



Admission to the College

PREPARATION FOR APPLYING to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine is best begun while in high school. The selection process for entrance evaluates academic and non-academic criteria. Admissions criteria may change on a yearly basis. Please consult our admissions advisor or the college website for up-to-date information.

Standardized Testing

Applicants must submit scores attained within the last three years from the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) or the general GRE. A minimum acceptable score on the MCAT is 15 (combined score from the verbal reasoning, physical and biological sciences section). The GRE began offering a new test in August, 2011. At present, no minimum scores have been set.

Academic Preparation

No fixed requirements exist for the recommended high school curriculum. However, a high school student is generally advised to take four years of mathematics, four years of English (grammar and composition), two years of biology, and as much chemistry and physics as possible. Basic computer skills such as keyboarding and word processing will be useful. Speech, debate and drama will also help prepare the student for communication skills expected of veterinarians.

JULY 1 – NOV 1:
Online applications available.

BY OCTOBER:
VMCAS application deadline for non-Missouri residents. (Specific date varies year to year.)

BY NOV 1:
Completed resident applications due and non-resident supplemental applications due.

BY JAN 1:
Reference letters due. Personal interviews are held in early January for non-residents.

BY FEB 1:
MCAT or GRE scores, and transcripts due. Personal interviews are held in February and March for Missouri residents.

BY APRIL 15:
Selection results announced.

BY JULY 1:
Grades for all required courses due.

Nonacademic Preparation

Involvement in extracurricular activities, such as school clubs, athletics, band, FFA, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church activities and any other organized activity requiring the development of teamwork, interpersonal skills and diversity are encouraged and scored for selection purposes.

Applicants are expected to have had experiences observing a variety of animals. Some of this experience must be while observing actual veterinary medicine practiced. High school students considering veterinary medicine as a career are encouraged to seek out such opportunities to see the actual practice of veterinary medicine. Agricultural, biomedical, research and public health experience is also highly regarded.

Requirement for Observation of the Profession

Applicants are required to spend a minimum of 40 hours observing one or more veterinarians actively engaged in their normal work environment. Observation must be as a third person, not as a client (i.e., small or large animal practice, public health, laboratory-animal medicine or research). The veterinarians observed by the applicant should be among the four invited external reviewers.

Pre-Veterinary Medical Scholars Program

The Pre-Vet Scholars Program provides early assurance of admission to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine to selected students pursuing undergraduate studies at MU. It is open to high school seniors and MU freshman. Selection is based on meeting eligibility requirements and attaining a satisfactory score from an interview. Selected scholars are assigned faculty mentors and attend case rounds. Scholars also serve as research assistants. For more information about entry into this program, contact the College's admissions office, or consult the College's website (www.cvm.missouri.edu).

MU AgScholars Program

This program provides early assurance of admission to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine to selected students pursuing undergraduate animal science studies while at MU. Selection is based upon meeting the academic eligibility requirements and attaining a satisfactory score in an interview.

Faculty mentorship, veterinary observation and agricultural experience are part of this program.

For more information about entry into the AgScholars program, contact the College's admissions office or consult the College website.

Preparation in Undergraduate College

The Admissions Committee accepts credit and grades from any U.S. accredited institution of higher learning. To ensure proper counseling and support, it is advised that undergraduate work be acquired at an institution with an active pre-veterinary medical club. Students enrolled in the University of Missouri are not given preference when applying for admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine unless they have qualified for and are participants in the Pre-Veterinary Medicine Scholars or AgScholars Programs.

Undergraduate Majors

Since some students interested in becoming veterinarians are not accepted into veterinary medical college, students should emphasize a bachelor's degree program rather than pre-veterinary medical studies. A student should enroll in the school/college offering the degree major selected as a career alternative to veterinary medicine. Most pre-veterinary medical students enroll in animal science, biology or chemistry.

Type and Sequence of Undergraduate Courses

Students should be guided by the requirements of their degree majors and our pre-veterinary requirements. Catalogs and bulletins usually provide good direction, particularly with regard to required courses in the major. Students should consult their advisors about supporting courses and electives that will strengthen their majors.

Application Requirements

The following course requirements are in effect for all applications.

SEMESTER HOURS	
English or Communication	6
College Algebra or more advanced mathematics	3
Biochemistry (organic chemistry prerequisite)	3
Physics (comprehensive introductory course or courses)	5
Biological Science (biology major courses only)	10
Social Sciences or Humanities	10
Electives	10
Minimum credit hours	60

* Multiply quarter credits by 0.67 to convert to semester credits.

** 5 hours in only the first of a companion series in physics will not suffice.

NOTE: Courses taken on campuses other than MU in Columbia may not meet the content or degree of subject depth required to apply to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine. Whenever there is doubt as to whether a course will fulfill the requirements to apply, the applicant should contact the MU College of Veterinary Medicine admissions advisor as soon as possible. If the course is acceptable, the applicant is advised to include a copy of the Associate Dean's response letter with the completed application forms.

Students who take prescribed undergraduate courses in the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Department of Animal Sciences, and are then successful in being selected to a class in the MU College of Veterinary Medicine will receive elective credits concurrently for up to 32 hours of professional degree courses. This enables qualifying students to receive a Bachelor of Science degree with three years of undergraduate work and one year of professional studies; i.e., BS and DVM degrees in seven years.

The acceptability of courses to fulfill requirements to apply for admissions is determined by the Office of Academic Affairs, MU College of Veterinary Medicine. If you have any doubts or questions concerning a course meeting the requirements to apply, please contact the Office of Academic Affairs in writing prior to taking the course.

While not required for admission, it is highly recommended that students take a basic course in genetics and cell biology.

All applicants are encouraged to develop at least an elementary working knowledge of a word processing program.

All required courses must be completed by the end of the winter semester or spring quarter of the year the applicant expects to enter the College of Veterinary Medicine, with no more than two left to be completed the spring/winter term of the year the student plans to matriculate.

Missouri Residents:

VMCAS applications are not accepted from Missouri residents. The direct application is found at www.cvm.missouri.edu after **July 1**. It must be submitted no later than **Nov. 1**.

Non Residents of Missouri:

VMCAS application is optional. Non-residents submitting VMCAS application must also complete and submit our supplemental application found at www.cvm.missouri.edu after **July 1 by Nov. 1**.

Applicants may submit either the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) or the general Graduate Record Examine (GRE). Scores reaching the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs **after Feb. 1** will not be accepted for academic evaluation purposes.

Personal Attributes and Experience Desired

The Admissions Committee expects that applicants should demonstrate certain abilities and personal traits:

- Experience working with a variety of animal species;
- Familiarity with the veterinary medical profession;
- Community-minded with demonstrated leadership abilities;
- Effective communicator;
- Possess time and stress-management skills;
- Sincerely motivated;
- Have realistically evaluated plans for financing their education.

Residency

Residency status is determined by the MU Residency Office, not by the College of Veterinary Medicine. Questions concerning residency status should be directed to the Residency Office.

An agreement exists with Arkansas that may reduce tuition for residents of that state. The number of non-resident positions are variable based on annual applicant pools. Consideration is only given to U.S. citizens or holders of permanent alien visas.

STUDENT PROFILE: 2009-2010

Admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine is on a competitive basis with limited enrollment. More people are interested in pursuing careers in veterinary medicine than can be provided the opportunity. We hope the information provided below will be helpful in making a decision regarding your future academic and career plans.

125 Fully qualified Missouri Applicants

OVERALL GRADE POINT AVERAGE:

Average grade point was 3.47. Seventy-five percent had a 3.30 cumulative GPA or better, 50 percent a 3.45 or better, and 25 percent had a 3.65 cumulative GPA or better.

LAST THREE SEMESTERS GRADE POINT AVERAGE:

The average last three semesters GPA was 3.43. Seventy-five percent had a 3.30 cumulative GPA or better, 50 percent a 3.45 or better and 25 percent had a 3.70 cumulative GPA or better.

AVERAGE COURSE LOAD TAKEN PER SEMESTER:

The average course load taken per semester was 15.19 credit hours. Seventy percent averaged 15.00 credit hours or better, and 30 percent averaged 16.00 or better.

ACADEMIC EVALUATION SCORES:

The average academic evaluation score was 54.84. Ninety-five percent scored 13.00 or better, 50 percent scored 18.00 or better and 25 percent scored 25.00 or better.

119 Students Selected for Fall 2010

Overall grade point average: 3.74
Last three semesters grade point average: 3.77
Average credit hours per semester: 15.77
Average age: 23

SUMMARY PROFILE: Individuals Accepted into the Class of 2014

In order to offer an idea of the competitive nature of the application process, a summary profile of those selected to enter the Class of 2014 is given below. Students ranged above and below any averages listed.

Applications	806
New accepts	119
Missouri applications	144
Non-resident applications	662
Women	91
Men	28
Eligible Missouri applications	125
Pre-Vet Med and Ag Scholars (17 Pre-Vet Med, 3 Ag Scholar)	20
Agriculture	55
Arts and sciences	48
Other majors and undeclared	16
Students who applied for first time	106
Students who applied two times	11
Students who applied more than two times	2
DEGREES	
Bachelor's	91
Master's	6
Non-degree	22

UNIVERSITIES LAST ATTENDED

MU	36
University of Missouri-St. Louis	4
Missouri Southern University	3
Missouri State University	2
Northwest Missouri University	2

St. Louis University	2
Columbia College	1
Lincoln University	1
Missouri Western University	1
Southeast Missouri State University	1
University of Missouri-Kansas City	1
Washington University	1
William Woods University	1
Other universities	63

BACKGROUND

Small town	39
Urban (pop. 10,000-50,000)	36
Metropolitan	24
Farm	20

ACADEMIC RECORDS

Average GPA	3.74
Average last three semesters	3.77
Average course load	15.77
Average GRE Score	1125/4.1
Average MCAT Score	23
Average ACT Score	28

STATE RESIDENCY

Alaska	1
Arizona	1
Arkansas	2
California	2
Connecticut	1
Florida	4
Illinois	10
Iowa	2
Kansas	3
Maine	2
Maryland	1
Massachusetts	2
Michigan	2
Minnesota	6
Missouri	60
New Jersey	3
New York	4
North Carolina	1
Ohio	1
Oklahoma	1
Pennsylvania	5
Rhode Island	1
Texas	2
Utah	3

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, sex, national origin or age.

Humane Use of Animals

Applicants seeking admission to the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine should be aware that the professional degree curriculum includes the use of live animals and cadavers in required courses such as laboratories in anatomy, physical diagnosis and surgery. Some of these use terminal procedures on the animals. In all cases, animals are legally acquired, properly housed, fed, cleaned, and cared for to ensure reasonable comfort and well-being. United States Department of Agriculture and National Institutes of Health guidelines on animal care and use constitute the minimum basis for the care provided MU animals.

All live animals used in teaching are obtained from sources approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the governing authority for the humane use of animals in research and teaching in the United States. Procedures performed on these animals must be approved in advance by the MU Animal Care and Use Committee, which comprises faculty from multiple disciplines and includes an at-large member not affiliated with the University. Each procedure is evaluated for evidence of its instructional value, the availability of alternative means of teaching, and the adequacy of pain control. All procedures performed on patients of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital are with the consent of the animal's owner and in compliance with the standard practice of veterinary medicine.

Financial Aid

Most veterinary medical students finance the expense of their professional education through savings, summer earnings and federal student loans. Some scholarship aid is also awarded based on academic merit and financial need.

Applying for Financial Aid

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID - FAFSA

The first and most important step in applying for financial aid is to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You cannot receive financial aid until this form has been processed. The MU school code for the FAFSA is 002516. Most FAFSAs are filed online and signed electronically using a federal personal identification number.

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

NOTE: To be considered for scholarships based on financial need, you must complete the FAFSA.

Each year the College of Veterinary Medicine awards a limited number of scholarships to entering and continuing students. Scholarships are based on both merit and financial need. Students admitted for the fall semester will be notified in June if they are the recipient of a scholarship. Questions regarding scholarships should be addressed to the College's Admissions Office, 1600 East Rollins Road, Columbia MO 65211 or by calling (573) 884-3341.

HOW FUNDS ARE APPLIED

All financial aid funds are applied directly to MU student accounts, which are established through the Office of Cashiers when students register for classes.

VERIFICATION

The federal government requires schools distributing financial aid to verify the consistency and accuracy of data submitted on the FAFSA. Some financial aid applicants are asked to submit documents such as tax returns and W-2 forms to MU Student Financial Aid.

eCONSENT

Students must provide consent to submit and access financial aid information electronically. After being admitted to MU, log on to myZou, and click on "UM e-Consent."

Types of Financial Aid

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN

The Direct Loan Program offers the following types of loans:

Subsidized: For students with demonstrated financial need, as determined by federal regulations. No interest is charged while a student is in school at least half-time, during the grace period, and during deferment periods. At the time of this printing, the interest rate is 6.8 percent fixed and the annual maximum loan amount is \$8,500.

Unsubsidized: Not based on financial

need; interest is charged during all periods, even during the time a student is in school and during grace and deferment periods. The interest rate is 6.8 percent fixed and the annual maximum loan amount is up to \$32,000 for veterinary medical students (based on nine-month semester).

The total combined maximum of subsidized / unsubsidized loans is currently \$40,500 per year for veterinary medical students (based on nine-month semester).

FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN

The Federal Perkins Loan Program is a low-interest loan available to students with exceptional financial need. Because funds are limited, students who want to be considered for the loan must meet file the FAFSA by March 1 each year. Each year MU determines the maximum award based on the availability of funds.

Direct PLUS Loan

Graduate and professional degree students can borrow a Direct Grad PLUS Loan to help cover education expenses. The terms and conditions include:

- Satisfactory credit history; and
- Interest rate of 7.9 percent fixed for Direct PLUS Loans.

The maximum PLUS Loan amount you can borrow is your cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial assistance you will receive.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

Students enrolled in a doctor of veterinary medicine degree program may be considered for the Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL). To be considered for the HPSL, students must complete the FAFSA by March 1 and must include parents' financial information on the FAFSA. All professional students are considered independent for FAFSA purposes; nonetheless, federal regulations require that parent information be taken into account for the purpose of awarding HPSL funds. This requirement cannot be waived. Unless the parents are deceased, a student who does not provide parental income information may not be considered for HPSL funds.

COLLEGE-MAINTAINED SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The College maintains several scholarships and awards that are presented to students each spring during the College's Honors Banquet. Scholarships are often funded by alumni or friends of the College. More information about these scholarships and awards is available through the Office of the Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, W-213 Veterinary Medicine Building, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

COLLEGE-MAINTAINED EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM

The College maintains an emergency loan program. Information about these loans is available through the Office of Academic Affairs at the College of Veterinary Medicine

Financial Aid - Missouri Residency

It is possible for MU veterinary students to gain residency in Missouri after their first year at the College. If Missouri residency is granted after the first year, students would not be required to pay the out-of-state tuition for their second, third, and fourth years, of their professional education.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

To establish Missouri residency for the purpose of paying in-state fees, students must meet specific criteria:

- Complete a Petition for Residency Status (available from MU's Residency Office) and submit it with photocopies of the necessary documentation upon completion of the 12-month period.
- Students may apply for a current semester only during that semester. (Most students will apply in August for fall semester) Each petition is reviewed individually. It's the students' responsibility to provide copies of the requested information.

Contact the Residency Office for official requirements.

Financial Aid - Cost of Attendance 2011-2012

FIRST YEAR – VM1

Missouri Resident	
Tuition / Fees	\$18,818
Books / Supplies	\$1,634
Room & Board	\$9,958
Transportation	\$2,334
Personal Expenses	\$4,336
Total	\$37,080
Non-Resident Tuition/Fees	\$46,206
Non-Resident Total	\$64,468

SECOND YEAR – VM2

Missouri Resident	
Tuition / Fees	\$18,818
Books / Supplies	\$2,414
Room & Board	\$9,958
Transportation	\$2,334
Personal Expenses	\$4,336
Total	\$37,860
Non-Resident Tuition/Fees	\$46,206
Non-Resident Total	\$65,248

THIRD YEAR – VM3

Missouri Resident	
Tuition / Fees	\$18,818
Books / Supplies	\$3,334
Room & Board	\$9,958
Transportation	\$2,334
Personal Expenses	\$4,336
Total	\$38,780
Non-Resident Tuition/Fees	\$46,206
Non-Resident Total	\$66,168

FOURTH YEAR – VM4

Missouri Resident	
Tuition / Fees	\$18,818
Books / Supplies	\$4,140
Room & Board	\$10,950
Transportation	\$2,568
Personal Expenses	\$4,770
Total	\$41,246
Non-Resident Tuition/Fees	\$46,206
Non-Resident Total	\$68,634

The University reserves the right to modify by increase or decrease the fees charged for attendance and other services at the University when the Board of Curators considers it in the best interest of the University to do so. Any increase in fees must be approved by the Board of Curators not less than 30 days prior to the beginning of the academic term (semester, etc.) to which the fees will be applied.

Any change in fees will be effective irrespective of whether fees have or have not been paid by or on behalf of a student prior to the effective date of the modification.

RESOURCES

MCAT and GRE Information:

MCAT

P.O. Box 4056
Iowa City, IA 52243

www.aamc.org

GRE

www.GRE.org

Admissions Information:

Dr. George W. Jesse

S110 Animal Science Center
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: (573) 882-2644
-or-

Dr. Robert Youngquist, DVM

Associate Dean for
Academic Affairs

Dr. Linda Berent, DVM, PhD

Interim Associate Dean
for Academic Affairs

W-203 Veterinary Medicine
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: (573) 884-6774

Residency Information:

Residency Office

University of Missouri
123 Jesse Hall,
Columbia, MO 65211

Phone (573) 882-3852 or
Toll-free in Kansas or Illinois
(800) 225-6075
E-mail: residency@missouri.edu

Financial Aid Information:

Jeff Turnbull

Student Financial Aid
W209 Vet Med Building
Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-4629

turnbullj@missouri.edu

Jeff Turnbull is available at the College of Veterinary Medicine every Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. When not at the College, he can be reached at the main financial aid office.

MU Office of Student Financial Aid

11 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-7506