



EARLY COMMITMENT PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN FOOD SUPPLY MEDICINE

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

Philosophy

The goals of the Veterinary Early Commitment Program 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
- Retain students' interest in food supply medicine
- Allow more opportunities for mentoring
- Graduate more veterinarians into food supply medicine
- Graduate veterinarians who have the skills and knowledge to serve modern food producing animal agribusiness

General Information

- 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.
- Students apply in the summer prior to starting their last two years of undergraduate coursework.
 - Students entering or transferring to the University or Department of Animal Sciences with prior college academic credit must have completed a minimum of one year in the Animal Sciences major at OSU [unless they are transitioning from the Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI)] and have two years remaining in their degree plan when applying to the program.
- Applicants will be reviewed and selected for interview during the summer months by the selection committee.
- A maximum of ten (10) seats will be reserved each year for these students
 - When possible, at least one seat will be reserved for a swine-focused student and at least one seat for a poultry-focused student.
 - When possible, at least two seats will be reserved for ATI transitioning students
- Two alternates may be selected each year.

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. Please submit transcripts from academic institutions attended other than Ohio State University.

Coursework:

Applicants must be eligible to enroll in CHEM 2510 by completion of the Summer Semester of the year of application to the program.

Advising Report

Please send advising report to: OSU CVM, VECP, Attn: Sandra Dawkins, 1900 Coffey Road, Columbus Ohio 43210. Applicants are not required to submit OSU transcripts.

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 for your leadership roles should be included.

Personal Letter of Intent:

Describe your motivation to pursue food animal medicine. Discuss your experiences in the field and the qualities you possess that you believe will lead you to be successful in the field. Limit your response to a maximum of 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.

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).

Deadline for Application Materials:

The application and all support information is due by June 30 of the respective year. **Materials must be sent to: OSU CVM, VECP, Attn: Sandra Dawkins (dawkins.12@osu.edu), 1900 Coffey Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210**

Personal Interview:

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

Students accepted into the Veterinary Early Commitment Program

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

Final Admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine

Final approval prior to admission is the responsibility of the Admissions Committee of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

- Apply for admission to CVM through the VMCAS system by the deadline for the class year
- Meet minimum requirements for GPA as required by CVM (currently 3.0)
- Meet minimum interview score set by the Admissions Committee
- Completion of all 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 semester of the academic year in which students apply)
- Completion of requirements for B.S. with a major in Animal Sciences
- Request letters of reference from the assigned mentors for the Veterinary Early Commitment Program. These letters are counted among those permitted for application to the College of Veterinary Medicine.

PREREQUISITE COURSES REQUIRED FOR CVM ADMISSION		
<u>Subject</u>	<u>Semester Credit Hours</u>	<u>Course</u>
Biochemistry	4	BIOCHEM 4511
Microbiology	4	MICRBIO 4000
Physiology	5 or 3	PHYSIO 3200 or ANIMSCI 3140
Communications	3	COMM 2110 or AGCOMM 3130
Science Electives	35	Includes, but not limited to: Biology, chemistry, anatomy, immunology, cell biology, molecular genetics, animal science, ecology, environmental science or other science courses.
Humanities and Social Sciences*	16	Includes, but not limited to: History, economics, anthropology, psychology, art, music, literature, languages, writing, and ethics.

Please note:

- The capstone courses - Biochemistry, Microbiology, Physiology, and Communication - **must be completed with (1) a grade of C or better in each course, (2) a minimum 3.0 (B) average among the courses, and (3) no more than one C among any of the capstone courses.**
- If any of the capstone courses are taken as a multiple-part series, this rule will apply to each part as an individual course.
- Science electives can include courses that are prerequisites for the capstone courses (e.g. biology, general and organic chemistry, etc.).
- All of the prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of the Summer Term preceding the Autumn term when you would start into the program.
- If you have received more than one C in your capstone courses, or if the average for the courses is below a 3.0, this will need to be rectified prior to the respective admissions cycle. (Prerequisites will be verified after the conclusion of the Summer Term before you start the program, so courses can be retaken in the autumn or spring term after you apply.)