

Veterinary Early Commitment Program for Students Interested in Food Supply Medicine

A partnership between The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and the Department of Animal Sciences in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

Philosophy

The **goals** of the Veterinary Early Commitment Program for Students Interested in Food Supply Medicine are to:

- Recruit qualified students early in their undergraduate career
- Better prepare students for careers in food supply medicine prior to entry into the DVM program
- Cultivate students' interest in food supply medicine
- Allow more opportunities for mentoring
- Graduate more DVM's into food supply medicine
- Graduate DVM's who have the skills and knowledge to serve modern food producing animal agribusiness

Applicant information

1. Applicants must be full-time students in the Department of Animal Sciences in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University
2. Students completing the traditional four year academic degree plan will apply during Spring Quarter of their second year in the Department of Animal Sciences. Application submission deadline June 15.
 - a. *Students entering or transferring to the University or Animal Sciences Department with prior college academic credit must have completed a minimum of one year in the Animal Sciences major at OSU and have two years remaining in their degree plan when applying to the program.*
3. Applicants will be reviewed and selected for interview during Summer and Autumn quarter by the selection committee.
4. A maximum of ten (10) seats will be reserved each year for these students
 - a. When possible, at least one seat will be reserved for a swine-focused student and at least one seat for a poultry-focused student
5. Two alternates may be selected each year.

Selection Criteria

1. GPA
 - a. Must meet minimum GPA required by the CVM (*currently, 3.0*).
 - b. Minimum grades in prerequisite courses of 2.0, or as required by CVM.
 - c. Progress toward completion of required courses for CVM admission. Students must be eligible to enroll in CHEM 251 by completion of the Spring Quarter of the year of application to the program.
2. ACT or SAT score.
3. Difficulty of coursework and course load.
4. Leadership and extracurricular activities.
5. Personal statement of intent.
6. Three letters of recommendation.
 - a. One must be from a faculty member in the Department of Animal Sciences, one from a practicing veterinarian (references from food animal veterinarians are highly encouraged), and the third may be of the candidate's choice.
7. List of animal experience/veterinary experience/industry experience.
 - a. These may be farm background, participation in 4-H or FFA, experience with a food supply veterinarian, research related to food animals, or other similar experience such as work in a feedlot, dairy farm, agribusiness, or government agency (USDA-APHIS, FSIS, or ARS) settings.
8. A personal interview with two or more faculty from the CVM and Department of Animal Sciences.

Selection Committee

1. The selection committee will be an ad hoc subcommittee of the Admissions Committee of the College of Veterinary Medicine. The subcommittee will be composed of:
 - a. Two Animal Sciences faculty members.
 - b. Two CVM faculty members; one from the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and one from Large Animal Clinical Sciences.
 - c. One member of the CVM Admission's Committee.
2. Committee members will serve staggered 3-year terms.
3. Members will be nominated by their department chairs (Animal Sciences and VPM) or section head (Large Animal Clinic) and approved by the Admissions Committee, except the member of the Admissions Committee who will be appointed by the chair of the Admissions Committee.

Requirements for students accepted into the Veterinary Early Commitment Program

1. Students will be assigned mentors, one from CVM and one from the Department of Animal Sciences, based on their food animal interests.
2. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor and/or species interest mentors each quarter.
3. The student must submit a course of study to their advisor for approval.
4. The student must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 accumulative GPA.
5. The student must maintain grades of at least 2.0 in required CVM prerequisite courses.
6. The student must take the GRE.
7. Students will be required to complete two externships approved by their Animal Sciences and/or CVM mentors.
8. Students must demonstrate continued interest in food supply medicine through activities and course of studies.
9. Students must continue to make satisfactory progress towards BS degree.
10. Students are encouraged to attend Food Animal Club meetings and events whenever possible.
11. Students will be provided information regarding date and location of food animal rounds and are encouraged to attend whenever possible.
12. The selection committee will evaluate students annually for satisfactory progress. Students who fail to meet requirements will be excused from the program and one of the alternates will fill their position.

Final Admission to CVM

Final approval prior to admission to the CVM is the responsibility of the

Admissions Committee of the CVM

1. **Apply for admission to CVM through the VMCAS system by the deadline for the class year.**
2. Meet minimum requirements for GPA as required by CVM (currently 3.0).
3. Must meet minimum GRE score required by the CVM (currently 1000).
4. Completion of all CVM- prerequisite courses with a minimum grade of 2.0 (No more than one prerequisite course may remain to be completed by the end of the Autumn quarter of the academic year in which students apply to CVM).
5. Completion of requirements for the B.S. in Agriculture, majoring in Animal Sciences
6. Letter of approval from the Veterinary Early Commitment Program for Students Interested in Food Supply Medicine committee

Prerequisite courses required by the College of Veterinary Medicine

Subject	Course	Credit Hours
English	110	5
General Chemistry	121, 122, and 123	15
Organic Chemistry	251 and 252	6
Biochemistry	511	5
Biology	113 and 114	10
Molecular Genetics	500	5
Microbiology	520 and 521 (or 509)	10 (5)
Mathematics (Algebra and trigonometry)	150	5
General Physics	111 and 112	10
Humanities and Social Sciences [*]		20
Electives ^{**}		10
Total Quarter Credit Hours		96-101

^{*} Humanities and Social Sciences: Students are encouraged to elect the courses required for the Bachelor of Science curriculum. Courses in communication, journalism, sociology, classics, economics, and animal behavior are strongly recommended.

^{**} Electives: Elective courses are at the student's discretion, after consultation with an advisor. However, highly recommended electives include Animal Sciences courses at the 500 level and above that focus on production and management topics. A list of suggested courses is attached to this document.

Final admittance into the CVM requires that no more than one prerequisite course may remain to be completed after the end autumn quarter preceding the desired autumn quarter of admission. All required pre-veterinary courses must be completed with a grade of 2.0 or better.

Application Requirements

GPA:

Applicants must meet the minimum GPA required by the CVM (*currently, 3.0*). Additionally, a minimum grade of 2.0 is required in all prerequisite courses.

ACT or SAT Scores:

Applicants must submit a copy of their ACT or SAT score for consideration.

Leadership and extracurricular activities:

Extracurricular activities may include organizations such as youth groups, service groups, fraternities/sororities, honoraries, or other volunteer activities during the applicant's high school and college career. Awards received by the organizations and leadership roles should be included.

Personal letter of intent:

A personal statement should describe the applicant's motivation to pursue a career in food supply veterinary medicine and experiences related to food producing animals. In addition, it should explain to the selection committee the qualities possessed by the applicant that will allow them to succeed in food supply medicine.

The letter of intent should not exceed 750 words.

Letters of recommendation:

Three letters of recommendation are required. One must be from a faculty member in the Department of Animal Sciences, one from a veterinarian (references from food animal veterinarians are highly encouraged), and the third may be of the candidate's choice. These references also should be from someone who is **not a relative**. They must be able to attest to your work ethic and professionalism/character.

We suggest you request your letters of reference carefully. The evaluator must know you well enough to complete a recommendation on you and write a thorough letter of reference.

We advise against sending more than the three required references as the Committee will only review three reference letters. Applicants are asked to submit their three strongest reference letters that meet our guidelines. If an applicant submits more than the three required, we randomly choose one DVM reference, one faculty member

reference, and one personal reference. In this case, the Admissions Committee may not read what you may consider to be your strongest reference letter.

List of animal experience/veterinary experience/industry experience:

These should include all pertinent animal handling experiences as well as work-related or research-related activities involving food production animals. These may be farm background, participation in 4-H or FFA, experience with a food animal veterinarian, research related to food animals, or other similar experience such as work in a feedlot, dairy farm, agribusiness, or government agency (USDA-APHIS, FSIS, or ARS).

Personal interview:

After review of each applicant's completed submission, the ad hoc committee will arrange for personal interviews with qualified applicants.

Suggested Animal Sciences Elective Courses

Animal

Sciences

Course Offerings Bulletin 2009-2010 for Autumn (As of 07/23/2009)

110 Animal Science Building, 2029 Fyffe Road, 292-6401

542 Beef Cattle Production and Management U G 5

The application of science and basic principles of nutrition, genetics, physiology, and marketing to the production and management of beef cattle.

Sp Qtr. 4 cl, 1 3-hr lab. Prereq: 310 and 320 and 330.

543 Swine Production U G 5

The application of science and basic principles of nutrition, physiology, genetics, health, economics, meats, and housing in integrated management systems for modern swine production.

Au Qtr. 3 cl, 1 3-hr lab. Prereq: 310

544 Sheep Production and Management U G 5

The application of science and basic principles of nutrition, genetics, physiology, and marketing to the production and management of sheep.

Wi Qtr. 3 cl, 1 3-hr lab. Prereq: 310

546 Poultry Management U 5

Describes classes of poultry and game birds, incubation, housing, anatomy, diseases, genetics, and nutrition. Laboratories include raising chickens for market and egg production.

Wi Qtr. 4 cl, 1 1-hr lab and 1 hr arr. Prereq: 310, 320 and 330. Not open to students with credit for Pltry Sc 546.

547 Dairy Herd Management U G 5

Application of scientific principles to practical herd management, analyses of alternatives and decision making.

Au Qtr. 2 2.5-hr cl. Prereq: 310, 320 and 330. Not open to students with credit for 447.

555 Meat Science and Muscle Food Products

Prereq: 355.01.

555.02 Meat Processing U G 4

Fundamental changes in soft animal tissues resulting from comminution and application of chemicals and heat.

Au Qtr. 2 cl, 2 2-hr labs.

555.03* Branded Meat Products U G 4

Integration of multiple factors influencing value-added product development including: raw material quality and procurement, processing, packaging, distribution, and complexity of market development in niche markets.

Sp Qtr. 2 2-hr cl. Prereq: 200; 355.01; AED Econ 200. Not open to freshmen or sophomores.

610 Physiology of Reproduction U G 5

Physiology and endocrinology of the reproductive systems; examination of basic mechanisms governing reproduction in various species.

Au Qtr. 3 cl, 1 hr recitation, 1 2-hr lab. Prereq: 310 and second writing course. GEC course.

616 Poultry Physiology U G 5

An organ system approach to avian physiology with particular emphasis on adaptation to modern production systems, animal care, growth, and reproduction.

Sp Qtr. 4 cl, 1 3-hr lab. Prereq: 310.

617 Physiology of Lactation U G 3

The physiological, endocrine, nutritional, and environmental factors influencing the synthesis and ejection of milk.

Wi Qtr. 2 1-hr cl, 1 2-hr lab. Prereq: 20 cr hrs Animal Sciences or vertebrate biology.

618 Molecular Events in Tissue Growth and Development U G 4

A molecular developmental approach to the study of tissue growth, structure, and function in animals and humans.

Sp Qtr. 2 2-hr cl. Prereq: 310, Biochem 511 or graduate standing or permission of instructor.

620 Applied Animal Molecular Genetics U G 4

Provide understanding of molecular genetic tools currently used in animal health and improvement programs.

Sp Qtr. 2 1.5-hr cl. Prereq: 320, Biochem 511, Mol Gen 500, or permission of instructor.

628 Genetic Applications to the Animal Industries U G 3

Application of genetic principles to beef, dairy, horse, poultry, sheep and swine industries. The approach is the study of populations through quantitative and molecular genetics.

Wi Qtr. 2 1.5-hr cl. Prereq: 320 or equiv or permission of instructor. Not open to students with credit for 522.

630 Advanced Animal Nutrition

630.01 Ruminant Nutrition U G 5

Principles of ruminant nutrition, metabolism and physiology. Computer formulations and feeding strategies for beef and dairy cattle will enhance application and problem solving.

Au Qtr. 3 1.5-hr cl. Prereq: 330 or grad standing.

630.02 Non-Ruminant Nutrition U G 5

Principles of non-ruminant nutritional physiology, metabolism, and practical feeding programs.

Wi Qtr. 3 1.5-hr cl. Prereq: 330 or grad standing.

630.03 Feeding Management and Records Analysis for Dairy Cattle U G 3

Feeding management of dairy cattle for the prevention of diseases and analysis of dairy records for production medicine decisions.

Wi Qtr. Prereq: 330. Not open to students with credit for Vet Prev 796.13. Cross-listed in Veterinary Preventive Medicine as 796.13.

647 Evaluation and Integration of Research for Dairy Operations U G 5

Integration of scientific principles to maximize efficiency in dairy farm operations.

Sp Qtr. 5 cl. Prereq: 310 Off campus field exp: 2 1-day field trips to established dairy operations.

650 Advanced Meat Technology U G 3

Evaluation of scientific contribution to meat products and processing

Sp Qtr. 2 cl, 2 1-hr labs. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

638 Nutritional Immunology in Animal Systems U G 3

Basic knowledge on principles of how nutrients impact immune function to impact health and productivity..

Sp Qtr. 2 1.5-hr cl.