plans for suggested sequencing of courses. Grades of C (not C-) or better are required to meet specific science (and math) prerequisites for admission to veterinary school. Consult with your advisor before advancing to the next level course. Science prerequisites include courses coded as biology, chemistry, physics, and math (including statistics).

1st Year Fall

CHEM	1303	General Chemistry I
CHEM	1113	General Chemistry I Lab
BIOL	1301	Introductory Biology I
BIOL	1101	Biology I Lab
WRTR	1312	Introduction to Academic Writing
MATH	1337	Calculus

1st Year Spring

CHEM	1304	General Chemistry II
CHEM	1114	General Chemistry II Lab
BIOL	1302	Introductory Biology II
BIOL	1102	Biology II Lab
WRTR	1313	Writing and Critical Reasoning
STAT	2331	Statistics

2nd Year Fall

CHEM	3371	Organic Chemistry I
CHEM	3117	Organic Chem. I Lab
BIOL	3304	Genetics

2nd Year Spring

CHEM	3372	Organic Chemistry II
CHEM	3118	Organic Chem. II Lab
BIOL	3350	Cell Biology

3rd Year Fall

BIOL	4310	Biochemistry
PHYS	1307	General Physics I
PHYS	1105	Physics I Lab
BIOL	3370	Microbiology
BIOL	3170	Microbiology Lab

3rd Year Spring

PHYS	1308	General Physics II
PHYS	1106	Physics II Lab



Students can choose any major; however, *many of the prerequisite courses for most veterinary programs align with the Biology B.S. major at SMU.* Additional recommended (or required) courses include **Animal Nutrition, Animal Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Biochemistry II (Metabolism), and Public Speaking.** **Animal Nutrition and Animal Science are not offered at SMU.** Behavioral science courses (psychology/sociology) are also recommended (and required) by some programs.

Students may complete PHYS 1303/1105 & PHYS 1304/1106 instead of PHYS 1307/1105 & PHYS 1308/1106. *Note: MATH 1338 is a prerequisite (or co-requisite) for PHYS 1304.* **Physics can be moved to later semesters to better accommodate a student's schedule.**

Pre-veterinary students should plan to take the GRE and submit their application no later than June of Year 3 or year of application. The GRE is offered multiple times during the year. ***Some programs may no longer require the GRE.*** **Review program websites to confirm specific requirements.**

Students are encouraged to create a list of potential veterinary medical programs and review the program-specific requirements. **It is the student's responsibility to understand the specific requirements for individual programs.** Most veterinary medicine programs strongly recommend or require veterinary experience. Refer to individual programs for the required (or recommended) shadowing hours, documentation, and other animal or veterinary related experiences.

Animal experience includes caring for and handling animals in a kennel or animal shelter. It also includes any other experience that was not under the direct supervision of a veterinarian. Documentation is required.

Veterinary experience includes hours spent working under the direct supervision of a veterinarian, whether in a paid or volunteer capacity in a clinical or research environment. Documentation is required.

Meet with the Office of Pre-Health Advising and visit: www.aavmc.org and <https://admin.applytovetschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Prereq-chart-for-VMCAS-2026.pdf> to prepare for application to veterinary medicine school.



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Animal-related courses may be offered online while others are available only in-person. Before completing any animal-related courses, it's important to review program websites.

[Kansas State University \(K-State Online\)](#)

[Oklahoma State University \(Animal Science\)](#)

[NC State University](#)

[Tarleton State University](#)

Students applying to Texas veterinary medical programs will apply using **TMDSAS** (Texas Medical Dental School Application Service). Students applying to veterinary medical programs outside of Texas will apply using **VMCAS**.

To better understand the types of experiences required or recommended, use the link or QR code below:

https://help.liaisonedu.com/VMCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_VMCAS_Application/VMCAS_Supporting_Information/2_Experiences



To better understand the application timeline, use the link or QR code below:

https://help.liaisonedu.com/VMCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Starting_Your_VMCAS_Application/Getting_Started_with_Your_VMCAS_Application/00_VMCAS_Quick_Start_Guide



To better understand the VMCAS (Veterinary Medical College Application Service) application, use the link or QR code below:

https://help.liaisonedu.com/VMCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Filling_Out_Your_VMCAS_Application



Resources

<https://applytovetschool.org/>

<https://www.aavmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/VMCAS-2025-Sample-Application-1.pdf>

<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/careers/veterinary-school-admission-101>

<https://myvetlife.avma.org/current-student/your-career>

<http://www.aavmc.org/becoming-a-veterinarian/what-to-know-before-you-apply/>